

**F.No. 1-1/2019-Farmers Welfare Section
Government Of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare**

Copy No.

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Subject: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojna – Pension Scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers

1. Introduction:

This note seeks the approval of the Cabinet for implementation of a pension scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF), namely, the Prime Minister Kisan Pension Yojna (PMKPY), as a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for the entry age group of 18 to 40 years with a provision of Rs.3,000/- monthly pension on attaining the age of 60 years, subject to exclusion criteria.

2. Background

2.1 There have been a series of interventions for income and price support by the Government for farmers. However, a need has been felt to create a social security net for the farmers as old age would result in loss of livelihood for most of them. Farming requires manual work which becomes difficult at an advanced age. The problem is compounded in respect of small and marginal farmers as they have minimal or no savings to provide for old age.

2.2 The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has implemented the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMman Nidhi Scheme (PM-KISAN) with a view to augmenting the income of the farmers by providing direct income support to all landholding Small and Marginal farmer (SMF) families across the country, subject to certain exclusion criteria. Under the Scheme, financial benefit of Rs.6,000 per annum shall be provided per SMF family having total cultivable holding upto 2 hectares. The benefit is payable in three equal installments, every four months @ Rs.2000 per installment. The Scheme is effective from 01-12-2018.

2.3 The Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Pension Scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment for unorganised sector workers. As per the Scheme, the persons whose monthly income is Rs.15,000/- or below are

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eligible to become members under the PM-SYM. This will exclude large number of farmers. Therefore, it is felt that a separate Scheme needs to be implemented which targets the social security of all Small and Marginal Farmers across the country.

2.4 Further discussions were also held with the officers of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) who are the Fund Managers of the PM-SYM Scheme. The LIC has informed that in a market driven situation, sometimes the yield on investment could be lower than taken by actuary while calculating the amount of monthly contribution. Therefore, there may be the possibility that the Government would be required to meet the shortfall in the fund maintained by the LIC. This issue needs further deliberations under the stewardship of the Finance Ministry.

3. Proposal

3.1 The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana Scheme shall be a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) across the country, with entry age of 18 to 40 years. Under the Scheme, Small and Marginal Farmers can opt to become members of the Scheme by subscribing to a Pension Fund as determined by the Central Government from time at the time of such joining in accordance with the age of the eligible subscriber, and subject to certain exclusion clauses. The Central Government shall also contribute to the Pension Fund in equal amount as contributed by an eligible subscriber.

3.2 A Small and Marginal landholder farmer is defined as "a farmer who owns cultivable land upto 2 hectare as per land records of the concerned State/UTs". The existing land-ownership system will be used for identification of beneficiaries for calculation of payment.

3.3 The cut-off date for determination of eligibility of SMF beneficiaries under the Scheme shall be 01.02.2019 and no changes thereafter shall be considered for eligibility of benefit under the scheme for next 5 years except with approval of the Cabinet. However, the benefit will be allowed on transfer of ownership in respect of cultivable land on account of succession due to death of the landowner.

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- 3.4 The key features of the Scheme would be as under:
- (i) The proposed PMKPY shall be a Central Sector Scheme administered by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare in partnership with LIC.
 - (ii) LIC shall be the Pension Fund Manager and responsible for Pension pay out.
 - (iii) Involvement of the Nodal Agencies of the State Governments who are dealing with PM-KISAN for the purpose of enrolment of SMF under the Scheme.
 - (iv) Inclusion of the Common Service Centres (CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd.,) under MeitY, Government of India as additional enrolment agency for the Scheme at the rate of Rs.30/- per enrolment.
 - (v) It is a voluntary and periodic contribution based pension system meant for small and marginal farmers throughout the country, subject to exclusion criteria.
 - (vi) Option of the SMF to allow his/her voluntary contribution to the Scheme from the benefit drawn by him/her on account of PM-KISAN Scheme, directly.
 - (vii) The exclusion criteria, that have been adopted under the PM-KISAN Scheme, have been incorporated along with a few more conditions.
 - (viii) The Central Government's share will be 50% of the monthly contribution.
 - (ix) This Scheme shall be applicable to SMF of the entry age of 18-40 years with a provision of minimum fixed pension of Rs.3,000/- on attaining the age of 60 years.
 - (x) After the subscriber's death, while receiving pension, the spouse of the SMF beneficiary shall be entitled to receive 50% of the pension received by the beneficiary as family pension, provided he/she is not already an SMF beneficiary of the Scheme.
 - (xi) If a beneficiary has given regular contributions and died due to any cause, his/her spouse shall be entitled to continue the Scheme subsequently by payment of regular contribution or exit by receiving the beneficiary's

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- contribution with prevailing bank rates of interest, provided he/she is not already an SMF beneficiary of the Scheme.
- (xii) After death of subscriber and his/her spouse, the corpus shall be credited back to the fund.
 - (xiii) The State Government shall have the option of sharing the burden of individual SMF beneficiary's contribution.
 - (xiv) If a beneficiary becomes ineligible for the Pension under PMKPY, his account will be active but Government's contribution (50%) shall be stopped. If beneficiary agrees to pay the entire amount of the contribution, he will be allowed to operate the account. At the age of 60, he shall be allowed to withdraw his contribution with an interest equivalent to the prevailing saving bank rates.
 - (xv) The beneficiary may opt voluntarily to exit the Scheme after a minimum period of 5 years of regular contributions. On exit, his/her entire contribution shall be returned by LIC with an interest equivalent to prevailing saving bank rates.
 - (xvi) Where an eligible subscriber makes a default in the payment of any contribution to be payable by him/her under the Scheme, he/she shall be allowed to regularise his/her contribution by paying the entire outstanding dues, along with interest of the rate as determined by the Government from time to time.
 - (xvii) In case the issue of liability on account of deficit in the fund maintained by LIC is raised then this issue may be decided after due deliberations between Finance Ministry and LIC.
 - (xviii) It is proposed that Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) at Central level for PM KISAN shall also act as PMU for this scheme as well, with a mandate to run publicity (Information, Education and Communication-IEC) campaign, incur administrative expenses including cost of stationery, incentive to field functionaries, uploading of data etc., under the Scheme. It is proposed to make a provision for 0.50% of the budgetary outlay of Rs. 10,500 crore (2019-2022) for administrative expenses. The requisite manpower for the

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programme support shall be employed by the PMU which will include the services of young professionals and some experts, including IT experts.

(xix) The detailed contribution chart is as under:

Entry Age	Superannuation Age	Member's contribution (Rs.)	Govt's contribution (Rs.)	Total contribution (Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
18	60	55	55	110
19	60	58	58	116
20	60	61	61	122
21	60	64	64	128
22	60	68	68	136
23	60	72	72	144
24	60	76	76	152
25	60	80	80	160
26	60	85	85	170
27	60	90	90	180
28	60	95	95	190
29	60	100	100	200
30	60	105	105	210
31	60	110	110	220
32	60	120	120	240
33	60	130	130	260
34	60	140	140	280
35	60	150	150	300
36	60	160	160	320
37	60	170	170	340
38	60	180	180	360
39	60	190	190	380
40	60	200	200	400

(xx) The contribution rates given in above mentioned table are based on assumption of yield on investment at the rate of 8% per annum and exit rate of beneficiaries at the rate of 10% per annum. In case of exit of beneficiary and permanent closure of account then the Government's contribution will go to the corpus fund. However, LIC may approach Ministry of Finance in case a requirement of gap funding arises.

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- (xxi) The prospective beneficiaries shall be able to access the Scheme through CSCs and through portal/mobile app or contacting physically the State Nodal Officers (SNOs) as the case may be, in their respective districts.
- (xxii) **Exclusions:** The following farmers have been brought under the exclusion criteria:
- (i) SMF covered under any other statutory social security schemes such as National Pension Scheme (NPS), Employees' State Insurance Corporation scheme, Employees' Provident Fund Organization Scheme, etc.
 - (ii) Farmers who have opted for PM-SYM.
 - (iii) Further, the following categories of beneficiaries of higher economic status shall not be eligible for benefit under the scheme:
 - (a) All Institutional Land holders; and
 - (b) Former and present holders of constitutional posts
 - (c) Former and present Ministers/ State Ministers and former/present Members of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha/ State Legislative Assemblies/ State Legislative Councils, former and present Mayors of Municipal Corporations, former and present Chairpersons of District Panchayats.
 - (d) All serving or retired officers and employees of Central/ State Government Ministries /Offices/Departments and its field units Central or State PSEs and Attached offices /Autonomous Institutions under Government as well as regular employees of the Local Bodies (Excluding Multi Tasking Staff / Class IV/Group D employees)
 - (e) All Persons who paid Income Tax in last assessment year.
 - (f) Professionals like Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, and Architects registered with Professional bodies and carrying out profession by undertaking practices.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 As per Agriculture Census, 2015-16, the total number of Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) in the country is around 13 crore. The targeted population of the SMF

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under the age group 18-40 is about 8 crore people. Further, there may be likely exclusion of certain categories of beneficiaries of higher economic strata which shall be incorporated in the Operations Guidelines. Also, taking into account the SMF covered under any other statutory social security schemes such as National Pension Scheme (NPS), Employees' State Insurance Corporation scheme, Employees' Provident Fund Organization Scheme, etc, the net beneficiaries are expected to be about 5 crore farmers in the next 4-5 years. The proposed PMKPY is a voluntary contributory pension scheme where the central Government shall give 50 % share of the monthly contribution and remaining 50% contribution shall be made by the beneficiary. For a minimum of Rs.3,000/-, pension per month, a beneficiary is required to contribute Rs 100/- per month at median entry age of 29 years.

4.2 The estimated funds requirement for the next three years for implementation of the scheme is as under:

Financial Year	Estimated no. of beneficiaries joining the PM-SYM (in crores)	Central Govt. share towards matching contribution (Rs in Crore)
(1)	(2)	(3)
1st year 2019-20 (Assuming commencement from 1 st July 2019)	1 crore	900
2 nd year 2020-21	3 crores	3600
3 rd year onwards 2021 onwards	5 crores	6000

Note: Additional budget @ 0.5% will be required to administer the Scheme and popularize through IEC activities.

4.3 The actual status of total amount required shall be clear only after identifications of the beneficiaries. Hence, additional budgetary allocation, if any, required over and above the projected budgetary requirement for implementation of the Scheme, would be appropriately requested through Supplementary demand. The estimated funds requirement for the next three years for implementation of the scheme is as under:

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Financial Year	Estimated number of subscriber joining the scheme cumulative (in crore)	Central Govt. share towards matching contribution (Rs in Crore)	Administrative expenses —0.5% of the outgo of Govt. contribution (in crore)	Cost of CSC SPV @ Rs. 30 per enrolment***	Cost for transactions to be charged by NPCI @Rs. 0.75 per transaction (in crore)	Total administrative expenses other than Govt's contribution	Total budget requirement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7=4+5+6	8
2019-20 (9 months)	1 crore	900**	4.5	24	0.75	23.25	952.50
2020-21	3 crore	3600	18	42	2.25	56.25	3718.50
2021-22	5 crore	6000	30	36	3.75	33.75	6103.50
Total	5 crore	10500	52.5	102	6.75	113.25	10774.50

**The matching contribution of the Government has been assumed at a rate of Rs. 100 per subscriber which is at the entry age of 29 years, for the eligibility period of 18-40 years of age for getting enrolled into the Scheme. The same calculations have been made in PM-SYM.

***Apart from registration through CSCs, farmers shall also have an option to register for PM-KPY using State machinery as in the case of PM-KISAN. Keeping in view of a large number of farmers registered in PM-KISAN and free of cost registration through State machinery, it is assumed that a high percentage of farmers will register for the Scheme through State machinery. Cost of registration through CSCs has been calculated assuming 80%, 70% and 60% registration through CSCs in 2019-20, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 respectively.

4.3.1 The above table does not take into account, the expenditure on account of bank charges. It is expected that Department of Financial Services will facilitate waiver of bank charges such as auto debit, mandate registration and return charges etc. Further, the charges of the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) have been taken as Rs. 0.75/- per transaction as has been charged under PM-SYM.

4.4 The administrative expenditure is likely to be 0.5% of the outgo of Government contribution. This does not include any service charge of LIC for managing the pension

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fund. This will include expenditure incurred by the Project Monitoring Unit (PMU). Flexibility is required to frontload the administrative expenditure as in initial year, there would be requirement of more funds due to heavy IEC for enrolment and data gathering, however overall limit of 0.5% shall not be breached over a period of 3 years.

5. Modalities of Implementation:

5.1 It is proposed to utilize the data base available with the Department in the first instance i.e., the data base created under the PM-KISAN Scheme. For this purpose, it is proposed that the State Nodal Officers (SNO) in the States dealing with PM-KISAN may be roped in for the purpose of enrolment of farmers. This would help the farmers who are already drawing benefits under the PM-KISAN Scheme. Option shall also be given to the farmers to allow contribution of his/her share to the PMKPY Scheme from the benefits of PM-KISAN Scheme, directly.

5.2 The farmers can also enroll with the Common Service Centres (CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd.,) under MeitY, Government of India which shall also serve as enrolment agency for the Scheme at the rate of Rs.30/- per enrolment . The operational guidelines for the Scheme including those relating to mode of payment, the tenure of deposit, auto-debit and other related matters for its smooth implementation shall be issued with the approval of Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

5.3 A Memorandum of Understanding shall be signed by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare with the Life Insurance Corporation of India and Department of Financial Services which shall stipulate the duties and responsibilities of the Implementing Department, State Government, Life Insurance Corporation, Department of Financial Services, MeitY and the other organizations involved in the Scheme.

5.4 Any matter related to execution, grievance redressal, dispute resolution etc. shall be referred to the Joint Secretary in charge of the Scheme, Farmers' Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, whose decision thereon shall be conclusive.

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6. Review, Monitoring and Grievance Redressal Mechanism:

6.1 An Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary with Secretaries of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, MeITY, Department of Expenditure, Department of Financial Services and any other Secretary concerned as members shall be set up to review and monitor implementation of the Scheme through appropriate implementation strategies and to approve any modifications in the Scheme within the overall financial parameters of Scheme approved by the Cabinet, for effective implementation.

6.2 A Grievance Redressal Cell shall be set up both at State and District Levels accordingly with representation of State Nodal Officers, State Level Bankers' Committee and Regional Manager, LIC. Similarly, District Levels shall have District Level Bankers Committee (DLBC) and LIC Representatives along with District level Government Officers.

7. Justification

7.1 In order to provide a comprehensive social security umbrella so as to improve life, dignity and working conditions of the farming community, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has implemented various Schemes and adopted various welfare measures. Despite all these efforts, there is a need for adequate social security cover for ensuring welfare and well-being of the farming community. Therefore, it would be appropriate to provide financial support and security to the most vulnerable farmer families. The PMKPY would take care of the most vulnerable sections of farmers during their old age. The proposed scheme seeks to provide Rs 3,000/- monthly pension to the SMF beneficiary.

8. Inter-Ministerial Consultation

8.1 Due to paucity of time and impending budget session, the inter-ministerial consultations have not been possible. The Cabinet may consider to waive off the prior consultations due to above mentioned unavoidable circumstances.

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8.2 Similarly, since there is an urgent need to provide social security cover to Small and Marginal farmers so as to provide an assured supplemental income to the most vulnerable farmers during their old age. Therefore, exemption from moving the proposal through EFC may be given by the Cabinet. However, the proposal will be submitted for appraisal to the EFC subsequently and its recommendations shall be incorporated in the implementation mechanism of the Scheme.

9. Approval Sought

9.1 Approval of the Cabinet is solicited for the following:

- (i) Implementation of PM Kisan Pension Yojna- (PMKPY) a Pension Scheme for all Small and Marginal farmers (SMF) as a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for entry age of 18 to 40 years with a provision of Rs.3,000/- monthly pension on attaining the age of 60 years, subject to exclusion criteria.
- (ii) Inclusion of the Common Service Centres (CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd.) under MeitY, Government of India as enrolment agency for the Scheme at the rate of Rs.30/- per enrolment. Also, involvement of the State Nodal Agencies of the State Governments who are dealing with PM-KISAN for the purpose of enrolment of the beneficiaries.
- (iii) Financial outlay of Rs. 10774.50 crore for a period of 3 years as Central Government share for the implementation of the Scheme.
- (iv) Setting up of an Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary with Secretaries of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, MeitY, Department of Expenditure, Department of Financial Services and any other Secretary concerned as members to review and monitor implementation of the Scheme through appropriate implementation strategies and to approve any modifications in the Scheme within the overall financial parameters of Scheme approved by the Cabinet, for effective implementation.
- (v) Provision for assigning the task to Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) of PM-KISAN for undertaking publicity (Information, Education and Communication-IEC) campaign and incur administrative expenses including cost of stationery, incentive to field

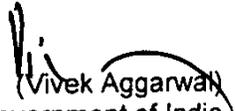
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functionaries, uploading of data etc., under the scheme, with an allocation for administrative expenses @ 0.50% of the budgetary outlay of Rs. 10500 crore. Provision for frontloading of administrative expenses if required in initial year subject to overall limit of 0.50%.

- (vi) Provision for operational guidelines of the scheme to be issued by the Ministry with the approval of Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- (vii) Exemption from the EFC in view of paucity of time and urgency of the matter. However, the proposal will be submitted for appraisal to the EFC subsequently and its recommendations shall be incorporated in the implementation mechanism of the scheme.

10. The **Statement of Implementation Schedule** is at **Appendix-I**.
11. The **Statement on Equity, Innovation and Public Accountability** is at **Appendix- II**.
12. The Note has been approved by Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.


(Vivek Aggarwal)
Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No. 011-2338 1176

Dated: the 31st May, 2019
Place: New Delhi.

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APPENDIX 1

(Refer para 10, page 12 of the Note)

STATEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Subject: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojna Scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers

Gist of decision required	Project benefits/results	Time-frame and manner of implementation / reporting to Cabinet Secretariat
<p>(i) Implementation of PM Kisan Pension Yojna- (PMKPY) a Pension Scheme for all Small and Marginal farmers (SMF) as a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for entry age of 18 to 40 years with a provision of Rs.3,000/- monthly pension on attaining the age of 60 years, subject to exclusion criteria.</p> <p>(ii) Inclusion of the Common Service Centres (CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd.) under MeitY, Government of India as enrolment agency for the Scheme at the rate of Rs.30/- per enrolment. Also, involvement of the State Nodal Agencies of the State Governments who are dealing with PM-KISAN for the purpose of enrolment of the beneficiaries.</p> <p>(iii) Financial outlay of Rs. 10774.50 crore for a period of 3 years as Central Government share for the implementation of the Scheme.</p> <p>(iv) Setting up of an Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary with Secretaries of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, MeitY, Department of Expenditure, Department of Financial Services and</p>	<p>The small and marginal farmers would get social security in the form of monthly pension of Rs.3,000/-, on attaining the age of 60 years.</p>	<p>After approval of the Cabinet, the Scheme would be immediately launched.</p>

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<p>any other Secretary concerned as members to review and monitor implementation of the Scheme through appropriate implementation strategies and to approve any modifications in the Scheme within the overall financial parameters of Scheme approved by the Cabinet, for effective implementation.</p> <p>(v) Provision for assigning the task to Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) of PM-KISAN for undertaking publicity (Information, Education and Communication-IEC) campaign and incur administrative expenses including cost of stationery, incentive to field functionaries, uploading of data etc., under the scheme, with an allocation for administrative expenses @ 0.50% of the budgetary outlay of Rs. 10500 crore. Provision for frontloading of administrative expenses if required in initial year subject to overall limit of 0.50%.</p> <p>(vi) Provision for operational guidelines of the scheme to be issued by the Ministry with the approval of Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.</p>		
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Joint Secretary to the Government of India
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Dated: the 31st May, 2019
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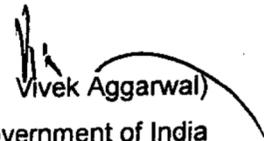
APPENDIX-II

(Refer para 11, page 12 of the Note)

STATEMENT OF EQUITY INNOVATION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

Subject: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojna Scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers

S.No.	The required goal	How does the proposal advance this goal?
1.	Equity or Inclusiveness	The small and marginal farmers would get social security in the form of monthly pension of Rs.3,000/-, on attaining the age of 60 years
2.	Innovation	Social security support in the form of monthly pension will be available to the small and marginal farmers on attaining the age of 60 years. The scheme further envisages creation of an electronic data base of Landholder farmer families for providing pension to the beneficiaries.
3.	Public Accountability	Monthly pension would be electronically transferred directly to the beneficiary account.


Vivek Aggarwal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

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