

**Operational guidelines for the Scheme
“Operation Greens”-Short-Term Interventions
under
“Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana”
dated 25th May, 2022**



Government of India

MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

Panchsheel Bhawan, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi- 110049

1. Scheme Background:

In the budget speech of Union Budget 2018-19, a new Central Sector Scheme “Operation Greens” – a scheme for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain - with an outlay of ₹500 crore to promote Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. Accordingly, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India [hereinafter referred as “The Ministry”] has formulated a scheme for development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain and is implementing the scheme since November 2018.

The “Operation Greens” Scheme [hereinafter referred as “the Scheme”] has two-pronged strategy of (a) price stabilization measures (short term measures) and (b) integrated value chain development projects (long term measures). The Ministry notified the operational guidelines for the scheme on 05.11.2018 for short term measures as well as long term measures.

In pursuance of announcement by Hon’ble Finance Minister on 15.05.2020 as part of “Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package” for revival of economy, affected due to supply chain disruption on account of COVID-19, the scope of short term measures of the scheme was expanded from Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops to all fruits and vegetables (TOTAL). Subsequently, The Ministry notified the guidelines of the Scheme separately for expanded short term measures as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package on 11.06.2020.

It is felt that there is a necessity for the Scheme to undergo modifications and, accordingly, revised guidelines of the Scheme are being issued.

2. The salient features of the guidelines are as below:

A. Objective: The objective of the Scheme is to protect the growers of Eligible Crops from making distress sale and to reduce post-harvest losses.

B. Eligible Crops: Following crops (other crops may be added in future on the basis of recommendation of expert bodies or Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India or a State Government) will be eligible under the Scheme:

Fruits: Mango, Banana, Guava, Kiwi, Litchi, Papaya, Mousambi, Orange, Kinnow, Lime, Lemon, Pineapple, Pomegranate, Jackfruit, Apple, Almond, Aonla, Passion Fruit, Pear, Sweet Potato, Chikoo and Tender & De-husked Coconut

Vegetables: French Beans, Bitter Gourd, Brinjal, Capsicum, Carrot, Cauliflower, Chillies (Green), Okra, Cucumber, Peas, Garlic, Onion, Potato, Tomato, Large Cardamom, Pumpkin, Ginger, Cabbage, Squash and Turmeric

C. Eligible Production Cluster: The list of districts for each crop mentioned in the report named “Horticulture Statistics at a Glance 2018” published by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (available at the website agricoop.nic.in) will be Eligible Production Clusters subject to meeting the Essential Conditions (as at Clause G below).

Other production clusters may be declared as Eligible Production Clusters on the basis of recommendation of expert bodies or the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India or a State Government.

D. Duration of Scheme: From the date of notification to **31.03.2026** or till further orders.

E. Eligible entities: Individual farmers, Group of Farmers, FPOs, FPCs, Co-operative Societies, State Marketing/ Co-operative Federation, Food Processors, Licensed Commission Agent, Exporters and Retailers etc.

F. Pattern of Assistance: The Ministry will provide subsidy @50 % of the cost of the following two components, subject to the cost norms notified by the Ministry:

- (i) Transportation of Eligible Crops from Eligible Production Cluster; and/or
- (ii) Hiring of appropriate storage facilities for Eligible Crops (*for maximum period of 3 months*);

Note: Any incidental expenses or taxes, of any nature whatsoever, will not be considered for the purpose of subsidy under the Scheme.

G. Essential Conditions for Transportation (by road/rail) and Storage Subsidy:

(i) The subsidy will be disbursed to the Eligible Entities for TOP crops in case price in the Eligible Production Clusters falls below the trigger price of the respective crop notified by the Ministry. The trigger price will be higher of two prices worked out on the basis of following conditions:

- a) Price falls below preceding 3 years' average market price¹ during harvest season²;
- b) Price falls more than 15% compared to last year market price¹ —during harvest season²;

(ii) In case of Eligible Crops other than TOP crops, the trigger price as recommended or notified by the State Government on the basis of conditions mentioned in clause G(i) above will be considered.

(iii) Eligible Crop has to be directly sourced from individual farmers or group of farmers or FPOs of Eligible Production Cluster. However, for Food Processors, Licensed Commission Agents, Exporters and Retailers, sourcing of Eligible Crops has to be **at a price equal to or higher than the trigger price** as mentioned in clause G(i) or clause G(ii), as the case may be.

H. For any claim of subsidy under the Scheme, payment should be made through banking channel only. Cash transactions would not be entertained for claim of subsidy.

I. Minimum quantity to be procured and transported or stored, as the case may be, per Eligible Entity (may consist of one or more Eligible Crops) for being eligible for grant of subsidy will be as under:

- (i) 9 MT for individual farmers and group of farmers;
- (ii) 100 MT for FPO, FPC and Co-operative Society;
- (iii) 500 MT for Food Processors, Exporters, Licensed Commission Agents;
- (iv) 1,000 MT for Retailers, State Marketing/ Co-operative Federation;

¹ Market Price as determined on the basis of data provided by Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and in case of crops where price data is not available with DMI then price data as provided by a State Government.

² Harvest Season as specified by The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India or a State Government.

Note: *In case of combination of Eligible Crops, subsidy disbursement will be on basis of cost norms for each such Eligible Crop.*

J. Eligibility Criterion for Transportation: Minimum distance criteria for transportation by road or by rail from Eligible Production Clusters is as under:

- (i) 100 km for individual farmers, Group of farmers, FPO, FPC, Co-operative Societies, Food Processors, Licensed Commission Agents and Exporters;
- (ii) 250 km for State Marketing/ Co-operative Federation, Retailers.

Note: *In case of export, subsidy towards transportation charges will be payable only upto Indian borders.*

K. Eligible Airports: All airports in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Also, Bagdogra airport shall be an Eligible Airport until Pakyong airport or any other airport in Sikkim becomes air cargo operational, provided that the Eligible Entity is from the State of Sikkim.

L. Pattern of Assistance for transportation by air: The Ministry will provide subsidy @50 % of the actual cost of the following components:

- (i) Total air freight charges of airline(s) for domestic movements covering (a) origin-destination (O-D) airport pairs; and (b) origin-transit-destination (O-Tr-D) airports whenever transit/ transshipment and destination are through domestic airports.
- (ii) Only origin-transit (O-Tr) freight charges in the case of international shipments originating from the States from the North-East (including Sikkim), Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
- (iii) Terminal, Storage, and Processing (TSP) charges of domestic origin and transit airports.
- (iv) Transit/ transshipment charges applicable at transit airport.

Note: *No X-Ray and other airport charges shall be payable.*

3. Maximum admissible subsidy amount per Eligible Entity will be ₹1 [one] crore during the entire duration of the scheme since inception.

4. No application shall be entertained by the Ministry under the Scheme after three months from the date of transport or storage invoice, as the case may be.

5. There is no requirement of prior approval from the Ministry before undertaking transportation and/or storage of Eligible Crops from Eligible Production Clusters. However, the Eligible Entity is required to register on the online portal.

6. **Submission of claim for subsidy:** Eligible entities can submit their application on online portal (<https://www.sampada-mofpi.gov.in/Login.aspx>). They need to fill the requisite information in the claim form in prescribed format and also upload the self-certified supporting documents on the portal.

7. **List of documents:** The eligible entity shall make online submission of the claim for release of subsidy (for transportation and storage) in prescribed format along with the following documents duly signed by the Eligible Entity/ authorised signatory. (When original documents are in regional language, they should be accompanied by self-certified English/ Hindi translation):

A. Aadhar card & landholding details of farmers - applicable in case of individual farmers (Kisan Credit Card may also be submitted), group of farmers and FPOs;

B. PAN Card - applicable in case of FPCs, Co-operative Societies, State Marketing/ Co-operative Federations, Food Processors, Licensed Commission Agent, Exporters and Retailers;

C. Farmer's detail (viz. name of farmers, landholding of farmers etc.) from whom Eligible Crop has been procured - applicable in case of FPC, Co-operative Societies, State Marketing/ Co-operative Federation, Food Processors, Licensed Commission Agents, Exporters and Retailers;

D. Purchase Invoice for Eligible Crops from farmers, group of farmers and FPOs of the Eligible Production Clusters including name of crop, quantity and procurement price - not applicable in case of farmers, group of farmers and FPOs;

E. Transport invoice & transport receipt, and other relevant documents for the transportation of Eligible Crops such as weighbridge receipts, toll plaza receipt(s), geo-tag photographs with date and time (with details of transport vehicle along with photograph);

F. Storage invoice & storage receipt for the storage of the Eligible Crops and other relevant documents such as weighbridge receipts, geo-tag photographs with date and time (with details of transport vehicle along with photograph), rent/ lease agreement;

G. Mode of Disposal-Sale/ Transfer Invoice/Proof of Storage details for Eligible Crop - not applicable in case of individual farmers and Group of Farmers but the proof of credit of sale proceeds in bank account of farmers;

- H. Copy of bank statement showing payments made to the farmers, group of farmers or FPOs for procurement of crop;
- I. Copy of bank statement showing payment made towards transport and/or storage;
- J. Notarised Affidavit on ₹100 stamp paper by Eligible Entity (as per format provided on the online portal);
- K. Supporting documents for transportation by air:
 - (i) Master Airway Bill (AWB) generated for Eligible Crops on carriage and clearly reflecting gross tonnage and commodity description.
 - (ii) Cargo Sales Report (CSR) reflecting the actual quantity contracted.
 - (iii) Freight/ tax invoice reflecting the actual amount paid.
 - (iv) Airline Manifest reflecting actual transportation of eligible crops.
 - (v) TSP Receipts issued by origin, transit CTOs/ airports.

8. Program Management Agency (PMA): The Ministry may engage services of existing PMAs under Operation Greens scheme or engage other agencies to assist the Ministry in implementation and monitoring of the Scheme.

9. Deficiency in the application: Online applications will be scrutinized and evaluated by a Technical Committee (chaired by Additional Secretary or Joint Secretary dealing with Operation Greens Scheme) constituted for the purpose by the Ministry. Deficiency, if any, in the application will be communicated to the applicant. Rectification of deficiency in application shall be done by the applicant within 30 days failing which the application will be rejected.

10. Audit mechanism: 10% of the cases will be selected on random basis for undertaking audit. For such cases, the Ministry or an agency authorized by the Ministry may call for original documents for verification. Failure to submit documents in original would make beneficiary liable to refund the subsidy along with interest at the rate of 15% per annum (compounded on monthly basis), from the date of sanction of subsidy. On examination of original documents, in case it is found that there is any discrepancy in the claim made and/or claim has been over-stated, the applicant shall rectify such discrepancy and/or refund the excess claimed with interest at the rate of 15% per annum (compounded on monthly basis) on recoverable amount with one month of receiving communication in this regard from the Ministry. Case of fraud, misrepresentation/ misdeclaration, falsification and fabrication of documents or other willful default would be dealt as per penal provisions of the relevant Criminal and Civil Law(s).

11. Cost Norms for subsidy on Transportation and Storage: The cost norms as notified by the Ministry shall be applied while calculating eligible transportation and

storage cost for calculation of subsidy admissible under the Scheme. The cost norms may be reviewed from time to time in case substantial changes take place in the transportation/ storage cost.

12. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to these Guidelines, the Ministry, on its own motion or on an application made before it by affected party, may amend these Guidelines for removing the difficulty in giving effect to the objectives of these Guidelines.

13. The Scheme guidelines dated 05.11.2018 (for short term measures as well as for long term measures) and 11.06.2020 (for short term measures under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package), as amended from time to time, are hereby repealed. Notwithstanding such repeal, any agreements executed under the repealed guidelines or any orders issued or any action done or purported to have been done shall continue to remain in force.

14. In case of any dispute arising out of interpretation of any of the terms and conditions as contained in the Scheme Guidelines, the interpretation and decision thereon of the Ministry shall be final and binding.

15. Any dispute arising out of any conditions stipulated in the guidelines and implementation of scheme will be subject to Courts/Tribunals having jurisdiction over Delhi.
