

F.No.12035/01/2014-Fy (WU)
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
Dated the 25th May, 2015

To
The Secretary
In-charge of Fisheries,
Government of _____

Sub: Implementation of Central Sector Scheme 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' in States/UTs during the financial year 2015-16-
Administrative approval thereof.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the administrative approval of Government of India for implementation of Central Sector scheme 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen', in States/Union Territories during the financial year 2015-16 at an outlay of Rs.43.49 crore (Rupees Forty three crore and forty nine lakh only) as per newly approved pattern during the 12th plan. The components approved under the Scheme are i) Saving-cum Relief; ii) Development of Model Fishermen Villages; iii) Group Accident Insurance for active Fishermen and iv) Training & Extension.

2. Fisheries is a hazardous profession that gets affected by the vagaries of nature. National Scheme for the Welfare of Fishermen is the dedicated scheme for the welfare of fishermen in the Country that provides for minimum social security to the fishermen in the event of the occurrence of an accident while fishing and also provides for relief measures to the poor fishermen during the lean fishing session. The Scheme is also a unique scheme that makes provisions for low cost houses exclusively for the fishermen community. Government of India endeavors to extend benefits of the scheme to large number of fishermen in the country. The State/UT Governments are encouraged to submit proposals to cover as many fishermen possible during the financial year 2015-16 giving due preference to Below Poverty Line (BPL), women and Scheduled Caste /Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries.

3. The Scheme is demand driven and will be implemented through respective State Government or its agencies. Expenditure on assistance will be shared on 50:50 basis by Government of India and State Governments in respect of all components of the scheme.



In case of North-Eastern States, the cost sharing would be 75:25 basis. For UTs, the entire expenditure is borne by the Government of India. In addition, States/UTs will be required to bear full cost of staff salary including any increase, maintenance of vehicle, office contingencies and acquisition of land etc. wherever necessary.

4. Details of the Scheme and Mode of its operation are at Annexure-I. Proposal(s) already sanctioned under this scheme are as per cost norms, existing at time of sanction of the proposal(s).

5. Proposals seeking central assistance under the scheme are to be submitted by States/UTs in the prescribed format and must be accompanied by detailed progress reports of projects sanctioned in preceding years and the Utilization Certificates in prescribed format. Reasons for shortfalls, if any, may be brought out clearly while providing the progress report. In addition, details of beneficiaries may also be furnished as per the enclosed format. Availability of budget provision in the State Budget for each component should be specifically indicated.

6. Under all the components of scheme, assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for identified activities shall be provided to an individual fishermen beneficiary, self-help groups, women fishermen groups, fishery cooperative societies.

7. It may be ensured that 16.2% and 8% of funds are targeted for SC & ST beneficiaries respectively under Scheduled Castes Special Plan (SCSP) as per the directives of Planning Commission. The SC beneficiaries may be both fishermen by caste and/or by profession. Also, 10% of funds should be earmarked for women beneficiaries. Accordingly, State Governments may ensure adequate numbers of such beneficiaries in their proposals.

8. It may be ensured that selection of beneficiaries under the scheme is fair and transparent for which selected beneficiaries may be linked with UID and the direct cash transfer for delivering the assistance through Aadhar card.

9. Details of beneficiaries should be put on website of District/ State Government wherever possible; otherwise these details will have to be maintained at State and District level.

10. It may also be ensured that Social audit of the projects funded under the Central sector Scheme are undertaken on the pattern of social audit being conducted under MNREGA.

11. Possibility of convergence of this scheme with schemes of Ministry of Rural Development such as Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Rural Drinking Water Schemes etc, wherever feasible, should be explored by States/UTs.

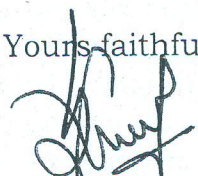


12. Possibilities for implementation of scheme or certain components of scheme through decentralized Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) may also be explored and implemented by States.

13. This issues in terms of the IFD's communication No.143/AS&FA dated 14th May, 2015.

Encl: as above.

Yours faithfully,



(Yoginder Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:-

1. Chief Controller of Accounts, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Pay and Accounts Officer, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, 16-Akbar Road Hutments, New Delhi-110 011.
3. Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi.
6. Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi.
7. Adviser (PAMD), Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Adviser, Agriculture Division, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Secretary (Planning) of all States/UTs.
10. Secretary (Finance) of all States/UTs.
11. Director/Commissioner of Fisheries of all States/UTs (as per list enclosed).
12. Chairman, Port Trusts (as per list enclosed).
13. Managing Director, National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd., 7, Sarita Vihar Institutional Area, New Delhi-110 044.
14. Managing Directors of Fisheries Federation of all States and UTs.
15. EO (Budget)/Fy (B&A)/IFD.
16. Guard File.



(Yoginder Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Annexure-I

Central Sector Scheme 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen'

(1) Development of Model Fishermen Villages

Under this component, eligible fishermen in inland and marine sector would be provided with basic civic amenities like houses, drinking water and a commonplace for recreation and work. The respective States/UTs shall provide land for development of these amenities. The States should keep the following criteria in view while selecting beneficiaries for allotment of houses under the scheme:-

- i) Beneficiary should be an active fisher identified by State Government;
- ii) Preference should be given to fishers below poverty line and to landless fishers;
- iii) Fishers owning land or kutchha structure may also be considered for allotment of houses under the scheme.

Cost of development would be shared equally by Central Government and State Governments subject to the conditions indicated below. In case of North-Eastern States, cost of the development would be shared by the Centre and North-Eastern States on 75:25 basis. In case of Union Territories, the entire expenditure shall be borne by Government of India.

(a) Housing

A Fishermen Village may consist of not less than 10 houses. There is no upper limit for number of houses to be constructed in a village, which would depend on number of eligible fishermen in that village. However, State should ensure equitable distribution of houses among all villages in proportion to the number of eligible fishers, as far as possible. The plinth area and cost of construction of a house would be limited to 35 Sq. mts and Rs.75000/- respectively. The ceiling on land and cost of construction indicate the upper limit. State Government may plan and ensure optimizing the use of available resources so that more number of houses could be built within the available resources.

b) Drinking Water:

A fishermen village would be provided with one tubewell for every 20 houses. Where a village consists of only 10 houses or more, but less than 20 houses, one tubewell may be provided for such a village. The cost of installation of a tubewell should not exceed Rs.40,000/-. However, for North-Eastern States, the cost of installation of a tubewell upto Rs. 45,000/- would be permissible as a special case for which State Government should furnish adequate

justification. The actual number of tubewells to be installed in a village may be rationalized on the basis of actual water requirement of the inhabitant families and the capacity of the tubewells. A fishermen village may be provided with alternative source of drinking water supply in case tubewells are not a practical proposition, provided the additional expenditure, (over and above what would otherwise be admissible if tubewells were to be provided on the basis of number of houses for which the facility is intended) is met entirely by the State Government.

(c) Common Facility:

As a recreation and common working place, a fishermen village with at least 75 houses will be eligible to seek assistance for construction of a community hall if found necessary. The hall will be constructed on an area not exceeding 200 Sq. mts. Two toilets, one for gents and one for ladies and a tubewell will also be provided with a community hall. The total cost of the hall should not exceed Rs.2,00,000/-. The State/UTs should ensure optimum utilization of the community hall by permitting its utilization as a drying yard and also as mending shed. If required, construction of walls for the community hall may be dispensed with so that it may be a structure with pillars and roofs to permit its optimum utilization as a common working place for fishermen.

(2) (i) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen:

Under this component, fisherfolk/licensed/identified or registered with the State/UT Governments would be insured for Rs. 2,00,000/- against death or permanent total disability and Rs.1,00,000/- for partial permanent disability and a cover of Rs.10,000/- towards hospitalization expenses in the event of accident. The insurance cover will be for a period of 12 months and a policy would be taken out by FISHCOPFED in respect of all the participating States/UTs. The annual premium payable would not exceed Rs.65/- per head to be shared in the ratio of 50:50 between Central and State government. In case of North-Eastern States, amount of premium would be shared by the Centre and the North-Eastern States on 75:25 basis. In the case of Union Territories, 100% premium will be borne by the Central Government.

In case of those States/UTs, which subscribes to this component through FISHCOPFED the Central share of the assistance (75% in case of NER and 100% in case of UTs) would be released directly to FISHCOPFED and will not be routed, through States/UTs. The State Governments should, however, ensure that their share of premium is sent to FISHCOPFED well before the due date of renewal of the policy. In case of those States/UTs who do not subscribe to this component through FISHCOPFED, the release of Central share would be restricted on the basis of annual premium that would be payable had the insurance been taken through FISHCOPFED or the actual premium, whichever is less. No contribution will be collected from the fishermen. The scheme

would cover fishermen in both marine and inland sectors. FISHCOPFED will be the executing agency and would operate the Scheme through any Insurance Company/Companies in case of States/UTs, which opt to subscribe to the Scheme through FISHCOPFED. However, the Ministry may identify one or more channelizing agencies as per the requirements for the purpose of efficiency in service delivery.

(ii) **Grants-in-aid to FISHCOPFED:**

FISHCOPFED is a National Level Federation engaged in welfare activities for fishermen, especially in the field of insurance and training. There is a need to strengthen this organization keeping in view FISHCOPFED's national and regional presence and its significant role in implementing schemes for the welfare of fishermen. Keeping in view a provision for grant-in-aid of Rs. 50.00 lakh per annum to FISHCOPFED has been made under the Scheme as per the 11th plan. Besides, FISHCOPFED would be encouraged to conduct skill based training programme for the traditional fishers through its own resources and/or availing fund from other ongoing schemes.

(3) **Saving-cum-Relief:**

Mode of implementation:

This component will be implemented uniformly for both marine & inland fishermen. Relief is to be given to fishermen uniformly for 3 months of fishing ban period while seeking saving from them for 9 months. The fishermen contribution will be Rs. 900/- as in the case of marine fishermen under the existing scheme which would be collected over a period of 9 months. Contribution of Rs. 1800/- will be made by the Centre and the States on 50:50 basis. Thus the total contribution of Rs. 2700/- will be distributed to the fishermen in 3 equal monthly installments of Rs. 900/- each. In case of Union Territories, the contribution of Rs.1800/- will be borne by the Centre only. In case of North-Eastern States, the Governmental contribution of Rs.1800/- will be shared by the Centre & the States on 75:25 basis i.e. Rs.1350/- by the Centre and Rs.450/- by a North-Eastern States. The interest accrued on the saving of the fishermen will also be distributed with the 3rd installment.

For purpose of this component, an eligible fisherman means a person who is professionally engaged in full time fishing, is member of Cooperative Society/Federation/Welfare Society, lives below poverty line and is below 60 years of age. If any member of a fishermen family has regular employment or indulges in any other income generating activity, such family will not qualify to be beneficiary under this component. The president/Secretary of the Association shall collect the beneficiary contribution and entrust the same to an official of the State/UT Administration who shall deposit the fund every

month in a Nationalized Bank in the name of Director of Fisheries of the respective State/UTs. The Director of Fisheries will draw the money during the lean season and distribute it to the beneficiaries adding Centre and State contribution in three equal installments. The States/UTs should ensure that under no circumstances collection of the beneficiary contribution is made in lump sum and also that the money is not distributed to the fishermen in lump sum.

If a Fishermen defaults in paying his contribution during the non-lean months, the Government's (both State and Centre) matching grant will be limited the number of months for which he has actually subscribed and will be refunded to the fishermen in equal installments during the lean months. The interest accrued will also be disbursed with the 3rd installment.

However, a default by any beneficiary in payment of monthly contribution, not exceeding beyond one month and twice during the fishing season, may be waived provided the amount is paid by the beneficiary with a default fee which is equal to the interest that would have otherwise accrued, had the contribution been paid on the due date(s).

Lean months in different States vary according to climatic conditions and monsoon weather. Therefore, Director of Fisheries of the respective States/UT's will have the discretion, based on the climatic changes and other valid reasons to decide which the lean months in a year are. However, lean months will be limited to only 3 months.

(4) Training & Extension:

The Training & Extension will be implemented as a component of the Central Sector Scheme- 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen'. The expenditure on the items as indicated in the enclosed statement (Annexure-II) will be shared on 50:50 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments. In case of North-Eastern States, the cost sharing would be 75:25 basis. For Union Territories the entire expenditure will be borne by the Centre. FISHCOPFED will be treated at par with Union Territories for all the items of the Training & Extension component.

National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen

Format for submission of proposals

Name of State/UT: _____

Year _____

1. Housing & drinking Water

1.	Name of the village (District-wise)	No. of houses required in each village			No. of tubewells to be installed	No. of community halls	Total cost*
		Total	SC	Other than SC			
1.							
2.							
3.							
Total							

Notes:

- *Cost to be worked out @ Rs.75,000/- per house, @ Rs.40,000/- per tubewells (Rs.45,000/- in case of NE States) and Rs. 2.00 lakh per community halls.
- Criteria for selection of village are a minimum of 10 houses. Every 20 houses for one tubewells and at least 75 housing units in a village are eligible to avail assistance for construction of a community hall.

CERTIFICATE

It is certified that, all the beneficiaries in the proposal are active fishermen. Out of them, _____ belong to BPL category, _____ owe land or kutchha structures and for the rest of the fishermen of State Government/ UT administration will provide the land for development of these amenities. State Government has adequate provision in its Budget to provide matching share during the current financial year. Utilization Certificate/ Physical progress report of Central assistance received for housing, community halls and tubewells (Rs. _____ lakh) till _____ has been furnished (copy enclosed) / pending for Rs. _____ sanctioned by the Government of India pertaining to the year _____ & there is no unspent balance. Year-wise break-up of unspent balance of previous year(s) is given in the enclosed Annexure.

Commissioner/ Director (Fisheries)

Government of _____

Date: _____

2. Saving-Cum-Relief

Name & Address of the Society/ Cooperative	No of fishers to be covered			Amount collected till date	Lean period	Assistance sought
	Total	SC	Other than SC			

Notes :

- (i) The beneficiary has to contribute Rs. 900/- @ 100/- per month for 9 month. An amount Rs. 1800/- is provided by the Central & State Government on 50:50 basis.
- (ii) In case of North-Eastern States, the governmental contribution of Rs. 1800/- will be shared by the Centre and States on 75:25 basis.
- (iii) In case of UT, Government's share is provided by the Central Government only (No contribution from UT).
- (iv) Lean months are limited to 3 months only.

CERTIFICATE

Certified that-

- Intended beneficiaries contribution has been received as per guidelines of the scheme and no lump sum contribution collected from the members.
- Beneficiaries proposed to be covered under the component are engaged in active fishing in sea, member of cooperative society/ federation/ welfare society, lives below the poverty line, does not own mechanized fishing boat/ beach landing craft and below 60 years of age.
- Adequate budget provision has been made in the State Budget during the current financial year to provide matching share.
- Central assistance received for this component till last year ____ has been disbursed to the beneficiaries and Utilization Certificate furnished/ pending for Rs. ____ pertaining to the year ____.
- Year-wise break-up of unspent balance of previous year(s), if any, in the format i.e. year, amount received (GOI), amount utilized, matching share released by the State Government and unspent balance as on 1st April of the respective financial year etc. is enclosed.

Commissioner/ Director (Fisheries)
Government of _____

Date: _____

Annexure-II

Statement showing pattern of assistance for different components/ items of the Training & Extension under "Central Sector Scheme- National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen".

S.No.	Component/Item	Assistance Approved
1.	Human Resources Development	<p>Stipend @ Rs. 125/- per day subject to a maximum of Rs.1875/- per participant during the training period of maximum 15 days and an actual to and fro train/bus fare subject to a maximum of Rs. 500/- per trainee.</p> <p>Honorarium of Rs. 1,000/- per Guest lecture subject to maximum of two lectures per day for resource person and actual to & fro travel expenditure subject to a maximum of Rs. 1000/-.</p>
2.	Establishment of Fish Farmers' Training and Awareness Centre	<p>Keeping in view the common facilities and infrastructure, it has decided to merge training and awareness centre and henceforth establish Fish Farmers' Training & Awareness Centre at a cost of Rs. 30.00 lakh.</p> <p>Financial assistance to the maximum extent of Rs. 60.00 lakh to each State for the establishment of maximum two Fish Farmers' Training Awareness Centre.</p> <p>The Land and operational cost would be met by the respective States/UTs.</p>

S.No.	Components/ Items	Assistance Approved
3.	<p>a) Publication of Handbooks</p> <p>b) Publication of training/ extension manuals</p>	<p>Rs. 15,000/- as an honorarium for each handbook to the Author which will include an approximate expenditure of Rs. 5,000/- to be incurred by him on stationery, typing, illustrations, transparencies etc. In addition Rs. 50,000/- will be paid to the State Government/UT/Organization for the printing of about 500 copies of each handbook.</p> <p>Rs. 5,000/- as an honorarium to the expert for the preparation of a manual and Rs. 20,000/- to the State Government/UT/ Organization for the publication of 500 copies for each manual.</p>
4.	Organization of workshops/ symposia/ seminars/ meetings evaluation studies etc.	<p>For organizing workshops/ seminars/ symposia etc. at the National level, a lump sum amount not exceeding Rs. 1.00 lakh will be provided mainly for the publication of proceedings.</p> <p>The amount for meeting expenditure on the miscellaneous items, etc. shall be determined by this Division with the concurrence of Integrated Finance.</p> <p>For organizing workshops/ seminar, etc. at the State/UT level, a lump sum amount not exceeding Rs. 50,000/- will be provided to each State/UT.</p>
5.	Activities of Fisheries Division at Head Quarters.	Overhead expenditure at Headquarters in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries for strengthening the training & extension skills of personnel and upgrading the reference material including audio-visual aids. In addition this will include committed liabilities like international conference/ seminar/ symposia etc.

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2.	Establishment of Fish Farmers' Training and Awareness Centre	<p>Keeping in view the common facilities and infrastructure, it has decided to merge training and awareness centre and henceforth establish Fish Farmers' Training & Awareness Centre at a cost of Rs. 30.00 lakh.</p> <p>Financial assistance to the maximum extent of Rs. 60.00 lakh to each State for the establishment of maximum two Fish Farmers' Training Awareness Centre.</p> <p>The Land and operational cost would be met by the respective States/UTs.</p>