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PM-KUSUM Scheme (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan): "From Annadata to Urjadata" (^{*}Kiran Yadav¹, Madhu Yadav² and Seema Yadav³) ¹Ph.D. Scholar, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh, Gujarat ²Ph. D Scholar, RARI, Durgapura, Jaipur ³Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Baytu, Barmer *<u>honeiikiran@gmail.com</u>

Government of India has taken various policy measures to fulfil its commitment made in Paris Climate Agreement in 2015 to have 40% of installed power generation capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme was initiated by the Government of India on 19.2.2019 to increase the income of farmers and provide sources for irrigation, de-dieselize the farm sector and reduce environmental pollution. The PM-Kusum scheme got administrative approval in March 2019 and guidelines were prepared in July 2019. The scheme was launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) for setting up solar pumps and other new power plants across the country. This scheme is divided into three components which are discussed further.

Objectives of PM-KUSUM Scheme

This scheme is one of the largest initiatives in the world to provide clean energy to more than 3.5 million farmers by solarising their agriculture pumps and allowing farmers to up 10 GW distributed solar projects. The scheme plans to set up 30.8 GW of solar capacity by December 31, 2022, through the financial assistance of INR 340.35 billion (US\$4.65 billion).

Under PM-KUSUM scheme, a group of farmers, farmers, panchayats, cooperatives can apply to install solar pumps. The total cost included in this scheme is divided into three categories in which the Government will help the farmers. The Government will provide 60% subsidy to the farmers and 30% of the cost will be given by the Government in the form of a loan. Farmers will only have to pay 10% of the total cost of the project. The state electricity distribution companies, also called, DISCOMS will buy the additional solar power produced

by the farmers on barren lands. DISCOMS will get sops to buy this electricity. Farmers can sell electricity generated from solar panels. The money gained after selling electricity can be used to start a new business.



Components of PM-KUSUM Scheme

This scheme is divided into three components which are follow as-

Component-A

- ✓ Under this scheme, workers will set up 10,000 MW of decentralized renewable energy power plants which are grid-connected on barren land,
- ✓ These grids will be set up by farmers, cooperatives, groups of farmers, panchayats, Water User Associations (WUA), and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) and
- \checkmark Power projects will be set up within the radius of 5 km of the sub-station.

Component-B

- ✓ Under this scheme, farmers will be supported to install stand-alone solar agriculture pumps worth Rs. 17.50 lakh,
- ✓ The capacity of the pumps will be up to 7.5 HP for the replacement of existing diesel agriculture pumps and
- ✓ The capacity can be higher than 7.5 HP but financial support will only be provided up to 7.5 HP capacity.

Component-C

- ✓ This scheme is for solarisation of 10 Lakh Grid Connected Agriculture Pumps and individual farmers will be supported to solarize pumps those having grid-connected pumps,
- ✓ Extra-solar power will be sold to Distribution Companies of India (DISCOMs) at a prefixed tariff and
- ✓ Farmer's irrigation needs shall be met by using the generated solar power.

Below is a tabular representation of component-wise details of sanctions and Rajasthan state Implementing Agencies for 2021-2022:

Component-A		Component-B		Component-C	
Implementation Agency	Sanction capacity (MW)	Implementation Agency	Sanction capacity (MW)	Implementation Agency	Sanction capacity (MW)
Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RUVNL)	325	Horticulture Department, Goveronment of Rajasthan	25000	Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (JVVNL)	12500

Central Financial Assistance (CFA) / State Government Support

Component A:

For buying the power from farmers or developers, Procurement Based Incentive (PBI) @ 40 paise/kWh or Rs. 6.60 lakh/MW/year, whichever is less, will be provided for the first 5 years by MNRE to Distribution Companies of India (DISCOMs).

Component B & C:

- Finance Assistance of 30% of the benchmark cost or the tender cost, whichever is lower
- State Government subsidy 30%
- Remaining 40% by the farmer

For farmers living in states, including J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, North Eastern States, Sikkim, Lakshadweep and Andaman, and the Nicobar Islands, Central Finance Assistance of 50%, State Government subsidy 30%, rest 20% by the farmer.

Benefits of PM-KUSUM Scheme

The benefits of PM-KUSUM scheme are mentioned below-

- Under this scheme, diesel consumption will be reduced and the sources of diesel will also be safe for the coming generation.
- It provides uninterrupted power supply to farmers and subsidy burden on DISCOMS in the sector of agriculture also will be decreased to a large extent.
- It shall enable the decentralisation of the production of solar power and also reduce the farmer's burden of farm power subsidy.
- It will provide as a boost to the emerging green economy in India.
- This will give the chance to sell the extra power to grid that is generated by the solar plants that are stationed on their barren lands and provides risk-free income for farmers.

Registration for PM-KUSUM Yojana

To register or apply under PM KUSUM Yojana, you can register by visiting the official website of KUSUM Yojana at <u>https://mnre.gov.in/</u>. After filling the application form online, you will need to provide the necessary information, such as-

- ✓ Aadhaar card,
- ✓ Land documents including Khasra No.,
- ✓ Declaration form,
- ✓ Passport size photo,
- ✓ Mobile Number,
- ✓ Bank account passbook, etc.

Once the application form and documents are approved, you will get registered under this scheme. If you face any problem or you want to get any information, then you can contact on helpline number on which you can get information by calling or register any complaint.

- PM-Kusum Scheme Contact Number: 011-243600707, 011-24360404
- PM-Kusum Scheme Toll Free Number: 18001803333.

How to Get an MNRE Certificate ?

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is a ministry under the Government of India that is related to all matters of new and renewable energy. The MNRE certificate can be obtained after MNRE registration by visiting its official website. Else, applicants can visit the nearest bank offering loans under this scheme to fill and submit the loan application form along with required documents as defined by the bank or lender.