

The present State Government is implementing various welfare and other schemes in the State. Some of these are:

Industries Department

How to set up industries in Himachal Pradesh

Industries Department in the State has been given big boost. The environment friendly, pollution free industries based on local raw material are being encouraged in a big way. Entrepreneurs have advantage of abundant supply of electricity on cheaper rates, peaceful law and order situation and above all industrial peace. To facilitate the entrepreneurs, the state Government has set up State Level Single Window Clearance Authority headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, where all clearances are accorded to them under one roof.

For convenience of investors the Government has classified manufacturing and service enterprises as Micro, Small, Medium Large and Scale industries. A simplified procedure has been laid down for the issuance of Provisional registration (Acknowledgement of EM-I) to the entrepreneur intending to set up an enterprise for manufacturing a product or rendering service. Intending investors are required to submit the prescribed application form EM-I along with four copies of project profile which is then acknowledged by the competent Authority.

Authorities competent to accept proposal:

Authorities competent to accept Entrepreneur's request for Provisional Registration (Memoranda Part-I) for setting up Micro, small, medium enterprises and large enterprises, are General Managers/Managers/ Industrial Promotion Officers at District level, Member Secretaries, Single Window Clearance Agencies at SWCA level. Extension Officers/ Economical Investigators at block level.

The Entrepreneur of medium and large scale industries are required to obtain approval in principle by State Level Single Window Clearance & Monitoring Authority. For convenience of investors Single Window Clearance offices have been set up at all major industrial areas of the state.

The projects under Micro/ Small Scale Category having power requirement more than 1 MW, units listed in negative list of industries are also placed before the SLSWC& MA for approval. The provisional registration (Acknowledgment of EM-I)/ SLSWC&MA clearance is issued to Enterprise to obtain all facilities/ clearances etc. required for setting up an enterprise. The Provisional Registration (EM-I) is valid for 2 years.

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Sericulture Industry

Sericulture is one of the important agro-based industries of the Pradesh that provides gainful employment to rural families. Himachal Pradesh is known for quality bivoltine silk cocoons because of its climatic suitability for production of quality silk cocoons. A Sericulture Wing under the state Industries Department is working to promote the development of sericulture industry in the State.

To promote private sector investment in sericulture and silk industries, six silk reeling units have been set up in Kangra, Hamirpur, Mandi and Bilaspur districts. Central Silk Board is implementing Sericulture Development Cluster Project in the District Hamirpur and Mandi through its Cluster Development Centre, Hamirpur.

Sericulture development activities

The state Government is implementing various schemes and programmes to promote sericulture industry in the State.

Maintenance of departmental Mulberry farms and nurseries: Improved mulberry varieties to yield planting material to propagate food plants of silkworms are being produced in the departmental nurseries.

Distribution of silkworm food plants: One year-old mulberry saplings of proved varieties are distributed to the planters at the nominal price from the Departmental nurseries.

Technical assistance and guidance are provided to the sericulturists/ entrepreneurs, besides undertaking training programme for their skill upgradation.

Subsidy on supply of vital inputs like mulberry saplings from the departmental nurseries, silkworms and disinfecting materials is given in kind to the beneficiaries.

The Department has set-up seven Sericulture Divisional Offices \as organized below to look after sericulture development in the districts: -

Whom to Contact

- Director of Industries, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Directorate of Industries, Bemloe, Shimla 171001 H.P. 0177-2813414 (O), 0177-2620371 (R) Dirindushp@ nic.in
- Deputy Director of Industries (Sericulture), Directorate of Industries, Bemloe, Shimla 171001 H.P. 0177-2658127 (O), PBX Extn. 208 ddishp@gmail.com
- Silk Seed Production Officer, Palampur, Dist. Kangra 176061 H.P. 01894-231157 (O)
- Silk Seed Production Officer, Gumarwin, Dist. Bilaspur H.P. 01978-255590 (O)
- Sericulture Officer, Dehra, Dist. Kangra H.P. 01970-233679 (O)
- General Manager-cum-Sericulture Officer, DIC, Nahan, Dist. Sirmaur H.P. 01702-222259 (O) gmdicnhnhp@ nic.in
- Silk Seed Production Officer, Nadaun, Dist. Hamirpur H.P. 01972-232635 (O)
- Sericulture Officer (Tasar), Tarna Hill, Dist. Mandi H.P. 01905-222933 (O)

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IT enabled Integrated Services

The Government of Himachal Pradesh is committed to provide opportunities to the citizens for their economic and social development. For this, the State Government is providing easy and single point access to information about the various Welfare Schemes for the citizens and other stakeholders. **3366 e-Governance Common Service Centre (CSC)** scheme popularly known as **Lokmitra Kendra** have been established under the **Public Private Partnership (PPP)** mode thus leveraging the support of various stakeholders such as State Governments, local bodies, opinion makers and agencies/ institutions involved or having interest, commercial or otherwise, in rural areas/ markets. People can avail this service by using the URL **<http://himachal.gov.in/page/CSC.aspx>**

Besides this, **SUGAM** Centres has been setup at all Tehsils/ Sub-Tehsils, Sub-Divisions and District Headquarter of all Shimla District. Now being rolled out in other districts Sugam plays an important role in providing services at the doorstep of rural community by bringing all citizen related services and information under a single roof cutting across different tiers of administration. The URL to avail this service is **<http://hp.gov.in/sugam/>**

Mainly following services are being provided through these centres:

Transport: Vahan – Vehicle registration, Saarthi – Driving licence, Bus booking & Time table;

Election: Voter registration and Voter Id; e-Praman/Certificates: Caste, Domicile, Senior citizen, Income, Backward area, Legal heir, SC/ST, OBC;

Revenue: HimBhoomi-Land records forms, Land record Nakal/Jamabandi, HimRis-Property registration;

Utility: Electricity bills, BSNL telephone bills; REFNIC -Reference Monitoring of Files; Agmarknet- Agriculture commodity prices;

District authorities: Arms Licence; Police Complaints; e-Pehchan:Senior citizen identity card, Disability identity card;

Labour and Employment: Vacancy listings, Employment exchange registration; Tourism: Hotel reservation, Tourist Information.

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Targeted Public Distribution System

One of the main constituents of the Government strategy for poverty alleviation is Targeted Public Distribution System (T.P.D.S.) which ensures availability of essential commodities like Wheat, Wheat Atta, Rice, Levy Sugar and Kerosene through a net work of 4,558 Fair Price Shops. The total families for distribution of essential items have been divided in four categories viz;

i) Above Poverty Line (APL): At present 1117804 families have been covered under APL scheme through APL ration cards. The State provides 18 kg of wheat atta and 9 kg of rice per month to each family totalling to 27 kg per family per month norms. The retail issue price is Rs 8.50 and Rs 10 for wheat and rice respectively.

ii) Below Poverty Line (BPL): The families covered under BPL scheme are 316900. The State Government provides 20 kg of wheat and 15 kg of rice per month. The retail issue price is Rs 5.25 and Rs 6.85 for wheat and rice respectively.

iii) Antyodaya Anna Yojna

Antyodaya Anna Yojna is for the poorest of poor. It is estimated that 5% of population are unable to get two square meals a day on a sustained basis through out the year. Their purchasing power is so low that they are not in a position to buy food grains round the year even at BPL rates.

SCALE AND ISSUE PRICE

Antyodaya Anna Yojana contemplates identification of one crore families out of the number of BPL families who are provided food grains at the rate of 35 Kg per family per month. The food grains are issued @ Rs.2/- per Kg for wheat and Rs. 3/- per Kg for rice.

IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES

The identification of these families is carried out by the State Government from amongst the number of BPL families within the state. These families are being provided food grains under the Targeted Public Distribution System at highly subsidised rates.

ISSUE OF RATION CARDS

After the identification of Antyodaya families, distinctive ration cards to be known as "Antyodaya Ration Card" should be issued to the Antyodaya families by the designated authority. The ration card should have the necessary details about the Antyodaya family, scale of ration etc.

Supporting Documents

1. Deletion Certificate or the Certificate to the effect that the applicant was not holding any ration card previously. The affidavit to this effect from the applicant that he didn't hold any ration card previously must be submitted.
2. The income certificate of the family to be issued by the concerned Patwari of that area.

Where and how to apply?

As this scheme is for poorest of the poor families so the person have to contact

1. For Rural Area: The person living in rural area have to apply on a plan paper with details of his family members income etc. to the Panchayat Pradhan of his area for this scheme. Gram Sabha will decide whether the family is eligible to be taken under the Scheme or not. After the selection of families the list will be further approved by the Department of Rural Development, Himachal Pradesh and the Ration Card will be issued by the Pradhan /DFSC or after the approval of the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department.

2. For Urban Area: The person living in the urban area will have to apply on plan paper to Notified Area Committee. After the selection of the families the list will be further approved by the Urban Development Department and Card will be issued by Concerned DFSC/ Authorised Inspector of that area.

iv) Annapurna scheme

The Annapurna scheme aims at providing food security to meet the requirement of those Senior Citizens who through eligible have remained uncovered under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS). Under the Annapurna Scheme, 10 Kg. of food grains per month are to be provided 'free of cost' to the Beneficiary.

Eligibility Criteria

Assistance under Annapurna Scheme will be provided to the Beneficiaries fulfilling the following criteria:

- a) The age of the applicant (male or Female) should be 65 years or above.
- b) The applicant must be "destitute" in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own source of income or through financial support from family members or other sources.
- c) The applicant should not be in receipt of pension under the NOAPS or State Pension Scheme.

d) As mentioned above, the Beneficiary would be entitled for 10 Kgs of food grains (wheat or rice) per month free of cost.

Where and how to apply?

The person living in rural area have to apply to the Panchayat Pradhan and the person living in Urban Area to Notified Area Committee on a plan paper .After the approval of the gram Sabha or the Notified Area Committee ,it will be further approved by the Welfare Department , Himachal Pradesh and the Ration Card will be issued by the Pradhan /DFSC or after the approval of the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department.

Specially Subsidized State Scheme

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has launched a Specially Subsidized State Scheme to all ration card holders in the State. Under the scheme the essential commodities are being provided as following:

1. Black Gram Whole Rs. 20/- per Kg. 1 Kg per family of five and above members per month
2. Dal Urd Rs. 35/- per Kg. 1 Kg per family per month
3. Dal Channa Rs. 25/- per Kg. 1 Kg per family of three and above members per month
4. Mustard Oil Rs. 45/- per Kg. 1 Ltr per family of three and above members per month
5. Refined Oil Rs. 40/- per Kg. 1 Ltr per Family per month
6. Iodised Salt Rs. 4/- per Kg. 1 Kg per family per month

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Education Department's Scholarship Schemes

To improve the educational status of the meritorious students and students of weaker sections of the society, various types of scholarships/stipends are being provided by the Government at various stages. Some of the scholarships being given are:-

(i) Swami Vivekanand Uttkrishtha Chhatarvritry Yojna : Under this scheme 4,000 meritorious students(+1 students and +2 students, 2000 each of general categories who got 77 percent marks or more in 10th and +1 class are being given scholarship @ ` 10,000/- per student per annum.

(ii) Thakur Sen Negi Uttkrishtha Chhatarvritry Yojna: Under this scheme, 200 boys & 200 girl students of ST category who got 72 percent marks or more in 10th and +1 class annual examination are being provided scholarship @ Rs. 11,000/- per student per annum.

(iii) Maharishi Balmiki Chhatarvritry Yojna: The girl students belonging to Balmiki families whose parents are engaged in unclean occupation are being given

scholarship under this scheme @ ` 9,000/- per student per annum beyond matric level upto college level and for professional courses at the level of colleges situated in H.P.

(iv) Dr. Ambedkar Medhavi Chhatarvriti Yojna: Under this scheme 2000 students of SC (students of +1 & +2, 1,000 each) and 2000 students of OBC categories, (students of +1 & +2, 1,000 each) who got 72 percent marks or more in 10th and +1 class are being provided a scholarship of ` 10,000/- per student per annum.

(v) High School Merit Scholarship Scheme: A sum of 1000/- per annum for Day Scholar and 1,500/- per annum for Hosteller of the 9th and 10th classes is being given for first 300 students on the basis of merit of the 8th class examination.

(vi) Sanskrit Scholarship Scheme: A sum of 250 per month for 9th and 10th classes and 300 per month for +1 and +2 classes are being given to those students who secure first position in the subject of Sanskrit with 60% and above marks.

(vii) Indira Gandhi Utkrishtha Chhatervriti Yojana: Under this scheme, 150 meritorious students for post plus two for studying in colleges or doing professional courses shall be awarded @ ` 10,000 per year per student purely on the basis of merit and without any income ceiling.

Following Scholarship schemes are also being implemented in the state:

1. IRDP Scholarship Scheme - A sum of 300/- per month for 9th & 10th class, ` 800/- per month for +1 & +2 Class, ` 1,200/- Per month for College/Day scholar students and 2,400/- Per Month for Hostelier is being given to those students who belong to IRDP families and studying in Govt./Govt. Aided Institutions.

2. Scholarship to the children of Armed Forces Personnel Killed/ disabled During wars - A sum of 300/- per month for 9th & 10th class, ` 800/- per month for +1 & +2 Class, ` 1,200/- Per month for College/ University Day scholar students and ` 2,400/- Per Month for Hostelier is being given to Children of Armed Forces Personnel killed/disabled in different operations/ war are eligible. In case disability is below 50 percent the children will get half scholarship.

3. Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST/OBC students (Centrally Sponsored Scheme) - The students (SC) whose parents annual income is up to 1,00,000/- and the students(ST) whose parents annual income is up to `1,08,000/-are eligible for full scholarship(i.e. Maintenance allowance + full fee) for all courses all OBC students whose parents annual income is up to ` 44,500/- are eligible for full Scholarship provided they are studying in Govt./Govt. Aided Institutions.

4. Sainik School scholarship Scheme - The scheme is applicable to the students in the Sanik School Sujapur Tihra and Domicile of Himachal Pradesh. The Scholarship is tenable from 6th to +2 class.

5. Pre Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in unclean occupation (CSS) - Under this scheme the scholarship will be eligible to the children of Indian Nationals who irrespective of their religion are actively engaged in scavenging of dry latrines and other unclean occupation i.e. lanning and flying only

which are traditionally considered unclean. The scholarship will be tenable only to such institution and for such courses up to Matric stage which have been duly recognized by the concerned State. There will be no income ceiling for award of scholarship under this scheme.

6. Pre-Matric Scholarship to OBC student(CSS) - This scholarship will be awarded to those students whose parents/ guardians income from all sources does not exceed ` 44,500/- per Annum. The scholarship will be tenable only in such institution and for such Pre-Matriculation courses which have been duly recognized by the Government. During 2009-10, 1,026 students have been benefitted under this scheme.

7. Incentive to SC/ST girl students for secondary Education - Under this Centrally Sponsored Scheme SC/ST girl students who take admission in 9th Class after passing Middle Standard Examination from H.P. Board School Examination from and all girls who have passed 8th class from Kasturba Gandhi Balika vidyalaya irrespective of caste/religion and the girls should be below sixteen years of age and unmarried. Under this scheme incentive of ` 3,000/- per annum is provided.

Expansion of Sanskrit Education - All out efforts are made to promote Sanskrit Education by the State Govt. and Centre Govt.

- a) Financial assistance to eminent Pandits in indigent circumstances.
- b) Award of scholarships to students of High/ Sr. Sec. Schools studying Sanskrit.
- c) Providing grant for the salary of Sanskrit Lecturers for teaching Sanskrit in Secondary Schools.
- d) Modernisation of Sanskrit Pathshalas.
- e) Grant to State Govt. for various schemes for promotion of Sanskrit and for research/ research projects.

Free Text Books

The State Government is providing free text books to the students belonging to SC, ST, OBC & IRDP students studying in 6th to 10 classes.

Free Education to Girls

Free education is being provided to girl students in the State upto University level including vocational and professional courses by exempting tuition fee.

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Transport Department

Him Gramin Parivahan Swarojgar Yojna (Him GPSY)

To provide self employment to unemployed youth and to strengthen transport services in rural areas, government has introduced Him Gramin Parivahan Swarojgar Yojna in the state. Permits are issued to ply 22 seater Maxi Cabs. Permits are issued only to unemployed youth and to co-operative societies of drivers and conductors. Age to obtain permit have been fixed between 18 to 45 years. Applicant should be a bonafide resident of Himachal Pradesh.

No interstate routes can be granted under the scheme.

Detailed information regarding the scheme can be obtained from Regional Transport Officer of the concerned district.

Yellow Card Scheme

Himachal Roadways Transport Corporation (HRTC) has introduced Yellow Card Scheme to facilitate its daily commuters. Under this scheme, the card holder is allowed 20% discount in fare within the radius of 40 kms from place of issue of yellow card or place opted by him. The discount is permissible in HRTC buses only.

Yellow card can be purchased against a payment of Rs. 50 and its validity is one year.

Smart Card Scheme

Smart Card is another scheme introduced by HRTC. Under this scheme, a smart card holder is allowed 10% concession in fare for travelling in HRTC buses. Senior citizens get 20% concession in fare.

Smart card can be purchased against a payment of Rs. 50 and its validity is one year.

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Rural Development & Panchayati Raj

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGS)

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, notified by the Government of India was made effective w.e.f. 2nd February 2006 in Himachal Pradesh. In the first phase, the National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme (NREGS) was introduced in District Chamba and Sirmour on 2nd February, 2006. Now, all the districts of the State have been covered under the scheme w.e.f. 1.4.2008.

The salient feature of the scheme is to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the State by providing 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The State government is providing Rs. 10 in addition to Rs. 100 daily wage the workers fixed under the scheme by the Government of India. Equal wages are to be paid to both man and woman workers. Bank accounts have been opened in the name of the workers so as to bring transparency in payment of their wages. Workers are entitled to being paid on weekly basis and in any case within a fortnight of the date on which work was done.

Irrigation and horticulture activities have been included under the scheme to benefit the marginal farmers. Besides, various other works like water conservation, maintenance of traditional water sources, land development, flood control and construction of village roads have also been incorporated into the scheme by the State Government.

How to take benefits of the scheme:

The scheme is open to all rural households in the areas notified by the Government of India. All adult members of the household who registered can apply for work. To register, the person has to be a local resident of the concerned gram panchayat. If he is willing he can apply for doing un-skilled manual work under the scheme to the local gram panchayat. The application for registration can be given on plain paper or on the prescribed application format available at gram panchayat level or an oral request for registration can be made. The application should contain the names of those adult members of the household who are willing to do un-skilled manual work, and particulars

such as age, sex and SC/ST status etc. After verification all particulars are entered in the registration register by the concerned Gram Panchayat. Every household is assigned a registration number. Job cards to every registered household are issued by the gram panchayat. The job cards are issued within a fortnight of the application for registration. Photographs of adult members who are applicants are attached to the job cards. The cost of job card and photographs is borne as part of the programme funds. The job card is valid for a period of 5 years.

INDIRA AWAAS YOJANA & ATAL AWAS YOJANA

1. INDIRA AWAAS YOJANA

Indira Awas Yojana is a Centrally Sponsored scheme which is being successfully implemented in the State. Under this scheme, assistance of Rs.38,500/- per beneficiary was being provided to BPL families for the construction of new houses upto 31-03-2010. Now w.e.f. 1-04-2010 the assistance has been enhanced to Rs.48,500/- per unit. This scheme is being financed by Centre and State Government on 75:25 sharing basis.

2. ATAL AWAS YOJANA

This is a State sponsored scheme and is being implemented on the pattern of Indira Awas Yojana. with a view to provide housing facility to Rural BPL houseless families the state Government has launched a Rural Housing Scheme "Atal Awas Yojana" w.e.f. 01-04-2010. Under this scheme, financial assistance of Rs.. 48,500/- per unit is being provided.

The provision to include minorities and handicapped under Atal Awas Yojana has not been made as these are being covered up under Indira Awas Yojana.

How to take benefits of the scheme:

The selection of beneficiaries under both schemes is being done by Gram Sabha on the basis of seniority. The houseless people can apply for financial assistance under the schemes to the Gram Sabha. Their proposals are sent to Block Development Officer for approval of financial assistance by the Gram Sabha.

MATRI SHAKTI BIMA YOJNA

The "Matri Shakti Bima Yojana" scheme was launched by the State Government on 25-09-2000. The scheme covers all rural women living below the poverty line within the age group of 10-75 years. The policy provides relief to family members/ insured women in case of their death or disablement arising due to any kind of accident, surgical operations like sterilization, mishap at time of child birth/delivery drowning washing away in floods, landslide, insect bite & snakebite etc. The scheme also gives benefit to a married woman in case of accidental death of her husband. From 1st April, 2008, the compensation amount under the scheme has been doubled from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs, 50,000/- in case of death of her husband.

Similarly, the compensation amount in case of disability arising out of extent as also been doubled from Rs. 12500/- to Rs. 25,000/-. From 1st February, 2009 the compensation amount under the scheme has been increased by the State Government. Under the scheme, financial assistance of Rs. one lakh is provided in case of death, Permanent total disability or loss of one limb and one eyes or both eyes or both limbs. On the loss of one limb or one ear assistance of Rs. 50,000 and in case of death of husband assistance of Rs. one lakh is being given by the State government.

How to take benefits of the scheme:

Block Development Officer has been made the Nodal Officer for the Matri Shakti Bima Yojana. For taking benefit of the scheme, the claim papers can be had from the office of concerned BDO which should be verified from BDO and Gram Panchayat Pradhan. The death certificate signed by an authorised officer has also to be attached alongwith the application.

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Social Justice and empowerment Schemes

Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana

Under 'Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana' girls and women whose annual family income is less than Rs. 15000 are being given Rs.11,001 as marriage grant.

Beti Hai Anmol

To emphasize importance of girl child and ensure socio-economic justice to women folk, the State Government has launched a scheme called 'Beti Hai Anmol' in the State. The Scheme aims at bringing attitudinal change of the society towards female child. Under the scheme Rs.5100 are deposited in the name of girl child of the BPL family in the post offices, which the child can withdraw on attaining the age of 18. This incentive is given up to two girl child of the BPL family. Under the scheme annual scholarship of Rs.300 is given from class 1st to 3rd, Rs.500 from class 4th Rs. 600 in Class 5th, Rs.700 from class 6th and 7th, Rs.800 from class 8th, Rs.1000 for 9th and 10th class and Rs.1500 for Plus 1 and Plus 2 to the girl child of the BPL families.

Widows Re-Marriage Scheme

To help the widows in resettling, Rs. 25,000 is being provided as financial assistance on re-marriage.

Social Security Pension to Old Age

Old age pension of Rs 330 per annum is being given to those who have attained the age 60 years and above and who don't have sufficient resources to support them and whose annual income is not more than Rs. 9000 and family's income not more than Rs. 15000 annually.

Disability Relief Allowance

Disability relief allowance of Rs 330/- relief is provide per person/month is being given to those disabled person who are having at least 40% disability and whose income doesn't exceed Rs. 9000 and family's income doesn't exceed Rs. 15000 per annum.

Widow/Deserted/Ekal Nari Pension

The widow/deserted/Ekal Nari pension is being to those Widow/Deserted/Ekal Nari ladies (above 45 years of age) whose individual annual income dos not exceed to Rs 9000 per year. They are being given Rs 330 per annum.

Rehabilitation Allowance to Lepers

Rehabilitation allowance to lepers @330 per month is being given to the patients of leprosy identified by the Health Department irrespective of their annual income.

How to take benefits of the Schemes

For taking the benefits of all the above schemes, the concerned District Welfare Officer/Tehsil Welfare Officer can be contacted.

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AGRICULTURE

PANDIT DEEN DAYAL KISAN BAGWAN SAMRIDHI YOJNA:

The State Government has launched Pt.Deen Dayal Kisan Bagwan Samiridhi Yojna. The project has two parts:- 1) Cash crops production by adoption precision farming practices through poly house cultivation worth Rs.154.92 Crores and 2) Project on Diversification of Agriculture through Micro-Irrigation and other related infrastructure worth Rs.198.08 Crores. For poly house and micro irrigation 80% subsidy is available, whereas, for creation of water source 50% subsidy is available. For BPL families 90 per cent subsidy is being given for construction of bamboo based poly-houses.

How to apply:

To avail project assistance, farmers shall apply to the District Nodal Officer i.e. Deputy Director of Agriculture who is the project sanctioning authority in the district through project implementing agency (PIA) in the development block i.e. Subject Matter Specialist on prescribed application form duly supported with revenue record i.e. Jamabandi of the land where he wants to construct poly house structure/ water source to be constructed. The PIA (Subject Matter Specialist) shall give his report to DNO on prescribed proforma.

For smooth and effective implementation of project, Deputy Director of 10 Districts and District Agriculture Officer of Lahaul & Spiti and Kinnaur and APO, Kaza will be Nodal Officers for the Districts.

D.N.O. shall issue administrative approval after scrutiny of the cases within 10 days from the date of receipt of cases from PIA's with a copy to the concerned bank, in case of Bank Loan. The DNO shall issue authorization letter in favour of the beneficiary for the construction of poly houses/installation of micro irrigation systems/creation of water source as per recommendations of PIA on the prescribed authorization letter DNO shall sanction the projects and project assistance as per the final assessment and recommendation received from the PIA within 20 days from receipt of such request. Completion period of each sub-project should not be more than 90 days from the date of signing of agreement between the farmer and the empanelled company. After the completion of sub projects, D.N.O. will submit the PCR's to the Directorate within 15 days for further submission to the NABARD.

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Kisan Credit Cards

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) has come up as the main source to strengthen the economy of farmers as it facilitates them in taking loan from the banks easily. The card also provides adequate financial assistance to farmers to enable them to purchase modern agricultural appliances and adopt mechanized farming techniques. The Kisan Credit Card is valid upto three years. Farmers can purchase agriculture equipments etc. from the already approved source on cash payment and he can draw it from the concerned bank and the card holder continues to enjoy the facilities of interest on his saving bank account. It is a multi-beneficial card and its distribution and cash supply process is very easy. Every eligible farmer would get a Pass Book along with KCC, which will have his name, address, details of landholdings, loan limit, validity period alongwith a passport size photograph which will book as an identity card, besides having complete details of his loans and payments.

The farmers can contact any nearby branch of any public sector bank or Cooperative Society for obtaining Kisan Credit Card. Detailed information regarding the scheme can be obtained from Agriculture Officer of the concerned district.

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Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojna

The farmers of Himachal Pradesh engaged in the cultivation of wheat and barely are being covered under the scheme during Rabi season. The Scheme is implemented in the units (including Tehsil/Sub-Tehsil) of Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kinnaur, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmour, Solan and Una for cultivation of wheat crop during Rabi Season, 2010-11. Similarly units (including Tehsil/ Sub-Tehsil) of

Chamba, Kangra, Kinnaur, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmour and Solan have been selected for barley crop.

The Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. is the Implementing Agency (IA) of this scheme and risks like natural fire and lightning, storm, hailstorm, drought, dry spells and pests/diseases etc. will be covered under the scheme. Losses arising out of war and nuclear risks, malicious damage & other preventable risks shall be excluded from the ambit of the scheme.

The scheme is on compulsory basis to loanee farmers availing Seasonal Agricultural Operation (SAO) loans from the Financial Institutions i.e. commercial banks, Co-operative banks, Regional rural banks and Primary Agricultural Co-operative (PACs) for the insured crops within the stipulated period. On voluntary basis, the scheme would be optional for the non-loanee farmers.

The level of indemnity for wheat and barley crops is kept at 60 percent and 80 percent respectively of the Average Yield (Threshold Yield). Under the scheme, the small marginal farmers are eligible for 50 percent Government subsidy on total premium. Government enhanced the subsidy on premium on the insurable crops under Crop Insurance Scheme from 10 percent to 50 percent (i.e. 45 percent as State Share and 5 percent as Central Share). The Small and Marginal farmers will require to pay only 50 percent of the total premium payable.

Cut-off dates for submission of yield data by the State Government to the implementing agency is 30th September, 2011 for wheat and barley crops.

Detailed information regarding the scheme can be obtained from Agriculture Officer of the concerned district.

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Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme

A Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) has been launched on pilot basis in district Solan and in Sadar Block of district Bilaspur for Tomato crop and in districts Kangra and Una for Rabi Potato crop.

The Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. is Implementing Agency (IA) of this Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) in district Solan for Tomato crop and in district Kangra and Una for Rabi Potato crop and the ICICI Lombard, GIC Ltd. in Sadar Block of district Bilaspur for Tomato crop.

The scheme shall operate on the principle of "Area Approach" in selected notified Reference Unit Areas (RUA). The scheme has been made mandatory for all Loanee applicant cultivators i.e. those who have sanctioned credit limit from a financial Institution for the notified crops in the notified RUAs. The scheme is voluntary for Non Loanee cultivators i.e. those who do not have sanctioned credit limit from any financial institution for the notified crops in notified RUAs. Financial institution, for the purpose of the scheme includes all District Central Cooperative Banks and also the Primary Agricultural Co-operatives (PAC) affiliated to them, all Commercial Banks and all Regional Rural Banks as defined in National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

Temperature (Low temperature (frost), Chilling, High mean temperature, temperature fluctuation), Wind speed and Rainfall (deficit/excess), which

cause 'Adverse Weather Incidence' leading to crop loss, would be covered under the scheme.

For details please contact Agriculture Officer of the concerned area.

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Soil Health card

The State Government is providing Soil Health Cards to every farmer in the State. Officials collect soil samples from the field which got analysed and tested in soil testing laboratories established in all the Districts.

Soil Health Cards are being given to all the farmers in the State. **Detailed information regarding the scheme can be obtained from Agriculture Officer of the concerned district.**

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Kisan Call Center

Under this scheme, farmers can get any information on agriculture related issues by dialing toll free number 1800-180-1551 or 1551. The service is available from 6.00 A.M. to 10.00 P.M. on all days.

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