सत्यमेव जयते

JANUARY 2025

National Horticulture Board
Operational Guidelines

राष्ट्रीय बागवानी बोर्ड
National Horticulture Board

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Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare,
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PREFACE

Message from the Managing Director's Desk

In recent years India has emerged as global horticulture powerhouse, ranking second in overall horticultural production and in fruit and vegetable output worldwide. With its rich agro-climatic diversity, India cultivates a wide variety of crops year-round, including fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices, medicinal plants, and nuts. Horticulture also plays a vital role in the nation's agriculture by boosting farmer incomes, ensuring nutritional security, supporting agro-industries, and driving rural employment, making it a cornerstone of inclusive and sustainable growth.

Since its inception in 1984, the National Horticulture Board (NHB), under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, has been committed to transforming horticulture into a vibrant, sustainable, and globally competitive sector. Our efforts focus on enabling farmer prosperity through value chain development, quality investments, and reduction of post-harvest losses.

Key initiatives such as the Cluster Development Programme (CDP) promote region-specific, market-linked growth, while the Clean Plant Program (CPP)—supported by the Asian Development Bank—ensures the availability of high-quality, virus-free planting material to boost productivity and climate resilience. Bharat GAP scheme encourages sustainable farming aligned with global standards, enhancing food safety, sustainability and export potential.

NHB also work closely with the National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD) to improve cold storage, logistics, and reduce post-harvest losses, ensuring better market access for farmers. Through schemes under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, NHB support commercial horticulture, modern infrastructure, technology transfer, and innovation.

I hope the present compilation of guidelines reaffirms NHB's commitment to catalysing India's horticultural transformation by fostering innovation, empowering farmer collectives like FPOs and cooperatives, and enabling global market integration.

(Priya Ranjan)
Managing Director

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	: Asian Development Bank
APEDA	: Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority
APMC	: Agriculture Produce Market Committee
ATMA	: Agriculture Technology Management Agency
BDS	: Basic Data Sheet
BGAP	: Bharat-Good Agricultural Practices
BMS	: Building Management System
CA	: Controlled Atmosphere
CCTV	: Closed-Circuit Television
CDP	: Cluster Development Programme
CFC	: Chlorofluorocarbons
CPP	: Clean Plant Program
DAC	: Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
DG Set	: Diesel Generator Set
EPC	: Eligible Project Cost
EPS	: Expanded Polystyrene
FSSAI	: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
FIs	: Financial Institutions
FPO	: Farmer Producer Organization
GoC	: Grant of Clearance
GWP	: Global Warming Potential
HACCP	: Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
HCFC	: Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HUF	: Hindu Undivided Family
ICAR	: Indian Council of Agricultural Research
IFFCO	: Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited
INM	: Integrated Nutrient Management
IPA cum LOC	: In-Principal Approval cum Letter of Comfort
IPM	: Integrated Pest Management
IC	: Internal Committee
JIT	: Joint Inspection Team
KVK	: Krishi Vigyan Kendra
LLP	: Limited Liability Partnership

IoT	: Internet of Things
MANAGE	: National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management
MoFPI	: Ministry of Food Processing Industries
MoA&FW	: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
MHT	: Material Handling Trolleys
MIDH	: Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture
MT	: Metric Ton (or Tonne) – Equal to 1,000 kilograms
NCCD	: National Centre for Cold-Chain Development
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organization
NIAM	: National Institute of Agricultural Marketing
NMPB	: National Medicinal Plants Board
NPA	: Non-Performing Asset
NHM	: National Horticulture Mission
NBM	: National Bamboo Mission
NMPB	: National Medicinal Plants Board
NHB	: National Horticulture Board
NHRDF	: National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation
NIRD	: National Institute of Rural Development
NRCs	: National Research Centres
PAC	: Project Approval Committee
PCM	: Phase Change Material
PEB	: Pre-Engineered Building
PEQ	: Post Entry Quarantine
PHM	: Post Harvest Management
PLC	: Programmable Logic Controller
PP	: Primary Processing
PPE	: Personal Protective Equipment
PSU	: Public Sector Undertaking
R&D	: Research and Development
SMAM	: Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization
SAUs	: State Agricultural Universities
TSG	: Technical Support Group
VFD	: Variable Frequency Drive

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INTRODUCTION

Horticulture is increasingly recognised as a sunrise sector, owing to its potential to raise farm income, provide livelihood security and earn foreign exchange through export. The diverse agro-climatic conditions and rich diversity in crops and genetic resources enable India to produce a wide range of horticultural crops round the year Horticulture is increasingly recognised as a sunrise sector, owing to its potential to raise farm income, provide livelihood security and earn foreign exchange through export. The diverse agro-climatic conditions and rich diversity in crops and genetic resources enable India to produce a wide range of horticultural crops round the year

The National Horticulture Board (NHB) was set up by Government of India in 1984 as an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Headquartered in Gurugram, it operates under the Societies Registration Act. NHB's core mandate focuses on attracting quality investments, minimizing perishable produce wastage, improving shelf life, facilitating value addition, driving diversification and commercialization in horticulture, creating employment opportunities, and boosting farmers' incomes to generate exportable surpluses.

Over the years, horticulture has emerged as one of the potential agricultural sectors offering immense potential to boost farm incomes, ensure nutritional security, and sustain a vast number of agro-industries that create substantial employment opportunities. India's diverse agro-climatic conditions and extensive crop variety enable the year-round cultivation of an impressive range of horticultural produce, from fruits and vegetables to flowers, spices, medicinal plants, and nuts. This diversity makes horticulture a critical driver of agricultural growth and rural development while positioning India as a major contributor to global horticulture. By focusing on modern practices, post-harvest management, and value-added processes, horticulture provides an opportunity for farmers to enhance productivity, reduce wastage, and access new markets, thereby ensuring long-term sustainability and profitability for the sector.

The National Horticulture Board (NHB) plays a pivotal role in advancing India's horticulture sector through various innovative schemes targeting the entire value chain, including pre-production, production, post-harvest processing, logistics, branding, and marketing. One of its key initiatives, the Cluster Development Programme, has been designed to leverage geographical specializations of horticulture clusters. This program promotes integrated, market-driven development by addressing inefficiencies across the value chain and enhancing productivity, competitiveness, and sustainability within defined regions.

To enhance the availability of high-quality, disease-free planting material and achieve self-reliance in horticulture, the Clean Plant Program (CPP) has been implemented with Asian Development Bank (ADB) funding support. The CPP aims to address key challenges in horticulture by ensuring the supply of virus-free planting materials, thereby improving crop quality and productivity. It focuses on increasing yields, enhancing climate resilience, and reducing dependence on imported materials. The program also promotes sustainable, eco-friendly agricultural practices and aims to improve the economic well-being of farmers. Overall, the CPP seeks to strengthen India's position in the global fruit market by fostering a robust and self-sufficient horticulture sector.

The National Horticulture Board's Bharat Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) scheme ensures the safety and quality of agricultural products by addressing every aspect of the production process. From farm management

and soil conservation to the harvest and delivery of food, Bharat GAP adheres to globally recognized standards, promoting sustainable and responsible farming methods. The scheme emphasizes key areas such as food safety, hygiene, produce quality, environmental stewardship, and consumer health, while also minimizing risks to both human health and the environment. By aligning agricultural practices with international benchmarks, Bharat GAP enables Indian farmers to access global markets and fosters long-term economic sustainability. Together with other NHB initiatives, the program significantly boosts the productivity of the horticulture sector, enhances food security, and ensures quality assurance, while supporting environmental sustainability and creating a robust, globally competitive agricultural ecosystem.

The National Centre for Cold-chain Development (NCCD) plays a pivotal role in shaping policy frameworks and technical standards for the development of an integrated cold-chain infrastructure in India. It extends crucial policy support to the National Horticulture Board (NHB) by providing expert guidance on cold-chain development, post-harvest management, and logistics solutions. NCCD's recommendations help NHB formulate and implement schemes aimed at minimizing post-harvest losses, improving shelf life, and enhancing market connectivity for horticultural produce. Through this collaboration, NHB is better equipped to promote sustainable horticulture practices, support infrastructure development, and ensure efficient value chains from farm to market, ultimately benefiting farmers and consumers alike.

The Managing Director serves as the Principal Executive of the National Horticulture Board (NHB), responsible for implementing various schemes and initiatives. Working under the overall supervision and guidance of the Board of Directors, the Managing Committee of NHB, and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, the Managing Director ensures the effective execution of NHB's mandates. Their leadership is instrumental in driving the Board's objectives of enhancing productivity, ensuring quality, and fostering growth within India's horticulture sector.

List of Schmes administered by NHB

National Horticulture Board implements programmes as sub-scheme of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). List of NHB schemes is given as under: -

1. **Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Produce**
2. **Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/ Expansion/ Modernization of Cold Storages/ Storage of Horticulture Produce**
3. **Development and Transfer of Technology for Promotion of Horticulture**
4. **Cluster Development Programme (CDP) Scheme**
5. **Clean Plant Program (CPP) Scheme**
6. **Bharat-Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Scheme**

NHB will also house the national level TSG under MIDH including NHM and NBM and extend administrative, logistical and personnel support towards their implementation.

Objectives

1. Development of hi-tech commercial horticulture in identified belts and make such areas vibrant with horticultural activity, which in turn will act as hubs for development of horticulture.

2. Development of modern post-harvest management infrastructure as an integral part of area expansion projects or as common facility for cluster of projects.
3. Development of integrated, energy efficient cold chain infrastructure for fresh horticulture produces.
4. Developing Crop specific clusters in different Agro climatic zones of the country and addressing the concerns of the horticulture value chain, from pre-production, production, post-harvest management and value addition to logistics, marketing and branding, in an integrated manner for accelerating competitiveness in the domestics and export market.
5. To facilitate and support production and availability of quality planting material for horticulture produce by promoting setting up of scion and root stock banks / mother plant nurseries and carrying out accreditation / rating of horticulture nurseries and need based imports of planting material.
6. Popularization of identified new technologies / tools / techniques for commercialization / adoption, after carrying out technology and need assessment.
7. Promotion and market development of fresh horticulture produce.
8. Promotion of field trials of newly developed/imported planting materials and other farm inputs; production technology; PHM protocols, INM and IPM protocols and promotion of applied R&D programmes for commercialization of proven technology.
9. Promotion of Farm Mechanization in Horticulture through demonstration and its uses at farmers field level to reduce labour cost and increase the productivity of Horticulture crops.
10. Promotion of applied R&D for standardizing PHM protocols, prescribing critical storage conditions for fresh horticulture produce, bench marking of technical standards for cold chain infrastructure etc.
11. Transfer of technology to producers/farmers and service providers such as gardeners, nurserymen, farm level skilled workers, operators in cold storages, work force carrying out post-harvest management including processing of fresh horticulture produce and to the master trainers.
12. Promotion of consumption of horticulture produce and products.
13. Promoting long distance transport solution for bulk movement of horticulture produce through rail etc.
14. Carrying out studies and surveys to identify constraints and develop short and long-term strategies for systematic development of horticulture and providing technical services including advisory and consultancy services.

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CHAPTER 01

General guidelines for NHB Schemes

Procedure for filing applications for financial assistance

The detailed procedure for filing applications for financial assistance under various schemes of the National Horticulture Board (NHB), including online application submission, applicable processing fees, inspection of projects, scrutiny norms, appraisal of project proposals, communication of sanctions and approvals, and record-keeping requirements, shall be as prescribed in the respective scheme guidelines. These procedures are periodically updated to reflect policy revisions and improvements in implementation mechanisms. Applicants are required to follow the latest instructions and formats as issued by NHB from time to time. The specific procedure for sanctioning financial assistance under each scheme is outlined in the respective chapters of the scheme guidelines.

Date of Coming into force

The Scheme guidelines shall be effective from 01.01.2025

Eligible Organizations

Unless otherwise specified, Promoters/organisations such as Individuals, Association/Group of Growers, Proprietorship/Partnership/LLP Firms, Trust, Cooperative Society, Society registered under Registration of Society Act, Company, Self-help group, Farmer Producers Organization, Co-operative Marketing Federations, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees, Marketing Boards, Municipal Corporations, Agro-Industries Corporations engaged or propose to engage in Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops, SAUs and other concerned R&D organizations are eligible for financial assistance under respective Scheme of NHB.

Unit and Limits of Financial Assistance

For the purpose of availing assistance under NHB schemes, a family or a legal entity is considered as a unit when determining eligibility to apply and receive subsidies under Scheme No. 1 and 2.

1. Definition of Family

The term family shall refer to the husband, wife, and dependent minor children. Within a family, any or all members are eligible to avail benefits under the scheme, whether in their individual capacity, as part of a group, Hindu Undivided Family (HUF), or as a partner in a partnership or proprietorship firm. However, the total subsidy availed shall be subject to the capping limits prescribed for the respective scheme component.

In all cases, the benefits granted under the scheme shall be aggregated and treated as having been received by the same family and legal entity. This is to ensure that there is no duplication of subsidies or financial assistance beyond the defined eligibility limits prescribed under the scheme. Such aggregation helps maintain transparency, prevent misuse of funds, and ensure equitable distribution of benefits among eligible beneficiaries.

Pattern of Assistance

The details of the components and the pattern of assistance under various schemes of the National Horticulture Board (NHB) are provided in their respective chapters within the scheme guidelines. Any changes in the pattern of assistance, cost norms, eligibility criteria, or procedures for scheme implementation as approved by the Government shall be incorporated into the guidelines from time to time. The schemes of NHB and other schemes under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), including the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), are mutually exclusive, and financial assistance can be claimed under only one scheme for a single project. Components that are already covered under other sub-schemes of MIDH or central government schemes such as those implemented by APEDA, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), or the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) shall not be eligible for assistance under NHB schemes. For the applicable pattern of assistance, applicants are advised to refer to the most recent scheme guidelines issued by MIDH, NCCD, SMAM, and other relevant authorities.

Cost Norms

The cost norms under the scheme are intended to incentivize investment in specific focus areas and apply only to admissible items within a project. These norms serve as a reference for determining eligibility for financial assistance and should not be interpreted as a comprehensive funding mechanism for the entire project. For detailed and updated cost norms, applicants are advised to refer to the latest guidelines issued by MIDH, NCCD, MoFPI, SMAM, and other relevant authorities.

Legal

Any dispute arising out of the selection of proposals or the implementation of approved projects under the scheme guidelines shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts or Tribunals located in Gurugram.

Others

1. Claims complete in all respects as per check list should be received within 3 months from the date of completion.
2. A signboard duly confirmed by the NHB displaying "Assisted by National Horticulture Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India" will be exhibited at the site.
3. NHB reserves the right to recall any amount given under the scheme without assigning any reason thereof.
4. The decision of NHB with regard to eligibility and interpretation of the guidelines shall be final and binding on the beneficiaries and banks.

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CHAPTER 02

Scheme-01- Scheme for Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Produce

The Scheme for Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Produce provides credit-linked back-ended subsidy for projects related to the establishment of commercial horticulture production units in open field conditions as well as under protected cultivation. It also supports projects focused on post-harvest management and primary or secondary processing of horticulture produce. The detailed procedure for submitting applications and obtaining sanction for financial assistance under this scheme is outlined in Chapter No. 4 of the scheme guidelines.

Details of the components along with cost norms and pattern of assistance are as under

S. No.	Item	Cost norms	Pattern of assistance
Scheme No. 01	**Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management (Integrated Projects)**		
1 (i)	Commercial Horticulture Development in open field conditions in a project mode.	Rs. 100.00 lakh/per project for projects covering area over 2 ha., including add on components as per crop wise/component wise cost norms of MIDH on pro-rata basis. The integrated project may include the components viz planting material, plantation, irrigation, fertigation, mechanization, precision farming, GAP etc.	Credit linked back ended subsidy @ 40% of project cost in general area and @ 50% of project cost for NER and Himalayan States, Scheduled Areas and UTs of Andaman &Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
1 (ii)	Large scale Hi-Tech open field cultivation of identified high value horticulture crops in a project mode (Apple, Walnut, Almond, Cashew nut, kiwi and date palm)	Rs. 200.00 lakh/per project for projects covering area over 20 ha., as per crop wise/component wise cost norms of MIDH on pro-rata basis. The integrated project may include the components viz planting material, plantation, irrigation, fertigation, mechanization, precision farming, GAP etc.	Credit linked back ended subsidy @ 40% of project cost in general area and @ 50% of project cost for NER and Himalayan States, Scheduled Areas and UTs of Andaman &Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

S. No.	Item	Cost norms	Pattern of assistance
1 (iii)	Commercial Horticulture Development in protected conditions in project mode	Project based as per MIDH cost norms including add on components for area above 4000 Sq.m per project as per crop wise/component wise cost norms of MIDH on pro-rata basis. For NE States, lower limit of area may be kept at 1000 Sq. m	Credit linked subsidy @ 50% of eligible project cost having maximum subsidy upto 100 Lakh/ project.
1 (iv)	Hi-tech Plug Type Nursery under controlled conditions in project mode	Project based as per MIDH cost norms including add on components for area above 4000 Sq.m per project as per crop wise/component wise cost norms of MIDH on pro-rata basis. For NE States, lower limit of area may be kept at 1000 Sq. m	Credit linked subsidy @ 50% of eligible project cost having maximum subsidy upto 100 Lakh/ project.
1 (v)	Setting up of new Tissue Culture Unit	Max Rs. 250 Lakhs/Unit	Assistance @ 100% to public sector and in case of private sector, credit linked back ended assistance @ 40% as project based activity. TC unit shall produce a minimum of 10 lakh plants/year or on pro rata basis upto 25 lakh plants/ unit of mandated crops, duly hardened, for which protocols are available for commercial use. Accreditation of each TC lab shall be mandatory within 18 months from the date of receipt of last installment.
1 (vi)	Integrated Mushroom Production Unit in project mode	As per NHB norms for a minimum installed capacity above 50 MT and upto 300 MT in controlled conditions @ Rs. 75000/MT without canning and @ Rs. 85000/ MT with Canning including Production Unit + Compost making Unit.	Credit linked subsidy @ 40% of eligible project cost in General area and @ 50% of eligible project cost for NER and Himalayan States, Scheduled Areas and UTs of Andaman &Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
1 (vii)	All Post Harvest Management Components(C1 to C6 as per MIDH guidelines)	As per MIDH Cost Norms Note: Component has to be implemented in accordance to NCCD guidelines only	As per MIDH Cost Norms

S. No.	Item	Cost norms	Pattern of assistance
1 (viii)	Refrigerated Transport vehicles	For the purpose of calculation Rs. 3.45 lakhs/MT would be considered. The cost would be calculated on the per MT basis from 15 MT and max. of 30 MT per refrigerated vehicle. However, actual cost would be derived based on quantity etc. chosen depending upon components has to be implemented in accordance to NCCD guidelines only.	Upto max. Rs. 80.00 lakh/project @ 35% in general areas and Upto max. Rs. 100.00 lakh/project @ 50% in in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands.
1 (ix)	Secondary Processing units for Value addition	Rs. 100 lakh/unit (as per MIDH cost norms)	Assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman &Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands (as per MIDH norms)
1 (x)	Non-Pressurized Ripening Chamber also termed as CS-3	Rs. 1.00 lakh/MT	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands
1 (ix)	ii) Pressurized Ripening Chamber also termed as CS-3	Rs. 1.20 lakh/MT	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands

Description of Eligible Components

I. **Commercial Horticulture Development in Open Field Conditions in Project Mode:** National Horticulture Board's (NHB) initiative for integrated commercial horticulture development aims to improve production, efficiency, and sustainability within the sector. The focus is on large-scale projects, covering areas over 2 hectares (approximately 5 acres) for general areas. In case of NE Region, projects having area over 1 hectare (approximately 2.5 Acres) are eligible. The various components eligible for assistance in these projects include:

1. **Planting Material & Plantation**: Support for the selection and planting of high-quality materials suited to the specific crop type.
2. **Irrigation & Fertigation**: Funding for the installation of efficient irrigation systems like drip irrigation, combined with fertigation (the integration of fertilizers into irrigation systems), which is essential for water and nutrient management.

3. **Mechanization & Precision Farming**: Assistance for acquiring machinery and tools to optimize labour use and input efficiency, alongside modern farming practices like precision farming, which involves data-driven techniques for improved crop production.
4. **Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)**: Guidelines for ensuring agricultural practices are sustainable and responsible, potentially improving produce quality and yields.
5. **On-farm Post-Harvest Management (PHM) Components**: Integrated PHM solutions for improved storage and handling of fresh produce post-harvest.
6. **Mushroom & Tissue Culture Units**: Eligibility for mushroom cultivation and tissue culture facilities, furthering diversified production.
7. **Infrastructure and Farm Machinery**: Eligible for upgrading machinery, setting up irrigation and micro-irrigation systems to enhance productivity and reduce water usage, particularly for existing or newly established orchards.
8. **Input Cost**: The Input Cost for horticulture projects will encompass the cost towards labours, manure, pesticides and insecticides etc.
9. The Land Development component under this section will includes cost of Land levelling, digging of pits, fencing etc.

II. **Commercial Horticulture Development in protected cover on project mode:** National Horticulture Board (NHB) also promotes commercial horticulture development projects under protected cover for areas exceeding 4000 sq meters. In case of NE Region, projects having area over 1000 sq meter are eligible. This initiative aims to enhance horticultural productivity through advanced technologies and infrastructure, with a focus on sustainability and cost-effectiveness. The key components of the scheme include:

i. **Planting Material & Plantation:** Assistance for high-quality planting material and efficient plantation techniques tailored to protected cultivation, ensuring better growth and yield.

ii. **Irrigation & Fertigation:** Support for setting up water-efficient irrigation systems, such as drip and sprinkler systems, along with fertigation systems for optimal nutrient distribution.

iii. **Mechanization:** Provision of modern agricultural machinery for planting, harvesting, and other key operations, improving efficiency and reducing labor costs.

iv. **Protected Structures:** Financial support for the construction of greenhouses, shade net houses, plastic mulching, plastic tunnels, and anti-bird/hail nets to protect crops from adverse weather conditions and pests. These structures provide controlled environments for better crop quality and higher yields.

v. **Material Selection & Cost Optimization:** While assisting with construction, preference will be given to locally available materials for greenhouses and shade net houses to minimize construction costs. However, all materials and technologies used must conform to NHB's prescribed standards to ensure durability and safety.

vi. Activities like construction of green houses, shade net house, plastic mulching, and plastic tunnel, anti-bird /hail nets etc would be promoted. Provision has been made for selecting a variety of construction material for green houses and shade nets houses. Preference will be given to using locally available material to minimize cost of construction of such structures.

vii. **Input Cost**: The Input Cost for horticulture projects will encompass the cost towards labours, manure, pesticides and insecticides etc.

viii. The **Land Development** component under this section will includes cost of Land levelling, digging of pits, fencing etc.

ix. **Eligible Crops:**

1. **Flowers:** Anthurium, Orchids, Rose, Lilium, Chrysanthemum, Carnation, Gypsophila and Gerbera.
2. **Vegetables:** High value vegetables: Capsicum, Cucumber, Tomato
3. **Structure for Nursery for fruits/vegetables and cut flower.**

x. New components like Hydroponics and Aeroponics, Soil Replacement, Sensor Based Automation System for fertigation, Solar Fencing, Weed Mat etc. is also included under this section.

III. **Integrated Post Harvest Management projects:** National Horticulture Board (NHB) will support Integrated Post-Harvest Management (PHM) projects, aimed at improving the handling, storage, and processing of horticultural produce. Key components of the initiative include:

i. **Post Harvest Management Components:** Development of facilities like establishment of Farm Gate Pack House, Integrated Pack House and Collection Aggregation Centre for sorting, cleaning, grading, and packing fresh produce to maintain quality during transportation and storage.

ii. **Ripening Chamber:** Provision of controlled environments for the ripening of fruits, ensuring consistency in quality and reduced spoilage.

iii. **Refrigerated Vans (Refer Vans):** Support for the purchase of refrigerated transport vehicles to maintain optimal temperature conditions during product transit.

iv. **Retail Outlets:** Assistance for setting up retail outlets for fresh produce, helping farmers connect directly with consumers and enhance market access.

v. **Pre-cooling Unit:** Financial aid for setting up pre-cooling facilities that quickly reduce the temperature of harvested produce to improve shelf life and quality.

vi. **Cold Room (Staging/Transit)/ Solar Power Cold Room:** The transit cold room (previously known as Cold Room Staging) is used for storage of produce with required temperature and humidity conditions either in a packhouse, Collection & aggregation centre or along with Farm Gate Packhouse.

vii. **Primary / Secondary Processing Units:** These projects focus on integrating primary and secondary processing facilities to enhance value addition and minimize post-harvest wastage. The initiative encourages the establishment of units for activities such as sorting, cleaning, value addition and basic packaging, which support long-term preservation and marketability of produce. Specifically, for primary processing, projects related to fruits, vegetables, flowers, aromatic plants, raisins, and cashew are eligible for subsidy support, aiming to strengthen the farm-to-market value chain and promote sustainable horticulture.

viii. Additionally, NHB will take up projects in component mode, enabling the development of standalone PHM facilities to address specific needs in post-harvest handling and processing.

ix. This initiative aims to reduce post-harvest losses, enhance the value chain, and improve the marketability of horticultural produce, ensuring better profitability for farmers.

Calculation of Capacity for Subsidy

For calculation of capacity, following calculation formula shall be considered for evaluating the storage capacity:-

Sr. No.	Particulars	Calculation Formula
1.	**Ripening Chamber**	A Cold Store under Type-III Category (CS-3) defined under **NCCD guidelines 2025 (Chapter No. 20)** qualifies as Ripening Chambers. For more details and specifications please refer to NCCD Guidelines 2025. **1. Conversion Factor**: ○ A chamber volume of **11 cubic meters (cum.)** is considered equivalent to **1 MT storage capacity**. **2. Maximum Admissible Capacity**: ○ The maximum capacity eligible for financial assistance under this scheme is **300 MT**. ○ The minimum chamber size should be **15 MT** and not exceeding **30 MT** per chamber.
2.	Refrigerated Transport	NHB provides financial assistance for **refrigerated vehicles** with capacities ranging from **15 MT to 30 MT**. For further details and technical specifications, please refer to the **NCCD Guidelines 2025 (Chapter No. 22)**, which provide comprehensive guidelines on Refrigerated Transport. The capacity of the refrigerated vehicle is calculated as follows: **Capacity = Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) - (KERB Weight of Chassis + Container Weight + Weight of Reefer Unit)**

Detailed Cost Norms and Pattern of Assistance

Unit cost for Area Expansion of selected Fruit Crops

Rupees per hectare

Crop	Plant spacing (m)	No. of Plants/ha	Cost of planting material	Cost of inputs	Overall ceiling in project mode with add on component
Almond	3.0 × 3.0	1111	200000	100000	425000
Aonla	6.0 × 6.0	278	12010	36000	312500
	4.0 × 5.0	500	21600	38400	325000
	3.0 × 3.0	1110	47952	108000	425000
Apple	6.0 × 6.0	278	55600	69400	375000
	4.0 × 4.0 (RS- MM 111)	625	87500	37500	400000
	3.5 × 3.5 (RS- MM 111)	814	90000	35000	437500
	3.0 × 3.0 (RS- MM106)	1111	95000	38000	462500
	3.0 × 1.5 (RS- M9)	2222	400000	100000	625000
	2.5 × 2.5 (RS- MM 106)	1600	96000	42000	250000
	1.5 x 1.5 (RS- M9)	4444	266640	45000	875000
Apricot	4.0 X 4.0	625	45000	38400	400000
	3.5 X 3.5	816	58752	42000	437500
Avacado	6.0 x 6.0	278	33360	262500	420860
Banana (Sucker)	2.0 × 2.0	2500	90000	40000	312500
Banana (TC)	1.8 × 1.8	3086	100000	75000	375000
	1.5 × 1.5	4444	100000	75000	437500

Crop	Plant spacing (m)	No. of Plants/ha	Cost of planting material	Cost of inputs	Overall ceiling in project mode with add on component
Ber	6.0 X 6.0	278	10008	24000	312500
	5.0 X 5.0	400	14400	27600	312500
	4.0 X 4.0	625	22500	30000	325000
Cherry	4.0 X 4.0	625	22500	38400	312500
Custard apple	2.5 X 2.5	1600	76800	50400	375000
Date Palm			250000	150000	525000
Dragon Fruit	2 x 2	4625	161875	513750	800625
Fig	4.0 X 4.0	625	22500	38400	375000
	2.5 X 2.5	1600	57600	42000	437500
Grapes	4.0 x 4.0	625	11250	117600	800000
	3.0 × 3.0	1110	19980	120000	825000
	3.0 × 2.0	1666	29988	132000	875000
	1.8 × 1.8	2777	49986	138000	887500
Passion fruit	4.0 x 4.0	625	15000	117600	625000
	3.0 × 3.0	1111	26664	120000	675000
	3.0 × 2.0	1666	39984	132000	625000
Papaya	1.8 X 1.8	2777	49986	24000	312500
	1.5 X 1.5	4444	79992	26400	375000
Peach	3 X 2.5	1333	55986	54000	375000
	2.5 X 2.5	1600	56000	60000	375000
Pear	5.0 X 5.0	500	18000	27600	312500
	4.0 X 4.0	625	22500	36000	325000
	3.0 X 3.0	1111	39996	48000	375000
Plum	3.5 X 3.5	816	39168	42000	312500
	2.5 X 2.5	1600	76800	50400	375000
Sapota	5.0 X 5.0	400	17280	37200	375000
Kiwi	6.0 × 6.0	278	8340	36000	437500
	4.0 × 6.0	555	12480	120000	500000
	4.0 × 5.0	1111	15000	138000	525000
	4.0 × 4.0	2222	18750	144000	550000
Strawberry	0.9 x 0.45	24691	148146	66000	500000
	0.6 x 0.25	66666	399996	60000	687500
	0.5 x 1.0	2000	12000	120000	437500
Lime & Lemons	3.0 × 3.0	1111	150000	50000	500000
	4.0 × 4.5	555	95000	35000	437500

Crop	Plant spacing (m)	No. of Plants/ha	Cost of planting material	Cost of inputs	Overall ceiling in project mode with add on component
Mandarine / Orange	6.0 × 6.0	278	95000	30000	437500
	5.4 × 5.4	343	95000	30000	250000
	5.0 × 5.0	400	95000	31000	437500
	5.0 × 4.5	444	95000	32000	437500
	4.5 × 4.5	494	150000	50000	437500
	4.0 × 5.0	500	150000	50000	437500
Sweet orange	6.0 × 6.0	278	95000	30000	437500
Guava	6.0 × 6.0	278	95000	30000	312500
	3.0 × 6.0	555	95000	35000	350000
	3.0 × 3.0	1111	150000	50000	375000
	1.5 x 3.0	2222	200000	100000	425000
	1.0 x 2.0	5000	200000	100000	437500
	4.0 × 4.0	625	200000	100000	425000
Litchi	10.0 x 10.0	100	95000	30000	375000
	7.5 x 7.5	178	95000	30000	387500
	6.0 x 6.0	278	150000	50000	400000
	4.5 x 4.5 x 9.0	329	200000	100000	425000
Logan	7.5 x 7.5	177	38940	73750	237690
Mango	10.0 x 10.0	100	95000	30000	375000
	5.0 × 5.0	400	150000	50000	400000
	4.0 × 6.0	416	150000	50000	412500
	3.0 × 6.0	555	150000	50000	412500
	3.0 × 4.0	833	150000	50000	437500
	2.5 × 2.5	1600	200000	100000	500000
Macadamia Nut	8.0 x 8.0	155	46500	71250	242750
Pineapple (Sucker)	0.6 × 0.3	45000	162000	27600	500000
Pineapple (TC)	0.6 × 0.3	45000	216000	41400	562500
	0.3 × 0.6 × 0.9	43000	206400	41400	500000
	0.225 × 0.6 × 0.9	53000	254400	67200	550000

Crop	Plant spacing (m)	No. of Plants/ha	Cost of planting material	Cost of inputs	Overall ceiling in project mode with add on component
Pomegranate	5.0 × 5.0	400	100000	32000	437500
	5.0 × 4.0	500	100000	33000	250000
	5.0 × 3.0	667	150000	50000	462500
	5.0 × 2.5	800	150000	50000	325000
	4.5 × 3.0	741	150000	50000	325000
	4.0 × 3.0	666	150000	50000	462500
Rambutan: Seedling	10.0 x 10.0	100	4000	40000	169000
	12.0 x 12.0	70	2800	40000	167800
Rambutan: Veg. propagated	8.0 x 8.0	160	16000	42000	183000
	8.0 x 6.0	208	20800	42000	187800
Persimmon	6.0 x 6.0	280	56000	45000	226000
	4.0 x 4.0	625	125000	45000	295000
Durian	6.0 x 6.0	280	47600	45000	217600
	10.0 x 10.0	100	17000	40000	182000
Mangosteen	8.0 x 8.0	160	16000	42000	183000
	4.5 x 4.5	494	49400	137500	311900
Phalsa	3.0 x 3.0	1111	44440	48000	217440
Tamarind	7.0 x 7.0	204	32640	155625	313265
Jamun: Conventional	8.0 x 8.0	156	12480	42000	179480
	6.0 x 6.0	280	22400	45000	192400
Jamun: High Density	5.0 x 5.0	400	32000	45000	202000
Bael	5.0 x 5.0	400	24000	11800	160800
Karonda	5.0 x 5.0	400	16000	45000	186000
Jackfruit	12.0 x 12.0	70	11900	40000	176900
	10.0 x 10.0	100	17000	40000	312500
Khirni: Conventional	12.0 x 12.0	70	5600	40000	170600
	10.0 x 10.0	100	8000	40000	173000
	8.0 x 8.0	156	12480	42000	179480
High Density	5.0 x 5.0	400	32000	45000	202000
Garcinia	5.0 x 5.0	400	16000	45000	186000
Hanuman phal	5.0 x 5.0	400	16000	45000	186000
Carambola	5.0 x 5.0	400	40000	45000	210000
Walnut	6.0 × 6.0	278	300000	100000	525000
	5.0 × 5.0	400	300000	100000	525000

Crop	Plant spacing (m)	No. of Plants/ha	Cost of planting material	Cost of inputs	Overall ceiling in project mode with add on component
Cashew	Normal	213	14, 384	57,000	5,00,000
Coconut	Normal	238	16,660	46,950	3,75,000
olive	Normal	263	16,657	55,113	5,00,000
Black Pepper	Normal	2200	6250	90,025	3,75,000
Cardamom	Normal	5075	30450	1,11,238	5,75,000
Citronella	Normal	27500	13750	69,750	2,87,500
Geranium	Normal	27500	13750	69,750	2,87,500
Stevia	Normal	70875	352500	4,47,500	7,50,000
Palmarosa	Normal	70875	13750	69,750	2,87,500
Mint *Kg	Normal	70875	5000	42,875	4,00,000
Celery	Normal	70875	6250	31,275	3,12,500

Note:-

1. Where cost norms are not specified, the cost norms prescribed under the MIDH scheme for similar activities shall be followed. If such norms are also not available under the MIDH scheme, the cost appraised by the financing bank, in accordance with its norms, or the cost approved by the Competent Committee of NHB, shall apply.
2. Under the project mode, the applicant may opt for add-on components as per the norms provided in **Appendix- 1C**. However, unless otherwise specified, the cost ceiling prescribed for each crop/activity shall apply in cases where the cost of add-on components exceeds the specified ceiling.

Cost norms for protected cultivation under NHB Scheme:

Cost Rs. Lakh per acre

S. No	Crop	Cost of Poly house with drip & fogger system	Cost of Cultivation	Cost ceiling per acre with addon components in project mode
1	Anthurium & Orchid	40.00	33.60	80.00
2	Rose, Lilium, Chrysanthemum, Gypsophila	40.00	20.45	70.00
3	Carnation & Gerbera	40.00	29.28	75.00
4	Hi-Value vegetable under poly house	40.00	6.72	55.00
5	Hi-Value Vegetable under shade net House	28.40	6.72	40.00
	Cost for Fan & Pad system may be calculated @ Rs. 1600/Sq. m as integrated project mode			

Note:-

1. Where cost norms are not specified, the cost norms prescribed under the MIDH scheme for similar activities shall be followed. If such norms are also not available under the MIDH scheme, the cost

appraised by the financing bank, in accordance with its norms, or the cost approved by the Competent Committee of NHB, shall apply.

2. Under the project mode, the applicant may opt for add-on components as per the norms provided in **Appendix- 1C**. However, unless otherwise specified, the cost ceiling prescribed for each crop/activity shall apply in cases where the cost of add-on components exceeds the specified ceiling.
3. Cost towards floriculture PHM/cold room shall be considered at ₹ 60,000 per MT, up to a maximum of 30 MT.
4. Components cost (such as Tissue Culture Labs, Mushroom units, etc.) that are not included in the NHB guidelines shall be considered as per the MIDH scheme guidelines.

Appendix - IC

Norms for Technology Add on components and other essential components of Integrated Commercial Horticulture projects

S. No.	Item	Description	Admissible Cost Revised
I	Cost of Land*#	Admissible only if purchased newly but not before one year from date of sanction of loan.	Actual or up to 10 % of Eligible Project Cost (EPC) (Excluding cost of Land and Development) whichever is less subject to maximum of Rs. 60,000/- per acre.
I(i)	Land Development*#	Includes cost of Land leveling, digging of pits, fencing, gates etc.	Actual or up to 15% of Eligible Project Cost (EPC) (Excluding cost of Land and Land Development) whichever is less subject to maximum of Rs. 60,000/- per acre.
II	Cultivation expenses*#	Includes cost of Planting material, cost of input (labour, fertilizer and manures, pesticides etc).	As per MIDH (NHM) cost norms on pro-rata basis.
III	Drip system with internal pipeline	Component includes mainline, valve, backflow preventer pressure regulator, filter, tubing adapters and fittings, drip tubing, emitters and end cap.	Actual or Rs.24,000/-per acre for plant density up to 200 plants. Actual or Rs.30,000/-per acre for plant density >200 plants/acre.
III (i)	Irrigation infrastructure excluding micro irrigation * #	Irrigation infrastructure like tube-well/bore well/open well, pipeline, water harvesting structure, water tank etc, admissible only if newly created with loan component.	Actual or upto Rs.60,000/- per acre for open field cultivation. Rs.4.80 lakh per project in case of protected cultivation. Component–wise cost norms will be as under: Tube-well – up to Rs. 3.00 lakh per unit Water harvesting structure- @ Rs.100/-CuM with use of minimum 300 microns plastic films or RCC lining. Cost of non lined ponds/tanks will be 30% less. Pipe line-Rs 150/- per running meter only from source (min. 4" diameter) of irrigation to production unit

S. No.	Item	Description	Admissible Cost Revised
IV	Horticulture Mechanization* # ##	Power/hydraulic operated machine/ tools including small farms tractor with Rotavator/equipment's etc. Machineries Identified by NHB under farm mechanization component may be considered for subsidy in standalone mode.	As per SMAM Norms
V	Civil Infrastructure * #	Includes Functional Pack House/ On farm collection unit and labour quarter.	1. Functional Pack house @ Rs. 4.80 Lakh/unit with size of 9 x 6 Meter (Prorate basis for lower size) as per NCCD guideline. 2. Labour Quarter/Storeroom @ Rs. 24,000/- per acre maximum up to 3.60lakh. Cost norm as per pack house
VI	Vermi Compost unit * #	Permanent structure and HDPE vermibed.	Rs.72,000/-per unit for permanent structure and Rs.12,000/-for HDPE vermibed 96cft (12'x4'x2') and ISO 15907:2010
VII	Certification for Good Agriculture Practice (GAP), including infrastructure* ##		Rs.4800/-per acre.
VIII	Support system for Grapes, Kiwi & Dragon fruit (trellis, telephone, bower and other system etc.*)	Permanent structure made up of MS angles and stainless-steel wire, RCC structure/Iron structure for Kiwi and Dragon fruit.	Rs.1,80,000/-per acre
IX	Plastic Mulching * ##		Rs.15360/-peracreandRs.17675/- acre for Hilly States
X	Bed Preparation Cost in the cases requiring Soil replacement #	Protected Cultivation projects only in cases involving removal and replacement of top soil by red soil or cultivation is done on media/ Pots/Concrete bed.	Rs.120/-per Sq. m.

Note- add on components not included in aforementioned table such as weed mat, Hydroponics / Aeroponics, circulation fans etc and automation may be considered additionally as per MIDH cost norms.

Components categorization:

*Commercial Horticulture, within overall cost ceiling

#Protected Cultivation, within overall cost ceiling

Over and above overall cost ceiling

For detailed cost norms and the pattern of assistance related to the Scheme for Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops, applicants are advised to refer to the latest scheme guidelines issued by MIDH, NCCD, SMAM, MoFPI and other relevant authorities. These guidelines provide updated information on eligible components, subsidy limits, and financial assistance frameworks essential for project planning and implementation.

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CHAPTER 03

Scheme-02-Scheme for Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/ Modernization of Cold Storages

Under the Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, the National Horticulture Board (NHB) offers credit-linked back-ended subsidies for projects involving the construction, expansion, and modernization of cold storage facilities including Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage. Assistance is provided for setting up new multi-chamber cold storage units incorporating energy-efficient technologies such as thermal insulation, humidity control systems, advanced cooling technologies, and automation. These projects must adhere to government-approved specifications and standards to ensure energy efficiency and reliability. To verify compliance with the notified standards, all projects are subjected to rigorous technical scrutiny by NHB-empanelled technical agencies. In case of CA Stores, projects located in production areas for which CA protocols as per NCCD guidelines are available, are only allowed. The procedure for application and sanction of financial assistance under this scheme is given in Chapter No. 4.

Description of components, Pattern of Assistance and Cost Norms

Under this component, credit-linked back ended assistance is available for projects related to the establishment, modernization, and enhancement of Cold Storage units, including Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage facilities. The focus is on improving post-harvest handling by introducing efficient and modern cold storage technology. The details regarding assistance under this scheme, cost norms and other relevant details are as given below: -

Capacity and Pattern of Assistance: - The National Horticulture Board (NHB) will provide financial assistance through a credit-linked back-ended subsidy in the following:-

a. 35% subsidy for projects in General Areas.

b. 50% subsidy for projects in North Eastern (NE) and Himalayan States, Scheduled Areas, Vibrant Villages, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep Islands.

The NHB will support projects with capacities ranging from 5001 MT to 20,000 MT per project based on prescribed cost norms. For North-eastern states, projects with a capacity of 1000 MT or more are also eligible for assistance.

**Scheduled Areas include those areas notified by Planning Commission and State Governments. TSP Areas include those areas notified by Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Vibrant villages are those border villages which are situated at Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim & Arunachal Pradesh and are notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs. NE & Himalayan States refer to States in North East & Himalayan region covered under HMNEH scheme.*

Types of Cold Storages including Controlled Atmosphere: As per the revised NCCD Engineering Guidelines and Minimum System Standards 2025, cold storages are categorized into six distinct types based on their design, functionality, and intended purpose. Each type is assigned a specific nomenclature to standardize classification and usage across the industry. These types include facilities for storing fruits, vegetables, multi-commodities, with specialized variants like Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage designed for maintaining precise temperature, humidity, and gas composition. For detailed information regarding the types, specifications, and nomenclature of each cold storage type, refer to the NCCD Guidelines 2025, which outline the engineering standards and technical requirements for compliance.

The brief summary regarding the chamber sizes and structure are as given below: -

1. **COLD STORAGE TYPE - I (SINGLE TEMPERATURE/ SINGLE PRODUCT):** Type I cold storage units are designed primarily for the bulk and long-term storage of single products. These structures are typically constructed using traditional brick-and-mortar techniques but can also be developed using modern Pre-Engineering Building (PEB) structures, providing flexibility and durability. For more details refer NCCD Guidelines.

Capacity: The capacity structure of CS-I units is as follows:

#	Minimum Storage Capacity (MT)	Maximum Storage Capacity (MT	Cold Store Configuration
1	5001	10000	The combination of capacity of chambers in a project can be divided between min. capacity of 500 MT and up to a max. Capacity of 2500 MT (per chamber).
2	10001	20000	The combination of capacity of chambers in a project can be divided between min. capacity of 500 MT and up to a max. Capacity of 2500 MT (per chamber) from 5001 MT up to 10,000 MT. And for storage capacity above 10,000 MT up to max. 20,000 MT, the combination of capacity of chamber can be divided up to a max. Capacity of 5000 MT per chamber but not less than 1500 MT capacity in any case.

2. **COLD STORAGE TYPE-I- Onion:** Type I Onion cold storage units are specialized facilities designed specifically for the bulk and long-term storage of onions. These units ensure optimal conditions to maintain the quality of onions during extended storage periods. The facility should be constructed in a similar manner to CS-1 units, incorporating similar design principles such as brick-and-mortar or Pre-Engineering Building (PEB) structures. However, modifications and specifications are tailored to meet the unique storage requirements of onions, including proper ventilation, temperature control, and humidity levels. For more details refer NCCD Guidelines.

3. **COLD STORAGE TYPE-II (MULTI-COMMODITY/ MULTI-TEMPERATURE):** These units are designed for the long-term bulk storage of multiple products, catering to off-season demands. These units are commonly built using Pre-Engineering Building (PEB) structures for flexibility, durability, and cost-effectiveness. Ancillary areas, such as docks, plant rooms, offices, and convenience zones, can be constructed using traditional brick-and-mortar methods and seamlessly integrated with the PEB structure to create a unified facility. For more details refer NCCD Guidelines.

Capacity: The capacity structure of these units is as follows:

#	Minimum Storage Capacity (MT)	Maximum Storage Capacity (MT)	Balance Storage Capacity other than fixed 6 chambers (MT)	Cold Store Configuration
1	1500 **(min. 6 chamber x 250 MT = 1500 MT)** *	20,000	18500	The applicant has to construct min. 6 chambers of capacity less than 250 MT as described in NCCD Guidelines totaling to 1500 MT capacity. (For chamber size configuration of remaining capacity, please refer point 2 (a) and 2 (b).
2 (a)	1500 ~ 1501	10,000	10,000	For the balance capacity from 1501 MT up to a max. of 10,000 MT, the combination of capacity of chambers in a project can be divided between min. capacity of 500 MT and up to a max. Capacity of 2500 MT (per chamber).
2 (b)	10,001	20,000	0	For storage capacity above 10,000 MT up to max. 20,000 MT, the combination of capacity of chamber can be divided up to a max. capacity of 5000 MT per chamber but not less than 1500 MT capacity in any case.

4. **CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE (CS-2-CA):** Controlled Atmosphere (CS-2-CA) units are specialized facilities designed for controlled atmosphere (CA) storage, accommodating both bulk short- and long-term storage needs. These units are equipped with advanced systems to precisely maintain and monitor the required concentrations of nitrogen (N_2), carbon dioxide (CO_2), and oxygen (O_2) levels, in addition to temperature and humidity control, to extend the freshness and quality of stored produce. The primary construction method for these units employs Pre-Engineering Building (PEB) structures, ensuring flexibility, durability, and cost efficiency. Ancillary areas such as docks, plant rooms, offices, and convenience zones are constructed using traditional brick-and-mortar methods, seamlessly integrated with the PEB structure to create a unified and operationally efficient facility. For more details refer NCCD Guidelines.

Capacity: The capacity structure of this unit is as follows:

#	Minimum Storage Capacity (MT)	Maximum Storage Capacity (MT)	Balance Storage Capacity other than fixed 6 chambers (MT)	Cold Store Configuration
1	1500 **(min. 6 chamber x 250 MT = 1500 MT)** *	20,000	18500	The applicant has to construct min. 6 chambers of capacity less than 250 MT as described in NCCD Guidelines totaling to 1500 MT capacity. (For chamber size configuration of remaining capacity, please refer point 2 (a) and 2 (b).
2 (a)	1501	10,000	10,000	For the balance capacity from 1501 MT up to a max. of 10,000 MT, the combination of capacity of chambers in a project can be divided between min. capacity of 250 MT and up to a max. Capacity of 2500 MT (per chamber).

#	Minimum Storage Capacity (MT)	Maximum Storage Capacity (MT)	Balance Storage Capacity other than fixed 6 chambers (MT)	Cold Store Configuration
2 (b)	10,001	20,000	0	For storage capacity above 10,000 MT up to max. 20,000 MT, the combination of capacity of chamber can be divided up to a max. Capacity of 5000 MT per chamber but not less than 250 MT capacity in any case.

5. **Cold Storage Units Type 3 (CS-3):** Cold Storage Units under Type III (CS-3) are specifically designed as Ripening Chambers to support the controlled ripening of fruits. These facilities play a crucial role in ensuring fruits reach market-ready conditions, while preserving their quality, texture, flavor, and nutritional value throughout the ripening process.

Structure: CS-3 units are equipped with advanced systems to regulate key ripening parameters,

For Qualifying under CS-3, the first criteria is that the applicant needs to make chambers of either equal sizes or different sizes of insulation not less than 60 - 120 mm of capacity maximum upto 300 MT.

The minimum chamber size should be 15 MT and not exceeding 30 MT per chamber.

6. **COLD STORAGE TYPE-IV (DRY SPICES/RAISINS:** Therse type of CS is primarily designed for the storage of dry spices and raisins where bulk and long-term storage are essential. These units provide a controlled environment that preserves the quality of perishable products, while being well-suited for the unique requirements of these dry and delicate commodities.

Structure: Type IV cold storage units are typically constructed using traditional brick-and-mortar methods, but can also be built using Pre-Engineering Building (PEB) structures. PEB offers flexibility, cost-efficiency, and durability, making it ideal for larger units, while traditional structures are used for specific areas such as storage, docks, or offices. This flexibility in construction ensures the facility meets the necessary environmental conditions required for the safe storage of dry spices and raisins.

Capacity: The capacity structure of this unit is as follows:

#	Minimum Storage Capacity (MT)	Maximum Storage Capacity (MT)	Cold Store Configuration
1	5001	10000	The combination of capacity of chambers in a project can be divided between min. capacity of 500 MT and up to a max. Capacity of 2500 MT (per chamber).
2	10001	20000	The combination of capacity of chambers in a project can be divided between min. capacity of 500 MT and up to a max. Capacity of 2500 MT (per chamber) up to 10,000 MT. And for storage capacity above 10,000 MT up to max. 20,000 MT, the combination of capacity of chamber can be divided up to a max. Capacity of 5000 MT per chamber but not less than 1500 MT capacity in any case.

For detailed information regarding the types, specifications, and nomenclature of each cold storage type, refer to the NCCD Guidelines 2025, which outline the engineering standards and technical requirements for compliance.

Detailed Cost Norms and Pattern of Assistance

The detailed cost norms and pattern of assistance pertaining to this scheme are as given below:-

COST NORMS FOR COLD STORAGE TYPE-I (SINGLE)

COMPONENT NO. (As per NCCD)	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
C-7 (i)	**Cold Storage type –I (CS-1)** are cold storages designed mostly for single product storage where bulk and long term storage is preferred. They are normally seen in brick and mortar structure, however, an applicant can also develop it under the pre-engineered building (PEB). It is further stated that all the building safety norms, stability certificates from architects or authorized agencies or certified person relevant to building norms, etc. electrical safety and earthing, fire safety norms as per applicable regulations, use of fire exit doors at places of exits, plant room safety norms, environmental clearances, handling areas, loading docks, PPE kits, hygienic storage spaces and storing methods, HACCP norms and regulations, FSSAI norms and mandated clearances, office and convenience areas (restrooms, parking, etc.) shall be considered as general requirement for the purpose of development of the cold store facility under this category. The list of BIS standards has been attached to be followed at all the relevant places. Consisting of :	For CIVIL Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT*	Rs. 9120/MT Rs. 8640/ MT Rs. 8160/MT Rs. 4080/ MT*	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands
C-7 (ii)		For PEB Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT*	Rs. 11400/ MT Rs. 10800/ MT Rs. 10200/ MT Rs. 5100/ MT*	

COMPONENT NO. (As per NCCD)	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
	i. **Construction:** Foundation/ slab/ columns/ pillars/ PEB structure ii. **Insulation:** Walls, Ceiling, Floors, etc. iii. **All refrigeration Units** iv. **Electrical Installations:** Transformers/DG Sets, VFDs, etc. v. **Administrative Block:** CCTV/ parking areas / Office block/ Convenience areas vi. **Safety & Hazard control:** Fire fighting equipment's/ fire exits/ fire doors- as per norms and conditions of the building			
	CO_2 SCRUBBER with CO_2 MONITORING SYSTEM FOR REMOVAL OF CO_2 Mandatory only for those produces generating lot of CO_2. E.g.- potato, onions, apples, etc	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 10 lakh/ system	
	Unified Control System- PLC,BMS, IoT, Remote monitoring, etc.	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system	
	Conveying/Hoist system/ Material Service lifts for material handling of suitable capacity in the anteroom with provision of unloading on common landing near and outside cold rooms. (upto 20,000 MT) (refer point no. 9- MECHANISATION)	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system	
	Dock Leveller System comprising of: (components of 1 set) A. Dock Leveller B. Dock Door C. Dock Shelter D. Vehicle Barrier/ Hit Alarm	Max. 2 sets	Rs. 8.4 lakh/set	
	Material Handling Equipments: HPT 1 ton and above BOPT 1 ton and above	Max. 4 units Max 2 unit	Rs. 20000 / unit Rs. 1.5 lakh / unit	
	Doors	Max. 30 doors / project	Rs. 25000 / door	

COMPONENT NO. (As per NCCD)	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
	Automated computerised system with software for generating QR/bar code labelling, farmers details, date of arrival, variety of the crop at the arrival of aggregation center	Max. 1 system / project	Rs. 3.5 lakh / system	

COST NORMS FOR COLD STORAGE TYPE- I-ONION

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
C-8 (i)	**<u>Cold Storage type –I - Onion (CS-1- Onion)</u>** are cold storages designed for onion storage where bulk and long term storage is preferred. They are normally seen in brick and mortar structure, however, an applicant can also develop it under the pre-engineered building (PEB). It is further stated that all the building safety norms, stability certificates from architects or authorized agencies or certified person relevant to building norms, etc. electrical safety and earthing, fire safety norms as per applicable regulations, use of fire exit doors at places of exits, plant room safety norms, environmental clearances, handling areas(receiving shed), PPE kits, hygienic storage spaces and storing methods, HACCP norms and regulations, FSSAI norms and mandated clearances, office and convenience areas (restrooms, parking, etc.) shall be considered as general requirement for the purpose of development of the cold store facility under this category. The list of BIS standards has been attached to be followed at all the relevant places. Consisting of :	For CIVIL Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT	 Rs. 9120/MT Rs. 8640/MT Rs. 8160/MT Rs. 4080/MT	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands
C-8 (ii)	**i. Construction:** Foundation/ slab/ columns/ pillars/ Receiving Area or shed/ PEB structure **ii. Insulation:** Walls, Ceiling, Floors, etc. **iii. All refrigeration Units** **iv. Electrical Installations:** Transformers/DG Sets,VFDs, etc. **v. Administrative Block:** CCTV/ parking areas / Office block/ Convenience areas **vi. Safety & Hazard control:** Fire fighting equipments/ fire exits/ fire doors- as per norms and conditions of the building	For PEB Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT	Rs. 11400/MT Rs. 10800/MT Rs. 10200/MT Rs. 5100/MT*	

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
	Ventilation system#	Max. upto 20000 MT/ project	Rs. 3000/MT Total max cost capped to 300 lakhs/ project	
	Specialised Stacking System appropriate for Onions*	Max. upto 20000 MT/ project	Rs. 2000/MT Total max cost capped to 200 lakhs/ project	
	CO_2 SCRUBBER with CO_2 MONITORING SYSTEM FOR REMOVAL OF CO_2 Mandatory only for those produces generating lot of CO_2. E.g.- potato, onions, apples, etc	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 10 lakh/ system	
	Unified Control System- PLC,BMS, IoT, Remote monitoring, etc.	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system	
	Conveying/Hoist system/Service lifts for material handling of suitable capacity in the anteroom with provision of unloading on common landing near and outside cold rooms. (upto 20,000 MT)	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system	
	Doors	Max. 30 doors/ project	Rs. 25000 / door	
	Automated computerised system with software for generating QR/bar code labelling, farmers details, date of arrival, variety of the crop at the arrival of aggregation center	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 3.5 lakh/ system	

COST NORMS FOR COLD STORAGE TYPE-II (MULTI)

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST
C-9	**Cold Storage type –II (CS-2)** are cold storages designed mostly for multi product storage where bulk and long term storage is preferred. They are normally seen in pre-engineered building and certain areas like docks, plant rooms, offices, convenience areas can be constructed with brick and mortar and integrated with the PEB. It is further stated that all the building safety norms, stability certificates from architects or authorized agencies or certified person relevant to building norms, etc. electrical safety and earthing, fire safety norms as per applicable regulations, use of fire exit doors at places of exits, plant room safety norms, environmental clearances, handling areas, loading docks,		

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST
	PPE kits, hygienic storage spaces and storing methods, HACCP norms and regulations, FSSAI norms and mandated clearances, office and convenience areas (restrooms, parking, etc.) shall be considered as general requirement for the purpose of development of the cold store facility under this category. The list of BIS standards has been attached to be followed at all the relevant places. Consisting of : **i. Construction:** Foundation/ slab/ columns/ pillars/ PEB structure **ii. Insulation:** Walls, Ceiling, Floors, etc. **iii. All refrigeration Units** **iv. Electrical Installations:** Transformers/DG Sets, VFDs, etc. **v. Administrative Block:** CCTV/ parking areas / Office block/ Convenience areas. **vi. Safety & Hazard control:** Fire fighting equipments/ fire exits/ fire doors- as per norms and conditions of the building	For PEB Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT*	Rs. 11400/MT Rs. 10800/MT Rs. 10200/MT Rs. 5100/MT*
	CO_2 SCRUBBER with CO_2 MONITORING SYSTEM FOR REMOVAL OF CO_2 Mandatory only for those produces generating lot of CO_2. E.g.- potato, onions, apples, etc	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 10 lakh/ system
	Unified Control System- PLC,BMS, IoT, Remote monitoring, etc.	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system
	Conveying/Hoist system/material service lift for material handling of suitable capacity in the anteroom with provision of unloading on common landing near and outside cold rooms. (upto max. 20,000 MT) (refer point no.7)	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system
	Dock Leveller System comprising of: (components of 1 set) A. Dock Leveller B. Dock Door C. Dock Shelter D. Vehicle Barrier/ Hit Alarm	Max. 2 sets	Rs. 8.4 lakh/ set
	High Reach handling equipment: Specialized material Handling equipment comprising of: (components of one set) A. Fork Lift B. Battery Operated Pallet Truck C. Hand Pallet Truck	Max. 2 sets Min. 1 set	Rs. 25 lakh/ set per project
	Doors	Max. 30 doors / project	Rs. 25000 / door

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST
	Stacking System: Racking system including Bins, Pallets and storing systems inside CA chambers for storing and holding material	Max. 5000 MT/ project	Rs. 2000 / MT
	Automated computerised system with software for generating QR/bar code labelling, farmers details, date of arrival, variety of the crop at the arrival of aggregation centre	Max. 1 system / project	Rs. 3.5 lakh / system

COST NORMS FOR COLD STORAGE TYPE-II-CA

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
C-10	**Controlled Atmosphere Storage type –II-CA (CS-2-CA)** are cold storages designed for controlled atmosphere storage where bulk, short and long term storage is preferred as required. These storages should be equipped with all necessary equipments to maintain and monitor the required concentration of N_2, CO_2 and O_2 levels along with temp and humidity control. They are normally seen in pre-engineered building and certain areas like docks, plant rooms, offices, convenience areas can be constructed with brick and mortar and integrated with the PEB. It is further stated that all the building safety norms, stability certificates from architects or authorized agencies or certified person relevant to building norms, etc. electrical safety and earthing, fire safety norms as per applicable regulations, use of fire exit doors at places of exits, plant room safety norms, environmental clearances, handling areas, loading docks, PPE kits, hygienic storage spaces and storing methods, HACCP norms and regulations, FSSAI norms and mandated clearances, office and convenience areas (restrooms, parking, etc.) shall be considered as general requirement for the purpose of development of the cold store facility under this category. The list of BIS standards has been attached to be followed at all the relevant places. Consisting of	For PEB Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT*	Rs. 11400/ MT Rs. 10800/ MT Rs. 10200/ MT Rs. 5100/ MT*	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
	i. **Construction:** Foundation/ slab/ columns/ pillars/ PEB structure ii. **Insulation:** Walls, Ceiling, Floors, etc. iii. **All refrigeration Units** iv. **Electrical Installations:** Transformers/DG Sets, VFDs, etc. v. **Administrative Block:** CCTV/ parking areas / Office block/ Convenience areas. vi. **Safety & Hazard control:** Fire fighting equipment's/ fire exits/ fire doors- as per norms and conditions of the building			
	Automated computerised system with software for generating QR/bar code labelling, farmers details, date of arrival, variety of the crop at the arrival of aggregation center	Max. 1 system / project	Rs. 3.5 lakh / system	

CA Components for NHB:

S. NO.	COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	MAX. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	PRICE/UNIT	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
1	CA GENERATORS	Should essentially include sensors, pressure equalising equipment, controls comprising: A. N_2 Generator with screw compressor B. CO_2 Absorber C. Analyser, piping valves etc.	Max. 2 units/ project	Rs. 150 lakh/ unit	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands
2	Specialised CA doors	Specialized CA Doors for maintaining positive pressure inside the chambers and leakages	Max. 30 Doors / project	Rs. 3 lakh / Door	
3	Gas Tightening (New Component)	Gas Tightening system comprising of A. CA primer for both walls and floor B. Film/Fleece (Double layer on the joints) C. Elastomeric Paint etc.	Upto Max. 6250 MT / project	Rs. 2000/ MT	
4	Unified Control System	Electronic and electrical logic controls for machinery & equipment, lots, sensors indicators, building management system etc.	Max. one system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh / system	

S. NO.	COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	MAX. ALLOWABLE QTY./CAPACITY	PRICE/UNIT	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
5	Dock Leveler System	Docking equipment comprising of - A. Dock Leveler B. Dock Door C. Dock Shelter D. Vehicle Barrier/ Hit Alarm	Max. 3 units / project	Rs. 8.4 lakh / unit	
6	Integrated Specialised Packaging machines/ lines with farm code labelling.	Automated packaging lines/ machines to make in-house labelling and packaging boxes of various sizes and strength as per categories 3, 5, 7 & 9 ply. Both single & double walls with farm code labelling, i.e. arrival farm (traceability) and date of arrival. QR code of pack house & date showing dispatch and other relevant details the produce has gone through like washing, grading, etc.	Max. one system/ project	Rs. 15 lakh / system	
7	High Reach handling equipment	Specialized material Handling equipment comprising of: (components of one set) A. Fork Lifts B. Battery Operated Pallet Truck C. Hand Pallet Trucks	Max. 2 sets / project	Rs. 25 lakh/ set	
8	Advanced Grader (New Component)	Computerized, Optical Grading Lines (Imported/ Indigenous) along with other components like conveyors, belts, washer, waxers/ dryers, exits, packaging tables & inspection station (indigenous / imported) integrated and tested duly by manufacturers before site installation. The system should have atleast 30% made in India components.	Min. 3 MT/hr. Max. 5 MT/hr. output line with max. upto 5000 MT/project	Rs. 5000/MT	
9	Stacking System	Racking system include Bins, Pallets and storing systems inside CA chambers for storing and holding material	Max. 5000 MT/ project	Rs. 2000 / MT	
#10	Alternate technology (Vapour absorption, Solar, hybrids, etc.)	Vapour Absorption/ Phase change material/, Solar PV panels or Solar Thermal system	As applicable	Rs. 35 lakh / project	

COST NORMS FOR COLD STORAGE TYPE-IV (DRY SPICES/ RAISINS)

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./ CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
C-11 (i)	**Cold Storage type –IV (CS-4)** is cold storages designed mostly for dry spices/ raisins storage where bulk and long term storage is preferred. They are normally seen in brick-and-mortar structure; however, an applicant can also develop it under the pre-engineered building. It is further stated that all the building safety norms, stability certificates from architects or authorized agencies or certified person relevant to building norms, etc. electrical safety and earthing, fire safety norms as per applicable regulations, use of fire exit doors at places of exits, plant room safety norms, environmental clearances, handling areas, loading docks, PPE kits, hygienic storage spaces and storing methods, HACCP norms and regulations, FSSAI norms and mandated clearances, office and convenience areas (restrooms, parking, etc.) shall be considered as general requirement for the purpose of development of the cold store facility under this category. The list of BIS standards has been attached to be followed at all the relevant places. Consisting of : **i. Construction:** Foundation/ slab/ columns/ pillars/ PEB structure **ii. Insulation:** Walls, Ceiling, Floors, etc. **iii. All refrigeration Units** **iv. Electrical Installations:** Transformers/ DG Sets, VFDs, etc. **v. Administrative Block:** CCTV/ parking areas / Office block/ Convenience areas. **vi. Safety & Hazard control:** Fire fighting equipments/ fire exits/ fire doors- as per norms and conditions of the building	For CIVIL Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT*	Rs. 9120/MT Rs. 8640/ MT Rs. 8160/MT Rs. 4080/ MT*	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands

COMPONENT NO.	DESCRIPTION & NAME	Max. ALLOWABLE QTY./ CAPACITY	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
C-11 (ii)		For PEB Construction of capacity between: 5001 to 6500 MT 6501 to 8000 MT 8001 to 10000 MT 10001 to 20000 MT*	Rs. 11400/ MT Rs. 10800/ MT Rs. 10200/ MT Rs. 5100/ MT*	
	Conveying/Hoist system/Material Service lift for material handling of suitable capacity in the anteroom with provision of unloading on common landing near and outside cold rooms. (upto 20,000 MT) (refer point no. 9)	Max. 1 system/ project	Rs. 5 lakh/ system	
	Dock Leveler System comprising of: (components of 1 set) A. Dock Leveler B. Dock Door C. Dock Shelter D. Vehicle Barrier/ Hit Alarm	Max. 2 sets	Rs. 8.4 lakh/set	
	Material Handling Equipments: HPT above 1 ton BOPT above 1 ton	Max. 4 units Max 2 unit	Rs. 20000 / unit Rs. 1.5 lakh / unit	
	Doors	Max. 30 doors / project	Rs. 25000 / door	

** Since, the maximum allowable capacity has been increased upto 20000 MT, for applications under NHB, an additional cost norm of Rs. 4080 (for civil) & Rs. 5100 (for PEB) (refer C- 7.1 & C- 7.2) would be applicable above 10001 MT upto 20000 MT, remaining guidelines remains same.*

*e.g. 1- For civil construction, say proposed capacity is 12000 MT, therefore cost applicable would be = Rs. 8160 * 10000 (MT) plus(+) Rs. 4080 * 2000 (MT)*

*e.g. 2- For civil construction say capacity is 16400 MT therefore, cost applicable would be = Rs. 8160 * 10000 (MT) plus(+) Rs. 4080 * 6400 (MT)*

*e.g. 3- For PEB construction, say proposed capacity is 10020 MT, therefore cost applicable would be = Rs. 10200 * 10000 (MT) plus(+) Rs. 5100 * 200 (MT)*

*e.g. 4- For PEB construction say capacity is 18000 MT therefore, cost applicable would be = Rs. 10200 * 10000 (MT) plus(+) Rs. 5100 * 8000 (MT)*

For detailed cost norms pertaining to Scheme No. 2- Scheme for Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/ Expansion/ Modernization of Cold Storages please refer NCCD Guidelines.

Expansion and Modernization

Modernization:- In recent years, the modernization of refrigeration technology has emerged as a key priority in the cold chain sector. This initiative focuses on enhancing the energy efficiency, safety, and environmental performance of refrigeration systems, especially in cold storage facilities that are vital for preserving perishable goods. Upgrading these systems not only improves operational reliability but also helps reduce the carbon footprint, in line with global sustainability goals. For detailed components and technical specifications related to modernization, please refer to the NCCD Guidelines. A brief summary of the applicable cost norms is provided below; for further information, kindly refer NCCD Guidelines.

COMPONENT NO. (As per NCCD)	COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
C-12	Modernisation of Refrigeration	Modernisation for Refrigeration with latest technologies including refrigeration plant and associated equipment's with the refrigeration system to reduce energy consumption & Unified Control System with PLC, BMS, IoT, Remote Monitoring, etc.	Rs.125 lakh / project (where 5 Lakhs/ project is for Unified Control System)	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 50% of the actual cost or 50% of the Rs. 125lakh whichever is lower, for Modernisation of Refrigeration, with capping of maximum subsidy to Rs. 62.5 lakhs.
	Modernisation of Insulation	The insulation used should be CFC and preferably HCFC free material with minimal negative impact to the environment. Insulation modernisation must require a change to a more efficient thermal barrier (compare material 'U' values between existing and proposed barrier) to result in at least 5% reduction in energy consumption. EPS is not allowed.	Rs.120 lakh / project	Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 50% of the actual cost or 50% of the Rs. 120lakh whichever is lower, for Modernisation of Insulation, with capping of maximum subsidy to Rs. 60 lakhs.
	Modernisation (Synthetic Refrigerant)	Change of refrigerant and retrofitting a) For GWP range 500 to 1000 b) For GWP range 500 to 1000	Max. Rs.1.20 lakh / project @ Rs. 2000 / kg @ Rs. 1400 / kg	50% of the invoice value or maximum of Rs. 60,000 per project or whichever is less. (This can be availed as Standalone Component)

COMPONENT NO. (As per NCCD)	COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	COST	PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE
	Modernisation (Automated Computerised System with Labelling and Traceability System)	Automated Computerised System with software for generating QR/Bar code labelling, famers details, date of arrival, variety of the crop at the arrival of facility.	Max. Rs. 3.5 lakh/project	50% of the invoice value or maximum of Rs. 1.75 lakh per project or whichever is less. (This can be availed as Standalone Component)
	Modernisation (Bundle Component)	Alternate Technology bundle, which includes: a. Vapour Absorption/ Phase Change Material (PCM)/ Solar PV panels/ Solar Thermal System b. Labelling and Traceability System c. Unified Control System	Max. Rs. 43.5 lakh/project	50% of the invoice value or maximum of Rs. 21.75 lakh per project or whichever is less. (This can be availed as Bundle all Components a, b, c)
	Modernisation (Unified Control System)	Electronic and electrical logic controls for machinery & equipment, lots, sensors indicators, building management system etc.	Max. Rs.5 Lakh /project	50% of the actual cost or 50% of the Rs. 5 lakh whichever is lower, for availing Unified Control System, with capping of maximum subsidy to Rs. 2.5 lakhs (This can be availed as Standalone Component)

Expansion:_Cold Storage Expansion is defined as adding up additional capacity to the existing capacity which is done by creating new chambers along with new installation of essential refrigeration and electrical equipment. Since cost norm applicable to the expansion projects are same as that of a new project, Expansion projects should be regarded as entirely new endeavours, necessitating the installation of all new equipment with the appropriate capacity. Therefore, it is essential to understand that expansion projects require the implementation of fresh equipment to meet the demands of the expanded space.

When applying for an expansion project, applicants must also provide comprehensive details of the existing project.

NOTE: Applicants are advised not to over-design the existing project with potential future expansions in mind, as only new equipment's will be allowed to be installed during the expansion phase.

ESSENTIALS FOR EXPANSION:

Cold Storages under any type which have been constructed previously-

1. Expansion means adding of more capacity in terms of MT upto maximum prescribed limits by NHM & NHB.
2. Cold Storage Expansion is defined as adding up additional capacity to the existing capacity which is done by creating new chambers along with new installation of essential refrigeration and electrical equipment. **Since cost norm applicable to the expansion projects are same as that of a new project, Expansion projects should be regarded as entirely new project**, necessitating the installation of all new equipment with the appropriate capacity. Therefore, it is essential to understand that expansion projects require the implementation of fresh equipment to meet the demands of the expanded space.
3. Expansion also includes additional components like CO_2 monitoring System, Unified Control System, Hoists/Conveying systems, Dock Leveller System, MHTs, Automated Computerised System with software, etc. – This will be provided only one time either during the existing project or during the expansion project.
4. For the purpose of integration, only plant room, admin block, office, etc. can be used commonly between the existing and the expansion project.
5. While applying for expansion project the applicant also needs to submit the details and drawings of the existing facility, drawing of new facility (expansion), years of operation of previous facility & date of inception, previous BDS, state/district from where previous subsidy was claimed, etc.
6. Individual condensing units can be considered upto 2000 MT expansion once, even if the applicant has already availed the benefit of using individual condensing units upto 2000 MT previously. In no case it will be allowed further during further expansion, therefore, the applicant should plan and design his facility with great consideration of energy efficiency, refrigerants and climate.
7. For purpose of expansion in Ripening the applicant can submit details of previous application but the total capacity installed previously and the new proposed capacity during expansion should not exceed 300 MT. The applicant can apply either in NHM or NHB for expansion.

#	Component	Description	Max. Allowable Qty./Capacity	Price/Unit
Expansion				
1	Expansion in existing Capacity	Projects under CS-I, CS-I-Onion, CS-II, CS-II-CA, CS-III and CS-IV	The NHB will support projects with capacities ranging from 5001 MT to 20,000 MT per project based on prescribed cost norms. For Northeastern states, projects with a capacity of 1000 MT or more are also eligible for assistance.	Refer NCCD Guidelines 2025

Technical Standards: Project should strictly comply with the prescribed NCCD Technical standards and protocols; else the project is not eligible for any financial assistance.

COST NORMS FOR REFRIGERATED TRANSPORT

Component No. (As per NCCD)	Component Description	NHB
C-13	Max. Vehicle capacity	15 MT and upto max. 30 MT
	Cost	For the purpose of calculation Rs. 3.45 lakhs/MT would be considered. The cost would be calculated on the per MT basis from 15MT upto max. of 30MT. Credit linked back-ended assistance @ 35% in General areas and 50% in the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands

1. NHB should promote refrigerated vehicles from 15 MT and upto max. 30 MT
2. The new technologies should be promoted and capacities to be derived on the basis of **The Load Carrying Capacity of the Container** (as described in the NCCD Guideline).
3. The maximum subsidy is limited to Rs. 80 lakhs/ project in general areas and Rs. 100 lakhs/ project in North-Eastern and Himalayan states, Scheduled Areas, Vibrant Villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands. (Refrigerated Transport).
4. The vehicle should be equipped with GPS enabled systems and telematics for access and control.

Calculation of Capacity for Subsidy

National Horticulture Board (NHB) has outlined the guidelines for cold storage and related facilities with specific volume-to-storage capacity ratios. These ratios help determine the eligible storage capacity for financial assistance and ensure efficient design and utilization of facilities. For standardization purposes, MIDH/NHB guidelines established the following conversion factor:

- **1 MT (Metric Ton) of storage capacity = 3.4 m^3 (cubic meter) or 120 ft^3 (cubic feet)** of temperature-controlled space, irrespective of the product stored when using mezzanine, boxes and crates.
- **1 MT (Metric Ton) of storage capacity = 5.0 m^3 (cubic meter) or 176 ft^3 (cubic feet)** of temperature-controlled space, irrespective of the product stored when using racks, shuttle racks, double deep racks & palletization.
- **1 MT (Metric Ton) of storage capacity = 4.4 m^3 (cubic meter) or 155 ft^3 (cubic feet)** of temperature-controlled space for storing apples. (applicable in CA stores)
- **1 MT (Metric Ton) of storage capacity = 4.0 m^3 (cubic meter) or 141 ft^3 (cubic feet)** of temperature-controlled space for Dry Spices/raisins.
- **1 MT (Metric Ton) of storage capacity = 11 m^3 (cubic meter) or 390 ft^3 (cubic feet)** of temperature-controlled space for Ripening chambers.
- **1 MT (Metric Ton) of storage capacity = 20 m^3 (cubic meter) or 710 ft^3 (cubic feet)** of temperature-controlled space for pre-coolers.

CHAPTER 04

Guidelines for making application for assistance under the Commercial Horticulture (Scheme- 01) and Cold Storage (Scheme-02)

Eligible Applicants

1. Promoters/organisations such as Individuals, Association/Group of Growers, Proprietorship/ Partnership/LLP Firms, Trust, Cooperative Society, Society registered under Registration of Society Act, Company, Self-help group, Farmer Producers Organization, Co-operative Marketing Federations, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees, Marketing Boards, Municipal Corporations, Agro-Industries Corporations engaged or propose to engage in Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops shall be eligible for Credit linked back-ended subsidy.
2. The family shall mean husband, wife and dependent minor children. In a family any or all person is eligible for benefit either in the name of individual, group, HUF or as a partner of a partnership/ proprietor firm with the subsidy capping of respective scheme component.
3. The Scheme of NHB and other schemes of MIDH including NHM will be mutually exclusive, and benefit can be claimed only from one scheme for one project. Components which are assisted under any other sub-Schemes of MIDH or other Central Scheme e.g. APEDA, MoFPI, NMPB etc. shall not be eligible for NHB's assistance.

Basic Eligibility Criteria

The proposals have to meet the following basic eligibility criteria under the scheme:

1. **Land:** The title of the piece of land on which the project is proposed to be set up should be in the name of applicant in the capacity of owner. In case of projects on lease land, minimum lease period should be 10 years and should be registered with the office of Sub-Registrar. The period of lease deed will be accepted even if the lease deed was executed with one year prior to the date of online IPA cum LOC Application with NHB. A copy of registered sale deed/lease deed along with Record of Rights (RoR) and an undertaking regarding non-encumbrance in prescribed format needs to be submitted along with the application. Power of Attorney given by owner of land in favour of applicant shall not qualify for benefit under the scheme. In case of a Partnership Firm land may be owned either by Firm or jointly by its partners. In case land is owned by one of the partners, an undertaking by landowners would be required stating that he/she will not withdraw, sale or transfer his land during currency period of the project. In case of NER States, the Land Possession Certificate issued by State Government to the applicant shall also qualify.
2. The proposed means of finance must include the total project cost and term loan from the banking or financial institutions. The minimum term loan for the project should not be less than the estimated subsidy being proposed for the project.

Submission of Applications

Online submission of application at the website of NHB namely nhb.gov.in is mandatory.

At the time of online submission of application, all documents duly signed on all pages and annexed with required/ relevant papers/documents need to be upload at NHB's website.

Documents and Fee Required

Following documents are required to be submitted along with hard copy of the application. Some of these documents are also required to be uploaded in the online application as prescribed on the online application software. In case, any of the original documents are in regional language it should be accompanied by self-certified English/ Hindi translation: -

Document Checklist

Applicant	1. Self-attested PAN card and Aadhaar Card. 2. In case of Company/Society/ Trust / Partnership/LLP firm - Registration Certificate, Memorandum and Article of Association, Partnership Deed, Bye Laws, Board resolution for approval of investment proposal and authorized Signatory. 3. Caste certificate in case of SC and Certificate in case of ST- self attested. 4. Undertaking from Promoter/ Applicant in prescribed format enclosed with this scheme guidelines as **Annexure-I** 5. Self-declaration regarding details of benefits already availed from NHB, NHM and Central Ministries related to Horticulture Projects if any in prescribed format enclosed with the scheme guidelines as **Annexure-II** 6. Photo of Applicant /Lead Promoter /CEO of the Project. 7. Any other documents to be decided by NHB.
Land	1. Project Land ownership in the name of Applicant with clear survey No. and Plot. In case the land ownership documents are in a language other than Hindi or English, the applicant has to submit duly notarized English version of the same and self-attested by the applicant. In case of lease land, the applicant has to submit the registered lease deed clearly specifying purpose, the period of lease, survey and plot number, khata number etc. 2. Certified Copy of Record of Rights (RoR) of the project land in name of Applicant. Entry of lease will also be required in RoR in case of lease land. Wherever local land laws do not permit such lease entry in RoR, a certificate from Revenue Authority or copy of notification to this effect shall be required. 3. If applicant is one or few of joint owners of project land, then NOC from other co-owners indicating area and share of each co-owner to be submitted. 4. In case land is owned by one of the partners, an undertaking by landowners would be required stating that he/she will not withdraw, sale or transfer his land during currency period of the project. 5. In case of NER States, copy of the Land Possession Certificate issued by Government to the applicant. 6. Undertaking from Promoter/ Applicant regarding non-encumbrance of project land in prescribed format enclosed with the scheme guidelines as **Annexure-III**

Project	1. Detail Project Report in prescribed format enclosed with the scheme guidelines as **Annexure-IV** 2. Site layout plan (Blueprint) wherever applicable prepared by Chartered Engineer. 3. Basic Data Sheet, wherever applicable, must be submitted in the prescribed format as provided in the **NCCD guidelines**. This document is essential for capturing key technical details of the proposed project and forms an integral part of the application and appraisal process. 4. Technical Standards / Specifications, wherever applicable, must be provided in the prescribed format. These should conform to the norms outlined in the relevant scheme guidelines to ensure that the proposed infrastructure and equipment meet the required quality, safety, and operational efficiency standards. Submission of accurate technical details is essential for proper evaluation and approval of the project.
Bank	Final Sanction Letter along with detailed appraisal note from lending bank.

Cost of Application Form &Scheme Brochure: Following is the structure for cost of application:

#	Cost of Project	Requisite Application Fee (Rs.) For proposals submitted up to 31 May 2025	Requisite Application Fee (Rs.) For proposal from 01ST June 2025 onwards
i	Project Cost Upto Rs. 20.00 Lakhs	2000.00	2500.00
ii	More Than Rs. 20.00 Lakhs and Upto Rs. 50.00 Lakhs	5000.00	7500.00
iii	More Than Rs. 50.00 Lakhs and Upto Rs. 100.00 Lakhs	10000.00	12500.00
iv	More Than Rs. 100.00 Lakhs and Upto Rs. 150.00 Lakhs	15000.00	20000.00
v	More Than Rs. 150.00 Lakhs and Upto Rs. 200.00 Lakhs	20000.00	25000.00
vi	More Than Rs. 200.00 Lakhs and upto Rs. 1000 Lakhs	50000.00	100000.00*
vii	More than Rs.1000 Lakhs	50000.00	200000.00*

The requisite fee needs to be paid online while making an online application on www.nhb.gov.in

**The project application fee will be refunded by deducting 25% of the application fee in case where the project is rejected before the joint inspection is done.*

The application fee in case of projects of Rs. 200 Lakh and above cost would only be refunded, where the project is rejected before the physical inspection is done, by deducting 25% of the application fee. In the remaining case, the facility of refund will not be available.

IPA cum LoC and Grant of Clearance (GOC)

The scheme guideline has the provision for issuance of IPA cum LoC and GoC in following stages as described below:-

A. Issuance of IPA cum LoC:

1. Purpose:

- The proposal received before appraisal and sanction of term loan and found prima facie eligible based on the criteria of the scheme guidelines shall be consideration of "In-Principal Approval cum Letter of Comfort" to the projects. IPA cum LoC is issued to applicants to help secure a term loan sanction from banks for their proposed project.

2. Optional Requirement:

- Unlike previous guidelines, the issuance of IPA cum LoC is not mandatory.
- IPA cum LoC will be provided only to applicants who explicitly request it as a facilitation for obtaining a term loan.

3. Application Process

- Applicants must apply online to NHB for an IPA cum LoC.
- The following documents need to be submitted along with the application.
    1. Detailed Project Report (DPR): Following the NHB's prescribed template.
    2. Project Land Documents: To verify land ownership or usage rights.
    3. Othe documents as prescribed in this guideline.
- **Validity of IPA cum LoC:** IPA cum LoC is valid for 6 months, with a provision for a 3-month extension on a case-by-case basis, provided there are justified reasons. Applicants must secure the term loan sanction within this validity period.

B. Issuance of GoC:

Issuance of GoC is mandatory for the applicant to avail the credit linked back ended subsidy for the project. GoC will be considered only for the project proposals submitted along with Term loan sanction, Appraisal note, and other required documents subject to fulfilment of all other eligibility criteria mentioned in the guideline. However, the date of sanction of term loan should not be more than 3 months prior to the date of online application for GoC.

Required Documents for GoC Issuance:

1. Detailed Project Report (DPR): Following the NHB's prescribed template.
2. Project Land Documents: To verify land ownership or usage rights.
3. Other documents as prescribed in this guideline.
4. Term loan sanction letter along with detailed appraisal note for the project from the Banks.
5. Cover Letter from Bank in prescribed format enclosed with the scheme guidelines as **Annexure-V** along with certified copy Legal Search Report of the project land which formed the basis for sanction of Term Loan duly signed by lending Bank on each page.
6. Fulfilment of any other conditions as specified in IPA cum LOC if any.

Disbursement of Term Loan and implementation of project is not permitted before issuance of Grant of Clearance to the project by NHB. Any disbursement of term loan before issuance of GoC will lead to rejection of proposal by NHB.

Important Instructions for applicants for submitting IPA cum LOC/GOC Applications

1. At the time of online submission of application, all documents duly signed on all pages and annexed with required/ relevant papers/documents need to be upload at NHB's website. Obtaining of Grant of Clearance (GoC) is must for starting the project work.
2. The proposed project should meet the guidelines of NHB. The applicant is advised to familiarize with the scheme guidelines by visiting NHB website (www.nhb.gov.in) and may contact the local officers for any clarification.
3. The project should be new, and not a pre-existing activity and/or any old component thereof.
4. The project land should be contiguous and free from any encumbrances except in KCC loan on the project land.
5. The lending Bank should appraise the project for technical feasibility and financial/commercial viability, including approval by Competent Bank Authority, and then only sanction the Term Loan.
6. The lending Bank should ensure that essential details such as name of applicant/promoters, project activity/purpose, details of project location indicating Survey No./ Khasra No./Gat No./Plot No./Dag No. of project land, component-wise project cost, means of finance, implementation schedule of the project etc., are incorporated. Components that are not included in IPA cum LOC application/DPR and not forming part of 'Bank Appraisal Note' are not eligible for NHB subsidy; and components of the project included in the project proposal will be subject to applicable norms of NHB.
7. The lending Bank should have its own SRF Account (Branch/Head Office level) and IFSC Code facility.
8. The lending Bank shall not disburse term loan before Grant of Clearance by NHB in writing after ascertaining the correctness of the 'Bank appraisal' and 'term loan sanction letter'.
9. Bank shall disburse the full term loan in more than one instalment, except in the case of Reefer van and solar TV Panels within 18 months from the date of release of 1st instalment of term loan. In case where the Bank has not released the sanctioned term loan in full for valid reasons, an order to be issued restricting the term loan spelling out the reasons. Bank can submit 'subsidy claim' only when the term loan is disbursed fully.
10. After successful completion of the project, the lending Bank shall submit 'Subsidy Claim' within 3 months of completion of the project.
11. The time limit for completion of the project would be a maximum of 18 months from the date of disbursement of the 1st installment of the term loan. This time limit can be extended by a further period up to 6 months, if reasons for delay are considered justified by the Bank concerned and agreed to by NHB.
12. Conformity with BDS, Technical Standards wherever applicable is mandatory. Project should strictly comply with the prescribed technical standards and protocols prescribed by the NHB, NCCD and MIDH from time to time for respective scheme components.
13. Applicant must seek prior approval of NHB before effecting any change in project crop, component and bank before submission of subsidy claim.

14. Incomplete projects, default cases and project accounts that turn NPA shall not be eligible for subsidy and, subsidy, if released, will be called back in such cases with interest.
15. Wherever project insurance is available, the applicant shall insure the project.
16. In case of cold storage/CA storage, Mushroom, Ripening chamber, Reefer Van, Cold room and Pre-cooling unit, the EPC is worked out on the basis of capacity.
17. Subsidy release is subject to availability of funds and NHB is not liable for any delay in release of subsidy.
18. The decision of NHB with regard to eligibility and interpretation of the guidelines shall be final and binding on the beneficiaries and banks.
19. Any other pre and post inspection would be undertaken by NHB representative to find out the physical, financial, and operational progress as and when required.
20. The convergence is being facilitated between the National Horticulture Board (NHB) and the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) schemes for enhanced support to Scheduled Caste (SC) beneficiaries. NSFDC operates a Term Loan Scheme offering loans up to ₹45.00 lakh at 8% interest, while NHB offers credit-linked back-ended subsidies for horticulture projects. Recognizing the synergy between these schemes, NSFDC is included under NHB's revised scheme guidelines for support to SC entrepreneur and farmer. This initiative aligns with the inter-ministerial circular dated 08.11.2024 encouraging convergence and is expected to improve utilization of NHB's earmarked 15% budget for SC applicants.
21. Other operational instructions issued by NHB from time to time will be strictly followed.

Procedure for Release of Subsidy

A. Credit Linked Subsidy:-

I. Within three months from the actual completion date of the project (if completed before the stipulated period) or from the stipulated project implementation schedule, whichever is earlier, and upon full expenditure of the term loan sanctioned by the lending bank and the promoter's share/ equity, the concerned bank shall submit the final subsidy claim to NHB Headquarters, Gurugram, in the prescribed format enclosed as **Annexure-VII.**

II. A Joint Inspection Team (JIT) consisting of representative of NHB, State Hort./Agri. Department, Lending Bank, Technical Expert (if required) will conduct joint inspection of the project and submit their report to NHB, HQ for approval of appropriate committee of NHB.

III. Documents to be submitted with final subsidy claim:

i. Subsidy claim bank forwarding letter in prescribed format of NHB.

ii. Completion Certificate by Bank in the prescribed format enclosed as Annexure-VIII.

iii. Bank appraisal and sanction letter.

iv. Term loan disbursement details date-wise in the prescribed format enclosed as Annexure-IX. Or Term loan account statement.

v. Term loan verification by NHB in the prescribed format enclosed as Annexure-X.

vi. NOC from the state department of Horticulture.

vii. Latest land document.

viii. A CA Certificate regarding total project cost and means of finance need to be furnished as per the format enclosed with this scheme guidelines as **Annexure-XI**

ix. Chartered Engineer (Civil) Certificate: A component wise CE Certificate shall need to be furnished for the expenditure incurred on technical civil works need to be furnished as per the format enclosed with this scheme guidelines as Annexure-XII (in case of cold storage project).

x. Chartered Engineer (Mechanical) Certificate: A component wise CE Certificate shall need to be furnished for the expenditure incurred on plant & machinery need to be furnished as per the format enclosed with this scheme guidelines as **Annexure-XIII** (in case of cold storage project).

xi. Details of Subsidy Reserve Fund Account (SRFA) of lending Bank/ FIs as per the format enclosed with this scheme guidelines as **Annexure-VI**

xii. Undertaking from Promoter as per the format enclosed with this scheme guidelines as **Annexure-I**

xiii. Self-declaration regarding details of benefits already availed from NHB, NHM and Central Ministries related to Horticulture Projects if any in prescribed format enclosed with the scheme guidelines as **Annexure-II**

Adjustment of Credit Link Subsidy by the Banks

1. The subsidy released by NHB to Bank in favour of the project shall be kept in a separate account termed as "Subsidy Reserve Fund Account". The adjustment of subsidy to term loan account shall be made only as a part of the recovery of last instalment which should not be prior to 36 months period from the date of release of Term Loan. **Therefore, term loan account of borrower should not be charged interest from the date subsidy amount is received by the Bank**.
2. NHB will have the discretion to recall the subsidy, if during such period, it comes to the notice of NHB that the subsidy has been availed by manipulating, concealment of information, facts or that the subsidy has been utilized for purpose other than those for which it was sanctioned.
3. The concerned bank is required to submit the Subsidy Adjustment Certificate (SAC) to the NHB Head Office in the format prescribed in the attached guidelines.

Implementation of the project

1. The maximum allowable timeline for completion of the project shall be **18 months** from the date of disbursement of the **first instalment of the term loan** by the lending bank. This period may be further **extended by up to 6 months**, provided there are **well-justified reasons** for the delay and such extension is **formally accepted by NHB**. Extensions beyond this period shall not be permitted under any circumstances.
2. If the project is not completed within stipulated period including extension if any, the benefit of subsidy shall not be available.
3. Promoter would be required prominently display on the front of the project site/building/ vehicle stating that the "Project assisted by the National Horticulture Board, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India."
4. Commencement of any project works at site before GOC is not permitted and shall lead to rejection of the application. However, the applicant can start the following preliminary project works after online submission of application using applicant's margin money:-

a. Land Levelling and digging of pits

b. Compound Wall/ fencing with gate

c. Tube well/borewell as a part of project

d. Root Stock plantation with drip in case of grape plantations

e. Application for Power

f. Internal Road, Drainages

g. Other Statutory Approvals as may be required for commencement of work.

Joint Inspection Report

Salient features of Inspection Report:

a. Joint Inspection Report will be submitted in the prescribed format for each project giving necessary description of various components of the project and project land, source of funding, status of completion, etc. Inspection report will be supported by required documents, photograph and video film as per standing instructions of NHB.

b. Inspecting Officer /Joint Inspection Team is also responsible for making assessment of the cost of various components of the project and the project as a whole.

Rejection of IPA cum LOC /GoC and Subsidy Claim

The board have the authority for rejection of IPA cum LoC/GoC issued and subsidy claim in the following cases:-

4. If there is any change in the project land, first crop, area, component, bank etc. without prior approval of NHB and lending bank before claim of subsidy.

5. If the project land is on the same piece of land on which a scheme's benefit has already been availed in the past.

6. If the project is not completed in time within the approved project period including extension if any.

Monitoring of the project

1. The NHB reserve the right to review and randomly monitor progress of the approved projects under respective Scheme, either on its own or through any of its authorized agency.

2. NHB, at its sole discretion, may conduct random site visit and scrutiny of the project records/ accounts/ physical verification as deemed fit for any of the approved projects.

Dovetailing of Assistance

Considering the complexities and challenges associated with the projects of this nature, the applicant may dovetail assistance available under various other schemes of Central and State Governments, which would improve the viability of the projects. While dovetailing such assistance, it will be ensured that there is no duplication of assistance for the same component of the project.

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CHAPTER 05

Scheme- 03- Scheme for Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture

The Scheme for Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture of NHB provides grants-in-aid for introduction of new technologies, technology awareness, seminars, farmers visits, demonstrations, Market information Service for Horticultural Crops and promotes horticulture cluster & market led developments of pre-production, production, post-harvest, logistics, branding and marketing activities. The prime objective of the scheme is popularization of new technologies/tools/techniques for commercialization/ adoption, introduction of new concepts to improve farming systems, Upgradation of skills by exchange of technical know-how, Consolidating research efforts for specific problems and Identification/collection, development & commercialisation of indigenous crops and cluster development with emphasis on domestic and export promotion.

Details of the components along with cost norms and pattern of assistance are as under

Scheme No. 03	**Development and Transfer of Technology for Promotion of Horticulture**		
(i)	Scion and Root Stock Mother Block for Nursery purpose	Maximum upto Rs. 100.00 Lakh/ha for an area from 1 to 5 ha on pro rata basis including virus indexing, tissue culture lab etc.	No change
3 (ii)	Import of planting material, mass multiplication & upgradation of existing and establishment of new PEQ facilities.	As per MIDH	As per MIDH
3 (iii)	Accreditation and Rating of Horticulture Nurseries"	Rs.1.00 lakh/ nursery	By Central Nodal Agency
3 (iv)	Import of new Machines and Tools for horticulture for demonstration purpose (Public Sector)	Rs. 50.00 lakh/machine	100% of total cost and only through govt. agency
3 (v)	Development & Transfer of Technology	Rs. 30.00 lakh/ project	No change
3 (vi)	Long Distance Transport Solution	Rs. 2000.00 lakh	Project based

3 (vii)	Product Promotion and Market Development Services through Horti-fairs etc.	Rs. 30.00 lakh per project at National Level and Rs. 100.00 Lakhs for International Level.	No Change
3 (viii)	Exposure visits & training of farmers outside State"	As per MIDH norms	As per MIDH norms
3 (ix)	Visits of Govt officials outside India"	Rs. 6.00 lakh per participant	100% of cost on actual basis.
3 (x)	Organization/ Participation in Seminar/ Symposia / Workshop for Development of Horticulture at national and international level	Rs. 10.00 lakh for International event, Rs. 5.00 lakh for National event and Rs. 3.00 lakh for State Level event and Rs. 50,000/- for District level event.	50% of cost on actual basis for private agency and 100% for NHB's own events.

Description of Components

Description of Components: The detailed components and sub-section of the scheme are as given below:

1. Setting up of block / Mother Plant and root stock Nursery (Area above 4 Hac.)

Objective: The prime objective of setting up pf block / mother plant and root stock nursery projects is to encourage setting up Mother Blocks and Bank for Root Stock and Scion/bud stick of higher pedigree is to facilitate commercial nurseries for raising mother trees on their nursery and also for multiplication and sale to farmers.

Components: Components include mother block of scion and root stock, infrastructure for production of disease-free planting material, creation of polyhouse, greenhouse, net house, screenhouse, mist chamber, hot beds sterilization of media, working shed, tissue culture lab, referred lab, virus indexing facility, quality control lab, weather station. Water supply, irrigation facility, fertigation unit, electric supply with generator, ETP, farm equipment/farm mechanization, tools, portrays, root trainer, container, computer system for data management and analysis etc.

Project Implementation:

1. Projects under this component shall be appraised by NHB with the help of a committee of experts and should be linked with future area expansion plan under government schemes.
2. Crop & variety specific modern mother plant nurseries shall be managed by ICAR Institutes/NRCs, SAUs or public sector agency.
3. Applicant organization will have to bear capital cost on account of land, staff component, water & electricity consumption and annual maintenance etc. NHB would provide 100% cost of nursery infrastructure, plant health management system, procurement of planting material of breeder and foundation seed grade and plantation and initial input. To begin with, planting materials for major crops like citrus, mango, apple, stone fruits, guava, litchi, sapota, aonla, pomegranate etc. will be given priority.

Eligible Organizations: Through Govt. Agency/ Public Sector Only

Pattern of assistance:- Project based - 100% and only through Govt. agency/Public Sector @ Rs.100.00 Lakh /ha for effective nursery area including virus indexing, tissue culture lab etc.

2. Acquisition of technology including Import of planting material from other countries for evaluation and mass multiplication in order to increase production and productivity of Horticulture Crops

Objective: The prime objective of this sub-scheme is to ensure the availability of disease free and quality planting materials and to promote introduction of new varieties, upgradation of existing and establishment of new Post Entry Quarantine (PEQ) facilities.

Components: The component aims to acquire technologies either nationally or globally that have been developed in horticulture or which can be commercialized to put for farmers/industry benefit. This will also include assistance for meeting cost of Import of best quality planting material of latest varieties of horticultural crops.

Eligible Organizations: As per MIDH

Pattern of assistance: - RS.50.00lakh/project. Project based - 100% and only through Govt.agency / PSUs.

3. Accreditation and Rating of Horticulture Nurseries

Objective: Based on the infrastructure, production system & quality parameters of planting material and management practices adopted in the nurseries, the prime objective of this sub-scheme is to facilitate accreditation and rating of Horticulture Nurseries.

Components & Implementation: Accreditation system will be based on rating in a scale of single star to three star with appropriate weightage on production system, nursery management practices and quality of planting material produced. The single star to three-star scale rating will be based on following criterion:-

1. Application by the Nursery seeking NHB recognition, showing layout of Nursery, location of infrastructure components and land utilization plan, details of technically qualified staff in the nursery, major farm machineries and operational manual prepared by nursery for selection and maintenance of mother plants, process followed for production of planting material and management of inventory of planting material.
2. Assessment of Nursery will be made by a duly constituted Assessment Team on laid down parameters such as location of nursery, mother plants of both scion &rootstock, propagation technology, infrastructure for production, biosecurity and disease-free conditions, operation manual, quality of manpower and trade relations.

a. Fulfilment of Technical specifications of horticulture planting material and its production procedure as per ICAR document entitled " Handbook of seed and planting material testing manual for Horticulture crops" and technical capability of management.

b. Availability of required infrastructure as per specified nursery standards of NHM for Model Nursery, such as green houses, mist chambers, efficient nursery tools and gadgets, implements and machinery etc.

c. Adoption of Good Nursery Management practices including proper record keep.

d. Any other condition stipulated by NHB.

e. The process of carrying out accreditation and rating of horticulture nurseries will be as per protocol approved by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. It will be followed by periodic surveillance of accredited nursery. It may be implemented by NHB directly or through nominated accrediting agency.

f. Proposals regarding nominations of accrediting agency and financial assistance shall be decided by the Board.

g. Guidelines along with Technical Manuals of NHM and ICAR for establishment of Nursery have been notified and published by NHB.

Pattern of assistance:- Rs. 1.00 lakh / nursery By Central Nodal Agency (NHB)

4. Import/Procurement of Machines and Tools for horticulture for demonstration purpose

Objective: The prime objective of Import/Procurement of Machines and Tools for horticulture for demonstration purpose are as follows:-

a. To promote Farm mechanization and introduce technologically advanced plants & machineries from abroad.

b. Horticulture mechanization is aimed to improve farm efficiency and reduce drudgery of farm work force.

Components: NHB will provide assistance for importing new machines in the field operations areas of horticultural crops viz nursery/seedling preparation, post hole digging for planting, interculture, aeration, earthing, irrigation, plant protection, harvesting, handling, packaging transport etc.

Eligible Organizations: Through Govt. Agency

Pattern of assistance:- Rs. 50.00 lakh/ machine. 100% of total cost and only through Govt. agency/ Public Sector. Proposals of Growers Associations promoted by NHBand Co-operative Societies and Farmers Producers Organisation may also be considered on merit as per direction of Board of Directors.

1. Development & Transfer of Technology

Objective: The scheme for Development & Transfer of Technology of NHB provides grants-in-aid with prime objective to solve specific problems related to production, PHM, Packaging, Storage, handling and transport by way of development & introduction of new farms inputs through Research & Development in field of Horticulture.

Components: Following components will be considered under the scheme:-

1. Pilot project for introduction of new farm in-put and appropriate technologies etc. for promoting high quality commercial production or increase in productivity.

2. Development and introduction, Cold Chain, Primary processing, Biotechnology and introduction of new tools/equipment/ machineries for PHM, Storage including Cold chain system and handling.

3. R & D projects for solving specific problems related to production, PHM, Packaging, Storage, handling and transport could be considered on merit basis.

Eligible Organizations: Through Govt. Agency/ Public Sector Only

Pattern of assistance:- Up to Rs.25.00 lakh/ project as 100% of total cost and only through Govt. agency /PSU

2. Long Distance Transport Solution- Kisan Rail and Krishi Udaan

Objective: The prime objective of the scheme is to facilitate long-distance transportation and bulk movement of horticulture products through Rail and Air.

Components: Perishable fruits, vegetables and other horticultural commodities

Pattern of assistance:- Project Based Rs. 2000.00 lakh

3. Product Promotion and Market Development Services through Horti-fairs

Objective: The prime objective of this scheme is to encourage the product promotion and market development services and horti fairs includes organizing and demonstrations of modern scientific techniques/technologies, package of production, PHM practices, demonstrations of improved/ high yielding varieties of fruits, vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants etc.

Components:

1. To organize demonstrations of modern scientific techniques/ technologies, package of production and PHM practices at suitable locations/ areas by the NHB.
2. To organize demonstrations of improved/ high yielding varieties of fruits, vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants etc, by NHB.

Implementation:

1. A committee of NHB shall examine such proposals.
2. NHB will organize field demonstrations and display for product promotion and market development with or without the help of out-sourced agency / experts.
3. Demonstration for product promotion and market development by display of horticulture products and farm machinery & tools will be organized by NHB in the form of horticulture fairs, which shall provide the participants an opportunity to display and sale the exhibits. These events shall also provide opportunity to producer farmers to learn from one another's experience and performance. Selected horticulture-producer-farmers' associations and their self-help groups who adopt prescribed production, PHM, packaging, storage and transportation technology under supervision of NHB or any public sector engaged in organizing farmers groups and so designated by NHB , shall be the Targeted Participants for such horticulture fairs. Similarly, ICAR Institutions / SAUs and any other R & D Institution and manufacturer of farm machinery/ tools/ equipment relating to horticulture development may also be included in targeted participants by selecting them based on requirement of promoting the product intended to be promoted. Scheme Components of Technology Development and Transfer for promotion of Horticulture may be converged with such Horticulture Fairs organized by NHB. 'Targeted Participants' shall be encouraged to participate in horticulture fairs by providing them stall space for display of produce for sales and storage space for horticulture produce for participation in the event without rent or tariff for stall space and storage space. One-time assistance for trial use of recommended packaging material and transport of horticulture produces in technically recommended manner from production centre to place of horticulture fair may be given to targeted participants through their group / association or organizing public agency like ICAR Institution / SAU/ Marketing Boards/ Agro Industries Development Corporation, PSU / NERAMAC etc. Boarding & lodging in group on room sharing basis / dormitory in farmers' hostels run by ICAR institutions/SAU/APMC's etc. may be provided by NHB for first time participants from Targeted Participants' groups. Cost towards hiring of venue, stall preparations, decoration of exhibition place, public address system, security, lighting, water supply, ceremonial functions etc of event shall be borne by NHB under this component.

Eligible Organizations: By Central Nodal Agency.

Pattern of assistance:- Rs. 25.00 lakh 100% of cost by Central Nodal Agency

4. Exposure visits & training of farmers outside State

Objective: The prime objective of scheme for exposure visits & training outside state is to build the capacity of farmers and inspire them to take up farming through experience gained from various subject experts, live demos and training courses etc.

Components:

i. To attend structured crop specific production, PHM, Processing and Marketing related farmers' training courses organized by NHB as per its annual action plan, with the help of ICAR Institutions, SAUs, KVKs/ ATMA Society and any other professional institutions such as NIAM,MANAGE, NIFTEM, NIRD, HTC Pune, TERI, selected international organizations etc. Course shall be designed by NHB and training institution jointly, keeping in view training needs of the participants.

i. To expose groups of farmers to field demonstrations of technology organized by ICAR Institutions, SAUs, State Horticulture/Agriculture Directorates, etc. on their own farms or on farms of KVKs/ ATMA Societies, selected progressive farmers etc. The technology component to be demonstrated should be new and relevant to the group and must be specifically stated.

ii. To participate in exhibitions within Country relating to horticulture production, PHM technology and to display their produce/equipment in stalls provided by NHB.

iii. To visit specialized wholesale, terminal markets, modern auction centres/processing unit/storage / PHM infrastructure, etc.

iv. To participate in exhibitions and horticulture fairs organized by NHB, crop specific National Research Centres for Horticulture Crops, ICAR Institutions, Agricultural/ Horticulture Universities or Colleges/ KVKs / State Directorates of Horticulture/State, PSUs or National Federations like IFFCO, NAFED, Marketing Boards, NEC, Industries Associations or registered and functional Growers Associations, etc.

Eligibility for participation

i. Selected farmer should be in the age group of 20 to 55 years. He/she should be cultivating the relevant horticulture crops on his own land or intend to establish horticulture farm/garden/ industry.

ii. Preference should be given to small, marginal and women farmers and beneficiaries of NHB, NHM ,HMNEH and MIDH schemes.

iii. Such farmers should be selected who are willing to share their experiences in workshops/seminars at District and State Level as resource persons.

iv. One to two representatives of State department of Agriculture/Horticulture or SAU may accompany farmers' groups for the assistance of the visiting farmers.

v. The maximum size of a training group may be , as decided by NHB in consultation with the training institute. However, it should not be of more than 30 farmers including Govt officers.

vi. The selection of farmers to form group will be done by the State Govt. or NHB officer of the concerned State/UT's who may propose and organize such training / visits.

vii. As far as possible, travel plan should be made through the shortest practically suitable route of mass public transport.

Pattern of assistance:- Project based as per actual 100% of the cost.

5. Visits for Government Officials outside India

Objective: The prime objective of the scheme is the awareness for technology up-gradation, product development, product promotion, exploring improved varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers and market intelligence through exhibitions, trainings, international programmes etc. which shall be in consonance with the WTO commitments and the same would remain as an integrated component as per the objectives of the scheme for the government officers.

Components & Implementation:

1. Visits shall be conducted by Officers of NHB, DAC and the State Horticulture Departments/ Horticulture Division of SAUs to give exposure to the officers about horticulture industry in the advanced countries.
2. The team shall comprise of officials from NHB and there shall be one team leader.
3. The visit should normally not exceed seven days excluding the journey time.
4. The expenditure for travel and periderm shall be borne by NHB as per the Government of India approved rates. The names of the officers from the State Horticulture Departments shall be finalized by NHB in consultation with DAC with reference to the merit and performance of such officers in the field.

Pattern of assistance:- Rs. 6.00 lakh per participant 100% of air / rail travel and course fee

6. Organization/ Participation in Seminar/ symposia / workshop for development of horticulture at National and International Level

Objective: The prime objective of the scheme aims to train the participants, awareness for technology up-gradation and to promote and encourage sharing of information amongst attendees through Seminars/ workshop/exhibition etc. at the state, national and international levels for promotion of horticulture.

Component & Implementation:

1. Technology awareness programmes by NHB.
2. Seminars/workshop/exhibition etc. shall be organized at the state, national and international levels for promotion of horticulture.
3. For State level events NHB/NHM/HMNEH beneficiaries from the same State should be invited in consultation with NHB and State Horticulture Mission (SHM).
4. For National level event NHB/NHM/HMNEH beneficiaries, producer States should be invited for the event by the organizers in consultation with NHB and State Mission Directorates. Beneficiaries from at least five main producer states would be required for the event.
5. Such beneficiaries should not be charged any registration fee, etc. and should be provided with same facility as other registered participants.
6. The amount sanctioned for a particular year is required to be spent within the same financial year, unless revalidated.

Manner of Implementation

1. The seminars / workshops / Exhibitions shall be organized primarily for beneficiaries of NHB/ NHM and HMNEH schemes, however,if such beneficiaries are not available in required number, then other growers of horticulture crops can also be included.
2. These events will be primarily organized through crop specific National Research Centre for Horticulture Crops, any other ICAR Institution, Agricultural/Horticulture Universities or Colleges/KVKs/State Directorates of Horticulture/State or National Federations of primary level registered and functional Growers Associations, who generate enough resources internally to manage their day to day affairs on their own.
3. Financial assistance for attending workshops/seminars/training course shall be limited to the event relating to horticulture sector. Training need assessment should be done for the group of participants and duly considered before sponsoring participants to attend the event.
4. Crop specific training to producer farmers, training to operators of PHM infrastructures, processing units, cold storage operators, laboratory technicians etc., shall also be given financial assistance under this subcomponent.
5. Quantum of financial assistance per participant for per day of training shall be fixed by NHB after assessing cost implication as submitted by the organizing agency.
6. Financial assistance to group of farmers participating under this subcomponent will be extended only to such workshops /seminars /training courses, which have not been directly assisted under this subcomponent for organizing the event.
7. Benefits under scheme subcomponents of Visit of Progressive Farmers may also be made available to participants of above-mentioned workshops / seminars/ exhibitions / training courses.

Pattern of Assistance:

- The financial assistance would be limited up to Rs.I0.00 lakh for international event (3-S days), Rs.5.00 Lakh for National event, Rs.3.00 lakh for Stale Level event and Rs.0.50 lakh for District Level event
- In case of short duration (1-2 days) seminars, financial assistance would be limited to:.
    - o Rs.1.00 lakh per event for State Level event,
    - o Rs. 2.00 lakh for National level event and
    - o Rs 3.00 lakh for international event (for organizations/participation of international event within India).

7. Market Information Services & Establishment of field Offices

Objectives: The prime objective of the scheme are as follows:-

1. To generate information on whole sale prices, arrivals, and trends in various markets of the country for important fruits, vegetables& flowers etc and also on retail prices for increased number of selected markets.
2. To analyse the trends of arrivals, prices and other related factors of the selected fruit and vegetables such as stock in storage, crop stand etc and generate Market Intelligence Reports.

3. To establish a nation-wide communication network for speedy collection and dissemination of market information data for its efficient and timely utilization.
4. To prepare farmers' advisory and issue the same for the benefit to producer farmers especially by making use of statistics so generated and collected for optimizing returns to the producers.
5. To collect and compile horticulture database and strengthen existing system of Crop Estimation Survey-Fruits &Vegetables' (CES-F&V) as far as possible.
6. Information dissemination through publicity, advertisements, films, printed literature etc.
7. Development of technology packages in electronic form to be shared through IT.

Component & Implementation: This would be done by outsourcing existing marketing/professional agencies/ unemployed Agriculture graduates or recognized/established brokers in Mandi etc. at a fixed monthly remuneration (including transport) per month as decided by the Board plus actual expenses on transmission of information to NHB (fax, internet, and telephone). The NHB would identify these markets in consultation with concerned State Govts. An exclusive cell shall be setup at NHB, HO for on-line receipt, data entry, analysis, dissemination, and web-site management. The work relating to this proposed MIS cell shall also be undertaken by outsourcing services of selected professional agency. To deal with work of computerization, development of technology package, data feeding etc, outsourced staff such as Senior Programmer, Programmer and Data Entry Operators and horticulture assistant may be engaged as per need at approved rates under TSG component of MIDH. The cell will also be responsible for undertaking development of technology packages in electronic form and information dissemination through publicity, printed literature etc. and local advertisements.

Pattern of assistance:- Project based as per actual cost

8. Horticulture Promotion Services and Establishment / strengthening of NHB

Under this component, specialized studies and surveys shall be carried and study / survey reports shall be brought out for use by targeted beneficiaries. In addition, technical laboratories shall be set up or cause to be set up and provide technical services including advisory and consultancy services. This shall be done by NHB with or without services of outsourced experts.

Components

1. Review the present situation of horticulture development in particular area/ State.
2. Identify constraints in horticulture development and suggest remedial measures.
3. Develop short term and long-term strategies for systematic development of horticulture.
4. Develop primary/secondary data of various aspects on horticulture.
5. Provide consultancy services, expert services & establishing labs etc. in pursuance thereof.
6. Conduct technical scrutiny and certification of cold chain infrastructure as per implementation protocol for Technical Standards for cold storages etc.
7. Preparing reports relating to export competitiveness in the area of fresh horticulture produce.
8. Any other component of expert services provided by NHB addressing to identified needs of the sector.

Nodal Organizations

1. NHB itself
2. State Governments/UT's and organizations under it
3. Central Government Organizations/ agencies
4. Other organizations such as Quality Council of India / NHRDF etc.

Aspects of Studies/Surveys

1. Techno Economic Feasibility Studies for development of horticulture in States/UT's/Belts/Zones etc.
2. Market Studies/ special problems/Area/Commodity based study/other aspects–Terms of Reference will vary on case-to-case basis.
3. Expert Services for project identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring & evaluation etc.
4. Multi-disciplinary and specific studies by NHB such as Performance Rating of infrastructure components, tools, equipment's, machineries for use in horticulture sector, Firming up of PHM, storage and specialized handling related protocols.
5. Issues relating to protocols for Good Agricultural Practices, quality standards for fresh horticulture produce such as under CODEX and EC standards.
6. Export competitiveness in respect of fresh horticulture produce.
7. E-solutions for business process of NHB office.
8. To facilitate the consultancy services relating to production, plant protection, PHM, packaging, storage, marketing, and exports.
9. All above aspects are illustrative and not exhaustive.

Criteria for empanelment of consultants/ consultancy firms

1. The consultancy firms should be registered, and it should have minimum experience of 3-5 years in similar work in relevant field such as horticulture, financial management, project formulation, project evaluation, monitoring etc. Individual consultants or subject matter specialist of horticulture/agriculture experts, economist/management/ legal / personnel/ financial/ marketing/ information-technology experts etc, can be engaged for specific activities, where the expertise of an individual will meet requirement.
2. Preference would be given to such consultancy firms, who have experience in conducting similar studies for similar conditions.
3. Individual consultant/experts, resource person at different level may also be engaged who will provide technical services and their payment will be commensurate with their qualification and experience as per approved rates under National Level TSG of MIDH. The selection of experts for specific/multi-disciplinary studies shall be finalized by the committee of NHB keeping in mind their known professionalism in the field.
4. Fresh Horticulture/Agriculture graduates as per approved rates of TSG component of MIDH may also be engaged as per need.

Procedure for engaging the services of consultants/ consultancy firms

1. Study would be conducted, and consultancy services rendered through empanelled consultants. The

panel of Consultancy firms / consultants would be updated periodically, after every three years.

2. A public notice will be issued calling offers from consultant/consultancy firms for empanelment. A panel of consultancy firms/consultants would be finalized by Empowered Committee of the Board.
3. Subject to suitability of work requirement and acceptance of terms and conditions prescribed by NHB, Consultancy Firms/consultants empanelled under NHM/other organization under MIDH schemes, may also be considered for engagement.

Procedure for award of studies/ surveys or consultancy assignment to a Consultant/ Firm

1. Consultants/Firms may be empanelled by NHB for the purpose of conducting studies/ surveys. They would send their detailed offer taking into consideration scope of work/term of reference within prescribed period.
2. Consultants would be required to give offer in-respect of technical & financial aspects.
3. Offers would be scrutinized by the Board for consideration of Empowered committee.
4. Consultants would present their case in person before the Empowered Committee on the date & time to be decided by the Board.
5. Period of study would be decided by the Empowered Committee on case to case basis.
6. The study would be awarded by the Board on the recommendation of the Empowered Committee.

Mode of Payment

1. 25% on award of work
2. 50% on submission of Draft Report.
3. 25% after final report and its acceptance by Board/ Concerned State Govt./ Organization.

Note:-The consultant/ consultancy firm shall be required to furnish an indemnity bond and personal guarantee before the release of advance payments. For any delay in submission of Draft Report, penalty @ 1% of total fee may be levied on the consultants for every delay of one month or part thereof.

Submission of Draft Study Report

1. Draft report would be submitted by the consultants within the prescribed time.
2. Consultants would also present the study undertaken through slides etc. before the NHB & concerned sponsoring organization.
3. Comments of NHB/sponsoring organization would be included in the study report.

Submission of Final Report

1. Consultants would be required to submit requisite number of copies of Draft Report and Final Report duly bound along with soft copy.
2. NHB can undertake consultancy services including setting up of specialized laboratory with the help of empanelled consultants/consultancy firms.

Pattern of Assistance: 100% cost of the study shall be borne by the Board

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CHAPTER 06

Scheme- 04- Cluster Development Programme

The programme will focus on all stakeholders in the value chain including farmers/ producers, traders, aggregators, agribusiness enterprises, logistic players, retailers, processors, exporters and other public and private service operators.

CDP will support integrated interventions to enhance the competitiveness of targeted clusters. The interventions shall be implemented through specialised Implementing Agencies (IAs). To effectively leverage their specialisation, the interventions have been classified into the following three verticals:

a. **Pre-production and production:** It will support capacity-building of farmers and farm proximate interventions covering the crop life cycle, including planting material, crop-care practices and farm mechanisation till the harvest of the crop.

b. **Post-harvest management and value addition**: It will support interventions at the cluster level, ranging from post-harvest handling of crop to storage, value addition and packaging.

c. **Logistics, Marketing and Branding:** It will support interventions to link cluster produce with consumption markets and includes seamless logistics for efficient.

The detailed scheme guidelines may be downloaded from NHB website www.nhb.gov.in

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CHAPTER 07

Scheme- 05- Clean Plant Program (CPP) Scheme

The expansion of fruit production and markets into new geographic areas provides unique opportunities for the growth of horticulture sector in India. At the same time, in today's competitive global market environment, producers need access to the best plant material available in terms of genetics and health for better productivity and quality of produce to maintain a competitive advantage in the market. However, horticulture sector in India faces following challenges to minimize / eliminate pathogen incidences in plant material not only to minimize losses but to prevent movement of harmful pathogens in the production system and also to ensure availability of verified quality plant material to growers that meets a predetermined level of plant health:-

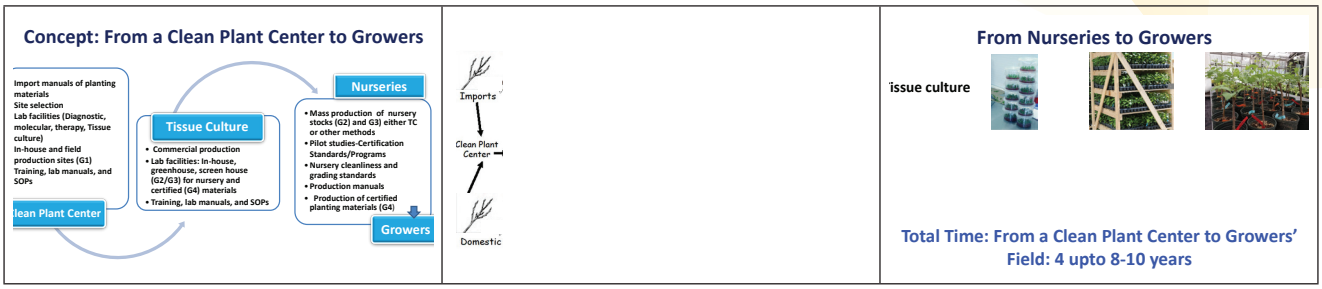
1. Lack of Clean Mother blocks and accountability of nurseries in virus and disease-free planting material.
2. Lack of testing facilities and manpower with major stakeholders involved in R&D and propagation of Planting Material for testing of viruses, pathogens and diseases and also, mapping of viruses and conducting genome sequencing.
3. Lack of legal framework for certification and traceability of planting material from mother nurseries till farmer end.
4. Lack of awareness in the farming community about the importance of clean planting material.

In order to address the above said issues the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) has been conceptualized which will be implemented by National Horticulture Board (NHB), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) with an aim to ensure access to disease free horticulture planting material to the farmers with the following objectives:-

- To enhance (i) yield of horticulture crops by providing disease free planting material and (ii) dissemination and adoption of climate resilient varieties.
- To protect ecosystem through proactive virus and disease controls.
- To enhance stakeholder capacities for the adoption and operation of clean plant production, maintenance, and distribution.
- To improve the knowledge network among research institutes, universities, knowledge centers, national and state agencies for sustainable operation of clean plant centers and nursery certification programs.

The concept of Clean Plant Centres is unique in itself and presently does not exist in India. This concept is successfully being implemented in some of the advanced countries like USA, Netherlands, Australia etc. with a mission to produce, maintain and distribute pathogen-tested propagative material of identified crops by

applying therapeutics to clean these plants and maintain them in foundations and distribute them through certification programs. The clean plant production is based on a 3-4 tier system which includes production and maintenance of foundation material at the CPCs and its distribution to the nurseries for multiplication. The nurseries operate under a certification system managed by the Government. Participation for growers in certification is voluntary, whereas marketing at least standard quality is a legal obligation for all growers.



Through this programme, India will move towards the status where the laboratory tested, verified, and registered clean plant materials are disseminated going beyond visual inspections. Also, an enhanced border control through an effective quarantine and testing of all imported goods will save extensive financial resources required to stop spread of diseases. Such an advanced quality control system will also help build a brand of Indian horticulture products as competitive and high-quality ones in the global agricultural market.

Clean Plant Programme is proposed to be implemented for a period of 6 years (2024-25 to 2029-30)). Initially it is proposed to establish 09 Clean Plant Centers for specific horticulture crops in different agroclimatic zones.

Components under the CPP

- 9 Clean Plant Centers (CPCs) to be established and produce G1 (nucleus) planting material to supply to participating nurseries
- CPP participating nurseries (15 large and 60 medium) established with required facilities and start multiplication of clean planting material (G2 & G3)
- Certified disease free nursery stock available to the farmers (certified) – ultimate goal (G4) to be planted in the field
- Regulatory framework and Nursery Stock Certification System to be established
- Public and private laboratories upgraded to participate in disease diagnosis, certification scheme leading to capacity development

Following are the outputs of the programme:-

1. Institutional and legal frameworks, and knowledge network for clean plant programme established
    - Prepare policy and regulations for CPP
    - Support horticulture nursery industry to form and coordinate industries interest and actions
    - Raise awareness of growers and nurseries about benefit of CPP and certified material
    - Develop a pool of workforce if plant health management
    - Establish and operationalize stakeholders knowledge sharing and decision making network

2. Clean Plant Centres established and operationalized
    - Conduct hazard analysis and develop diagnostic protocols for focussed crops
    - Design and build the crop specific CPCs
    - Prepare and implement SoPs for operation of CPCs
    - Enhance R&D for the Clean Plant Centre operation
3. Voluntary certification scheme for clean Plant material rolled out
    - Establish horticulture plant stock certification authority and its provincial branches (service providers, location of provincial branches, enhance lab testing capacities, develop and operate traceability system etc.)
    - Prepare procedures and requirements for inspection and testing and documenting certified planting stocks
    - Participating Nurseries enter an agreement with the certification authority including payment schedule of fees
    - Conducting training of trainers

The detailed scheme guidelines for the Clean Plant Program can be accessed and downloaded from the National Horticulture Board (NHB) website at www.nhb.gov.in.

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CHAPTER 08

Scheme- 06- Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Certification Scheme

The Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Certification Scheme, operated by the Quality Council of India through IndGAP, aims to promote best practices in farming and food production. The scheme has been benchmarked to global standards such as GlobalGAP. However, despite its importance, the acceptability of these certifications remains low primarily due to the complexity involved, the high cost of compliance, extensive documentation requirements, and stringent verification processes. These factors often discourage widespread adoption among farmers.

To address these challenges and promote the certification system domestically, the introduction of the Bharat GAP Certification has been proposed. Bharat GAP will be based on internationally accepted standards but will simplify the adoption process. This includes less complicated documentation and a more streamlined compliance verification mechanism. The key focus of Bharat GAP will be on food safety and hygiene, product quality, worker safety, and traceability, ensuring that the system is easier to navigate without compromising quality.

The Bharat GAP system will be managed by a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), ensuring broad representation and involvement in its implementation. The standards and assessment procedures for Bharat GAP are designed in line with international best practices, aligning with the global ISO 17067 guidelines for product certification schemes and ISO 17065 for accrediting certification bodies. This ensures that the system offers compatibility with other international certification programs, facilitating unrestricted trade both within India and globally.

The Bharat GAP certification will benefit a broad range of stakeholders, including farmers, processors, and those in the entire food product value chain, particularly for fresh fruits and vegetables. It will offer farmers opportunities to access premium markets, improving their income potential. Additionally, consumers will benefit from the assurance of product quality and safety, supported by traceable and credible certification. The program's guidelines are available for detailed consultation and download on the National Horticulture Board (NHB) website at www.nhb.gov.in.

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CHAPTER 09

Guidelines for making application for assistance under the Scheme for Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture (Scheme-03)

Submission of Applications

Online submission of application at the website of NHB namely nhb.gov.in is mandatory.

After online submission of application, printout of Online Application Form duly filled in all respect and signed on all pages and annexed with required/ relevant papers/documents need to be submitted to NHB's headquarters, Gurugram within one month from the date of submission of online application.

Documents Check List

Following documents are required to be submitted along with hard copy of the application. Some of these documents are also required to be uploaded in the online application as prescribed on the online application software. In case, any of the original documents are in regional language it should be accompanied by self-certified English/ Hindi translation:-

Document Checklist

1. Undertaking in prescribed format (Annexure-XIV)
2. Detailed Project Report/ Brief report on activity proposed (Appendix-XV)
3. Bye Laws/ Memorandum & Article of Association -wherever applicable
4. Justification for the proposed project programme /event

Dovetailing of Assistance

Considering the complexities and challenges associated with the projects of this nature, the applicant may dovetail assistance available under various other schemes of Central and State Governments, which would improve the viability of the projects. While dovetailing such assistance, it will be ensured that there is no duplication of assistance for the same component of the project.

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Annexure-I

Undertaking (Applicable for Commercial Horticulture and Cold Storage Scheme)

Undertaking

I/We ---------- (Name of the promoter/Director) S/o Shri ---------- (Father's name) resident of ---------- (residential address) do hereby solemnly affirm and declare/undertake as under-

1 That I/We am/are individual grower/promoter/Director/partner/group of growers/association of growers/ Proprietor of M/s ----------(Name of beneficiary) having its Registration No --------- Registered office at ---------- (office address of beneficiary)

2 I hereby make application and I am authorized in my own right/by management vide its resolution No ---------- dated ---------- to apply and sign all required documents including this undertaking on behalf of company/partnership firm/ cooperative society named as ---------- and am fully aware of the facts relating to the setting up the project at Survey No ---------- Village ---------- Post ---------- Tehsil ---------- District ---------- Sate ---------- (location of the project) for ---------- (activity to be undertaken by project) and application is being made by NHB under the scheme ----------

3 That the term and conditions of the scheme of NHB under which an application is made by the applicant have been properly read and understood by me and I affirm that the project / proposal/ scheme comply with the terms and conditions of NHB and the application is made in the correct applicable scheme.

4 That the proposed activities to be undertaken by the project/proposal scheme are covered under the above scheme of NHB and no part of the scheme /infrastructure of the project is designed or assigned to be used for any activity other than the horticulture activities specified in the application at present or in the near future.

5 That the information provided in the application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. The estimate of the cost of project/ proposal /scheme, financial viability and operating results have been worked out /computed as per the rule and generally accepted principle and norms in this regard.

6 No subsidy/grant in aid other than shown in application form has been availed/ is to be availed by the promoters/Directors/Partners/proprietors for this new project and component thereof from Central Govt or any of its agencies except the NHB.

7 Myself or any other promoter of Cooperative Society, Partnership Firm, Self Help Group has not availed any subsidy from NHB which has not been disclosed in the application.

8 I/We also solemnly affirm/undertake that the proposal activity in the application is a completely new activity and not a pre-existing activity or any component thereof.

9 In case of concealment of any facts in this regards, the Board would have right to reject my application out right at any stage.

Date ..... **Signature of the Applicant/Authorized Person**

Place.....

Annexure-II

Self-declaration regarding Details of benefits already availed from NHB, NHM and Central Ministries related to Horticulture Projects

This is to certify that (partner/directors/CEO/MD) Mr./Miss./Mrs.....has not applied for or availed (in case subsidy availed please provide the complete details in below table) subsidy from the State Horticulture Department.....Distt..... State .....for the project or its any component of ..... (Project Details) which is situated at khasra no.....khata no,.....village..... tehsil.....Distt.....State..... It is also certified that the said promoter has not applied for subsidy under the schemes of NHM (MIDH)/RKVY and any others centrally sponsored schemes either in his /her own name individually /partner/directors' /CEO /MD or through legal entity or in any firm or Constitution, in the above category of project or its any components, or any similar project location or any other project location. Further, we have no objection to availing the subsidy from NHB for the project.

(If yes give details)

Constitution – Individually or in any form	Ministry/ Organization	Scheme Name	Project code & Activity	Project Location	Land Survey No	Eligible Project cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Total subsid y/ Grant and year of disbursement if any (Rs.in lakhs)	Current status of project- Operational / underutilized / closed

Attention:

In case the project application is considered for IPA cum LOC, the applicant shall have to enclose No Objection Certificate from State Government/ State Horticulture Mission that there is no duplication of funding for the project and the applicant shall submit self- declaration that he/she is availing any government subsidy/ grant/ assistance from any other ministry for this project, before conducting joint inspection by NHB Team.

1. **Operational status of earlier projects under NHB Scheme and Other Central Ministries and State Government, if Yes, give details thereof.**

Year	Organization/ Ministry which released assistance	Activity for which assistance is availed & code	Dates			As on date Project Operational Status (Running or Closed)
			Subsidy Received	Project Completed	Commenced Production	

Date : .....

Place.....

Signature of the Applicant and Seal

Name: .....

Email ID.....

Annexure-III

Undertaking from Promoter/ Applicant regarding non-encumbrance of project land

Undertaking

I/We, the undersigned **(Proprietor(s)/ Partner(s)/ Director(s)/ CEO / Authorized Signatory)** of the project titled **..... (Applicant's Name)**, which is proposed to be undertaken at **..... (Location of the Project)**, hereby apply to the **National Horticulture Board (NHB)** under its **Back-ended Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme**, namely **..... (Name of the Scheme)**, and undertake the following:

1. The project land bearing **Khata No. ..... and Survey No. .....**, situated at **..... (location)**, is **not mortgaged** for any other project or bank credit.
2. The land proposed for the project is **free from all encumbrances**, including **mortgage, legal disputes, or litigation**, and is not under any form of charge or restriction that may affect the implementation of the project.

Date : .....
Place.....

Signature of the Applicant and Seal
Name: .....
Email ID.....

Annexure-IV

Detailed Project Report (DPR) Format for Scheme No. 1 & 2

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted by the potential promoters need to cover the following chapters in the DPR:-

#	Particulars	Details
Chapter-01: Promoters Details	i. Name and Address of the promoters including telephone, fax, email etc. Aadhaar No./ PAN/ TIN/TAN/ Udyam Certificate and details of authorized signatory. ii. Type of Organization like Govt. Institution/ PSUs, Pvt. Ltd. FPO, NGO, Co-operatives, Proprietorship, Partnership, LLPs etc. iii. Background/ Credentials of Applicant Organization iv. Existing Industry/Activities if any	
Chapter-02 Project Location and its Analysis	i. Project Location ii. Rationale for Selection of Project Location	
Chapter -03 Project Description	i. Name of the Project ii. Salient Features of the Project iii. Activities/ Infrastructure Details along with their capacity iv. In case of modernization of existing facilities/ unit (details of existing capacity and proposed capacity after expansion along with capacity utilization v. Technical Viability of the project	

#	Particulars	Details
Chapter- 04 Project Cost and Means of Finance	A. Project Cost i. Land Cost ii. Civil Works Cost Estimates i. Plant & Machinery ii. Pre-Operative Expenses including IDC iii. Working Capital iv. Other Items (if any; please specify) B. Means of Financing a. Equity/ Promoter's Share b. Term Loan c. Grant in aid/ Subsidy	
Chapter- 05 Financial Projections	i. Financial Benchmarks a. Cash Flows b. Internal Rate of Return c. Debt Equity Ratio d. Debt Service Coverage Ratio e. Projected Balance Sheet f. Repayment Schedule ii. In case of modernization all the above benchmarks to be given separately- existing as well as projected	
Chapter- 06 Marketing	i. Marketing a. Existing Market b. Future Demand c. Marketing Strategy d. Linkage to farm/ Backward Linkage e. Forward Market Linkages	
Chapter- 07 Implementation Schedule	i. Date of Implementation ii. Bar Chart/ Milestone Charts	
Chapter-08	Employment Generation & SWOT Analysis	

Annexure-V

Cover Letter from Bank regarding application for Grant of Clearance (GOC)

Ref. No. **Date:.....**

To,

The Managing Director,

National Horticulture Board,

Ministry of Agri. & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India,

Plot No. 85, Sector-18, Institutional Area,

Gurugram-122015 (Haryana)

Subject: **Submission of bank documents i.e. appraisal note, sanction letter & legal search report and bank certificate for encumbrance of project, for Grant of Clearance- reg.**

Ref.: **In-Principal Approval cum Letter of Comfort Letter No..... dated .....**

Sir,

We hereby confirmed that our bank has sanctioned credit facilities of INR ..... on ..... to M/s ..... (Applicant Name) Khewat/ Khatauni ....., Khasra No. ..... Village: ....., Tehsil & District: ....., State: ....., Punjab, Pin Code: ..... for establishment of ..... project under ..... (Name of Scheme) at aforesaid location.

Bank has submitted herewith below mentioned documents which are genuine and true with all aspects:-

1. Certified copy of Appraisal Note dated .....
2. Certified copy of Sanction and Terms & Conditions letter dated .....
3. Certified copy of Legal Search Report of project land dated .....

Further clarified that:-

1. Above said documents are bonafied and original is kept in the bank records.
2. Bank has not yet disbursed term loan under the project and no any project work started on the project site, loan disbursement will be started after issuance of grant of clearance from NHB.
3. It is also confirmed that as per the proof of land records and legal search proposed project location is at Khewat/ Khatauni ....., Khasra No. ..... Village: ....., Tehsil & District: ....., State: ....., Punjab, Pin Code: ..... and there is no encumbrance and title of the said freehold commercial property is absolutely clear and valid.

With requested to consider the above and issue Grant of Clearance to the project.

Yours Faithfully

(Signature with Seal)

(Name of Officer) (Designation)

Note- The above template for submission of GOC is also available in online mode, which will be acceptable (bank verification option).

Annexure-VI

On letter head of the Bank

Date:.....

To

The Area Officer ,

National Horticulture Board,

Plot no. 85/18 Institutional area

Gurugram (Haryana) -122015

Sir,

A. *It is certified the subsidy Reserve Fund Account (SRFA) bearing number .....of the beneficiary has been opened for keeping subsidy of NHB and the Aadhar number of Sh/Smt/ ..... Prop./Partner/Director/authorized person of M/S .....has been linked with the said SRFA. You are requested to release the subsidy amount in the SRFA of the beneficiary. The details are as under:

1. Name of the Bank and branch with address-
2. Branch Code-
3. IFSC code-
4. Term loan account number
5. Subsidy Reserve Fund Account no. (beneficiary)
6. Name of the beneficiary Sh/Smt/
7. Aadhar Card no.

B. 'Certified that subsidy received by the bank is being kept in GL/Sundry account of the account of the Bank bearing number..... .....and Aadhar linked records of subsidy is maintained beneficiary wise. The subsidy received from NHB shall be kept in the same account and all account of the beneficiary including term loan account are linked with Aadhar number of Sh/Smt..... Prop./Partner/ Director/authorized person of M/S.....

The details of bank account of the beneficiary linked with aadhar number are as under:

1.
2.
3.
4.

In case, a separate SRFA is opened on receipt of subsidy, the same shall be linked with the aadhar number of the beneficiary. The full details of the new SRF account will be conveyed by the bank immediately to NHB.

Thanking you

(Authorized signatory of the bank with stamp)

Name of the officer:-

Mobile number:-

Email:-

To,
The Area Officer
National Horticulture Board
Plot-85, Sector-18, Gurgaon, 122015

To,
Officer In-Charge
National Horticulture Board
Name and address of Centre

Annexure-VII

Forwarding Letter of Bank for Subsidy Claim & Conducting JIT

Name & Full Address of the FI/Bank (on letter head)

Subject : Request for Subsidy Claim form and Joint Inspection of the project

Dear Sir,

This has reference to ..... Project established by M/s..... at Khasra No. ..... Village: ..... , Tehsil & District: ....., State: ..... under ..... (Scheme Name) of NHB. Now project is complete as per original proposal and we have also disbursed full Term loan sanctioned for the above-mentioned project. In addition, following documents required for Joint Inspection are being submitted with the request to conduct Joint Inspection of the project to decide final subsidy claim.

Sr. No.	Particulars	Yes/ No
1	Details of date-wise release of term loan	
2	Completion certificate by Banks	
3	Undertaking from promoter (as prescribed by NHB)	
4	Statement of vouchers / copy of CA/ CE Certificate, used for assessing component wise cost and project cost	
5	Copy of RC in case of tractor/reefer van etc.	
6	Details of Subsidy Reserve fund account	

It is certified that the original of above documents and documents submitted at the time of GOC by bank pertaining to the projects are kept in records, which can be shown at the time of random monitoring by the Board or any agency authorized by the Board.

(Seal and Signature of the Bank's Officer)

Name :

Name of the Bank :

Address :

Phone/Fax/Mobile No.:

Place :

Date :

Annexure-VIII

(On the letter head of the Bank/FIs)

Completion Certificate from financing bank

This is to certify that the bank branch has sanctioned a term loan amount of Rs.---------- on---------- to the project of ---------- ----------for the project of (Activity of The project) ..... in an area/capacity of ..... acre/sq.mtr./MT which is situated at Khasra no.---------- village----------, Tehsil----------, District---------- and the same land is leased for .....years/ owned in the name of promoter/Applicant, out of which an amount of Rs.---------- has been released from---------- to ----------. The project has been completed in all respect on----------and it was started on ----------. Progress of the project is satisfactory and the term loan a/c of the project is regular/STANDERED/NPA.

The date of plantation (if applicable) is as under:-

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Signature of Bank Officer ----------

Name & seal of bank officer ----------

Date:.....

Annexure-IX

Details of date wise release of term loan

1. Name of Borrower/s/ project :
2. Term loan account no. :
3. Term loan details :

Date of Disbursement	Amount of Loan	Purpose	To whom made the Payment	Mode of payment
Total				

(A certified copy of Complete Term loan Account statement is enclosed)

Date:

Signature of Bank Officer.....

Name & seal of bank officer.....

Annexure-X

TERM LOAN VERIFICATION BY THE NHB OFFICER

(For joint inspection report purpose under scheme No.1)

This is to certify that Sh..... NHB, ... visited in (name of bank branch)..... on..... to verify the term loan account no..... of ....to whom the bank has sanctioned a term loan of Rs..... on..... to set up the project of ....., out of which Rs.....has been released w.e.from ..... to..... to the borrower for completion their project and rest of term Loan amount of Rs ..... has been restricted by Bank (If any) and project has been completed in all respect on ..... the term loan account is REGULAR/STANDERED/ NPA (as applicable)

Date:

Signature with Seal .....

Name & Designation of Bank officer .....

Remarks (If any) by NHB Officer

Signature of NHB Officer .....

Name & Designation of NHB officer .....

Annexure-XI

CA Certificate

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

(Letter Head of the CA)

Draft of Certificate from Chartered Accountant (with membership no of CA) verifying the investment of funds by promoters under the scheme "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management"

The Managing Director
National Horticulture Board
Gurugram.

We have examined the books of accounts and other relevant records maintained by M/s/Shri/Smt. _____ (Name of beneficiary) at its office situated at _____ (Address of Office) in respect of its project situated at _____(address of project) for _____ (project activity). These accounts are maintained by the Company's management, partners of the firm/proprietor of the concerned/grower/NGO and our responsibility is to verify the truth and fairness of these records and verification of amount expensed for acquisition/construction of fixed assets/establishment and other expenditure.

We conducted our work in accordance with the Audits and Accounting Standards generally accepted in India. Those Standards require that we plan and perform our verification to obtain reasonable assurance about whether these accounts are true and fair are free of material misstatement. A verification included examining on 100% basis, evidence audit includes examining, on a test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the grower, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides reasonable basis of our opinion.

We verity that

a) We have obtained all the information and explanation that to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our verification.

b) In our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by law have been kept by the Company/ firm/ sole proprietorship concern/grower/NGO for the financial period _____and these books of account represent true and fair view of the transaction entered into by the Company/firm/ sole proprietorship concern/grower/NGO.

c) In our opinion, the Company/firm/ sole proprietorship concern/grower/NGO has incurred a capital expenditure amounting to Rs. _____ (Rupees_____ only) for acquisition/ construction of fixed assets and the same is being reflected properly in the books of accounts. The valuation made of major components of the project and whole project is tabulated as follows-

S. No	Component	Proposed Expenditure as per Application/ DPR	Cost as appraised by bank before term loan sanction	Cost assessed by CA	Remarks
1	**Cultivation expenses**				
	i. Cost of Planting material (Number with cost per plant) ii. Manures & fertilizers iii. Insecticides & pesticides iv. Others, if any, please specify				
	Cost of Labour				
2	**Irrigation**				
	i. Tube-well/submersible pump(No's) ii. Cost of pipeline (Length & size & material) iii. Others, if any, Please specify				
3	**Cost of Drip/Sprinkler**				
4	**Infrastructure**				
	i. Store & pump house (Area in sq. ft with size) ii. Labour room & godown (Area in sq. ft with size) iii. Tractor Agriculture Equipments iv. Others, if any				
5	**Land Development**				
	i. Soil Leveling ii. Digging iii. Fencing iv. Others, if any				
6	**Land,** if newly purchased (Please indicate the year)				
	Grand Total				

Date:

Signature and seal of CA

(B) In the case of other kind of projects:

(Amount Rs. In Lakh)

S. No	Component	Proposed Expenditure as per LOI/IPA	Cost as per Appraised by bank before term-loan sanction	Cost as assessed by CA	Remarks
Total					

Total _____

(C) Means of Finance

S No	Item	Project cost as per DPR	Project cost as per Appraisal Report	Actual Cost
01	Promoter's Equity			
02	Term Loan			
03	Unsecured Loan			
04	Grant from NHB			
05	Other's			
	Total			

We recommend Rs. ..... As the cost of the whole project.

For Name of Chartered Accountants,

M. No.

UID No.:

Date:

For M/s ..... (Name of Applicant)

(Auth. Signatory)

Annexure-XII

Certificate of Chartered Engineer (Civil)

Date:

Ref No: _____

Case ID: _____

Subject: Certificate of Chartered Engineer (Civil) in respect of ..... Project (Name) established at ..... (Project Location)

This has reference to the .....(Project Details) established by **M/s ..... (Applicant Name)** at **..... (Project Location)**. The project has been established under the **Scheme ..... (Scheme Name)**

The project has been established in ..... Acres of land at ..... (project location). Based on our assessment during site visit, the certificate towards the Civil Work have been enclosed herewith in the format prescribed by the NHB. The specifications and quality of the civil work is in conformity with relevant industry standards and is also in alignment with the unit cost proposed for respective infrastructure components.

Detailed Break Up of the expenditure on assessment of works made under the Technical Civil Works has been annexed herewith.

- It has been ensured that the information furnished is correct in all respects, and no part of it is false or misleading and no relevant information has been concealed or withheld.
- Neither I nor any of my Partners is a Partner, Director or Employee of the above-named entity or its related or associate concerns.
- This Chartered Engineer Certificate is being issued without any prejudice.

CE Certificate (Civil) for Technical Civil Work:

Date:

Name of Project:

Location with address:

I, ___ (name of CE), visited the site on ..... and verified the actual area and volume of work. Based on actual progress on the site and invoices for respective components, I certify that the civil work cost of the project components is in line with the prevailing unit rates of the civil cost depending on various specifications and requirements.

The total expenditure incurred on the project towards civil work and its summary is as given below.

Sl. No.	Name of Component	Approved Area (sqm)	Approved Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Actual Area (sqm)	Actual Expenditure (Rs. Lakhs)		Comments on quality, construction standards, market rates
					Basic Cost	Taxes, Freight, Insurance etc.	
1							
2							

For Name of Chartered Engineer (Civil),

M. No.

UID No.

Date:

For M/s ..... (Name of Applicant)

(Auth. Signatory)

Annexure-XIII

Certificate of Chartered Engineer (Mechanical)

Date:

Ref No: _____

Case ID: _____

Subject: Certificate of Chartered Engineer (Mechanical) in respect of …….. Project (Name) established at …….. (Project Location)

This has reference to the ……(Project Details) established by **M/s …….. (Applicant Name)** at **…….. (Project Location)**. The project has been established under the **Scheme …….. (Scheme Name)**

The project has been established in ……. Acres of land at …….. (Project location). Based on our assessment during site visit, the certificate towards the Mechanical Work have been enclosed herewith in the format prescribed by the NHB. The proposed specifications of the machineries are in conformity with relevant industry standards.

Details of the cost incurred towards various Plant & Equipment's proposed to be installed has been annexed herewith.

- It has been ensured that the information furnished is correct in all respects, and no part of it is false or misleading and no relevant information has been concealed or withheld.
- Neither I nor any of my Partners is a Partner, Director or Employee of the above-named entity or its related or associate concerns.
- This Chartered Engineer Certificate is being issued without any prejudice.

CE Certificate (Mechanical)

Date:

Name of Project:

Location with address:

I, ___ (name of CE), visited the site on ..... and verified the cost of various plant & machinery installed at the project site and invoices for respective components as well. Based on this I certify that the plant & machinery brought to the site are new and are in line with prevailing cost in the industry.

The total expenditure incurred on the project towards plant & machinery is economical and its summary is as given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Component	Approved Capacity	Approved Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Actual Capacity	Actual Expenditure (Rs. Lakhs)		Comments on quality, construction standards, market rates
					Basic Cost	Taxes, Freight, Insurance etc.	
1							
2							

For Name of Chartered Engineer (Mechanical),

M. No.

UID No.

Date:

For M/s ..... (Name of Applicant)

(Auth. Signatory)

Annexure-XIV

Undertaking regarding financial benefits under the Technology Development and Transfer Scheme

We undertake that our organization has availed financial benefits under the Technology Development and Transfer Scheme of National Horticulture Board during the period of last years, as per details given below:

Sr. No.	Name of the Sub-Scheme	Month and Year of Event/ Final Sanction	Amount of Assistance Availed

We also undertake that expenditure of above amount have been duly audited as per rules of audit prescribed by government in this regard. We also undertake that financial assistance only in the following schemes of Central Government is being availed for the same project:

Name of the Scheme	Nodal Officer of the Scheme with contact details	Amount of assistance being taken/ applied for

Signatures of the Authorized Person

Annexure-XV

Detailed Project Report (DPR) Format for Scheme No. 3

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted by the applicants need to cover the following chapters in the DPR:-

#	Particulars	Details
Chapter-01: Applicant Details	1. Name and Address of the Applicant including telephone, fax, email etc. and details of authorized signatory.	
Chapter -02 Components/ Project Description	1. Components for which assistance required 2. Salient Features of the Project	
Chapter- 03 Project Cost and Means of Finance	1. Details of Proposed Activity (Brief of Project justifying eligibility of assistance in the scheme guidelines)	
Chapter- 04 Project Financials	1. Project cost indicating major items of investments 2. Source of Funding	
Chapter- 05 Implementation Schedule	1. Date of Implementation 2. Bar Chart/ Milestone Charts	
Chapter- 06	1. Justification for the proposed project programme /event.	

Annexure-XVI

Subsidy Adjustment Certificate

It is to certify that the Back ended capital investment subsidy amounting to Rs. _____ (Rupees _____ only) was received from the NHB on _____ vide Cheque/UTR/Transaction No._____, against the term loan a/c. of Mrs/Mr/M/s. _____ (full address of location of the project) _____ for their project for _____ (Activity with area/capacity, etc.), was kept in a subsidy reserve fund and has been adjusted in term loan account on _____ after completion of 36 months from the date of release of 1st instalment of term loan.

Signature of the Bank Officer

Issuing Authority with seal

Date

Annexure-XVII

Details and clarifications for NCCD Guidlines

Details of mandatory components under new NCCD Engineering Guidelines and Minimum System Standards

In reference to NCCD's new **Engineering Guidelines and Minimum System Standards for Implementation in Cold Chain Components 2025,** in the new subsidy components all the **components mentioned under scheme** are **mandatory**. All these components have been categorised as mandatory subsidy component/ subsidy components in the NCCD's new Engineering Guidelines and Minimum System Standards.

Importantly, the components (**Detailed description in NCCD guidelines chapter 28**) like – (**Specified in each chapter as Unified Control System**)

1. **Unified Control System** is a centralized digital platform recommended in the **NCCD Guidelines** to integrate, monitor, and control various components of cold chain facilities. Its primary utility lies in ensuring **real-time visibility, efficiency, safety, and sustainability** of cold storage and associated cold chain operations.

   Key utilities include:

   1. **Centralized Monitoring:** Provides a single point of control for multiple cold rooms, ripening chambers, pack houses, reefer vehicles, and other cold chain components.
   2. **Quality Assurance:** Maintains precise **temperature and relative humidity (RH)** conditions.
   3. **Energy Optimization:** Can tracks power consumption and controls refrigeration cycles.
   4. **Data Logging & Traceability:** Stores historical data for audits, quality certifications.
   5. **Alarm & Alerts:** Generates real-time alarms for deviations.
   6. **Remote Access:** Enables monitoring and control via mobile or web platforms.
   7. **Integration with IoT & Logistics:** Facilitates seamless data exchange between cold storages various components and operations

Working of Unified Control System (UCS):

The UCS integrates **field devices (sensors, actuators, controllers)** with a **central server/cloud platform** to ensure continuous and automated management of cold chain operations through:

1. Sensors
2. Data Transmission
3. Processing & Analysis:
4. Control Actions:
5. User Interface:
6. Reporting & Alerts:

Unified Control System (UCS) for Reefer Vehicles:

Utility

- Maintains required **temperature & RH** during transit.
- Provides **GPS tracking** for route monitoring & geo-fencing.
- Generates **alerts** for deviations (temp, RH, door, fuel, breakdowns).
- Ensures **traceability & compliance** through data logging.
- Optimizes **fuel and energy use** for cost savings.
- Auto-regulation of compressor & fans.
- Remote override of set-points.
- Alerts for temp deviation, door misuse, route diversion, or fuel theft.
- Predictive maintenance alerts.

2. **Automated Computerised System** for labelling is designed to bring transparency, reliability, and efficiency across the horticulture supply chain.

Utility:

The system ensures end-to-end visibility of produce movement from farm to market. By enabling product-level identification through **QR/Bar Code labelling**, it enhances consumer confidence, facilitates quality assurance, and supports market access for farmers. The system also serves as a valuable tool for regulators and policymakers by creating a reliable digital record of produce arrivals, thereby improving monitoring, certification, and compliance with food safety standards. Furthermore, it helps exporters meet international traceability requirements, opening avenues for global trade.

Working:

- At the **point of arrival in Collection Aggregation Centres and Cold Storages**, the produce is registered into the system.
- Using the integrated software, a **QR/Bar code label** is generated for each lot/consignment.
- The label captures essential details such as:
    - Farmer's information (name, location, contact)
    - Date and time of arrival
    - Variety of the crop
    - Batch/lot identification number

- This label accompanies the produce throughout subsequent handling, storage, and transportation stages.
- At each node in the cold chain, the code can be scanned to retrieve and update data, ensuring a continuous and tamper-proof digital trail.
- The information becomes easily accessible to supply chain stakeholders—including aggregators, processors, exporters, and consumers—through a simple scan.

Important Considerations:

1. By combining automation with digital records, the traceability system not only reduces chances of mislabelling or data loss but also strengthens the overall **integrity of the cold chain ecosystem**.
2. To further create a robust and resilient cold chain ecosystem, NCCD is already conducting an infrastructure study and also digitalising the data under various mobile applications viz. Bharat Sheet Mission, traceability and QR etc.
3. The **Sheet Bharat Mission application** being developed by needs Digital Integration (**Unified Control System & Automated Computerised System**) by integrating **IoT automation and end-to-end traceability**, making it a smart cold chain platform.
4. GPS-enabled reefer vehicles with live tracking data can streamline logistics, while crate-level scanning ensures full traceability from loading to delivery. Automated alerts for temperature deviations or delays, along with analytics dashboards, will improve transparency, reduce post-harvest losses, and help NCCD monitor utilization and compliance across the network, ultimately boosting farmer income and trust in the system.

The introduction of **Unified Control Systems (UCS)** and **Automated Computerised Systems** under the new NCCD Engineering Guidelines is a strategic step towards creating a **robust, resilient, and future-ready cold chain ecosystem in India**. While UCS ensures operational efficiency, energy savings, predictive maintenance, and real-time monitoring, the Automated Computerised System guarantees transparency, accountability, and product-level traceability.

Together, these digital interventions will not only minimize post-harvest losses and enhance food safety but will also **increase productivity, improve farmer incomes, build consumer confidence, and open new avenues for export markets**. By integrating these components with national digital platforms such as **Sheet Bharat Mission**, India is positioned to establish a modern, sustainable, and globally competitive cold chain network.

It is therefore requested to kindly ensure that these components as described above under Unified Control System & Automated Computerised System along with all other components mentioned under Mandatory Subsidy Components/Subsidy Components Details should be made mandatory on all projects and ensured that these are clearly stated in the Basic Datasheets and installed at the project sites.

Details of the clarifications/corrections with reference to the NCCD's guidelines and technical standards titled – "Engineering Guidelines and Minimum System Standards for Implementation in Cold Chain Components":

Comp. No.	Description in new Engineering Guidelines	Correction
C-15 (Ripening Chamber)	**Chapter 20 - on page no. 187:** The cold room insulation should be PUF/ PIR or any other new environment friendly insulating material of thickness min. 100 mm sandwiched in either pre-painted GI (0.45 mm Min. thickness) or SS (food grade SS-306) sheets.	**Chapter 20 - on page no. 187:** The cold room insulation should be PUF/ PIR or any other new environment friendly insulating material of thickness min. 60-120 mm sandwiched in either pre-painted GI (0.45 mm Min. thickness) or SS (food grade SS-306) sheets.
C-1 (Farmgate Packhouse)	**Chapter 5 - on page no. 41:** **Farm Gate Standalone Cold Storage** The rationale is to provide short term storage which is able to help the farmer etc. in terms of curtailing the economic loss. In this case, in either of the three options only one can be chosen with capacity maximum upto 10MT/project-	**Chapter 5 - on page no. 41:** **Farm Gate Standalone Cold Storage** The rationale is to provide short term storage which is able to help the farmer etc. in terms of curtailing the economic loss. In this case, out of following options only one can be chosen for construction of single chamber of max. capacity 10MT/ project-
C-12 (Modernisation)	**Chapter 23 - on page no. 222:** For NHM: Modernisation (Synthetic Refrigerant): Change of refrigerant and retrofitting a) For GWP range 500 to 1000 b) For GWP range 500 to 1000 **Page no. 224** For NHB: Modernisation (Synthetic Refrigerant): Change of refrigerant and retrofitting a) For GWP range 500 to 1000 b) For GWP range 500 to 1000	**Chapter 23 - on page no. 222:** For NHM: Modernisation (Synthetic Refrigerant): Change of refrigerant and retrofitting a) For GWP range 500 to 1000 b) For GWP range 1000 to 1500 **Page no. 224** For NHB: Modernisation (Synthetic Refrigerant): Change of refrigerant and retrofitting a) For GWP range 500 to 1000 b) For GWP range 1000 to 1500

It is also important to note that Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) are mandatory under Unified Control System component. For the projects where three (3) number of compressors are proposed, it is mandatory to install two (2) number of VFDs.

राष्ट्रीय बागवानी बोर्ड
National Horticulture Board

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