

## Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### 1. **What is the objective of implementation of PMFBY scheme?**

PMFBY is a risk mitigation tools aims at providing financial support and stabilizing the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming. It covers the perils to the crops arising out of unforeseen events at all stages, i.e. from sowing to post harvest. It also encourages the farmers to adopt the modern and innovative agriculture practices in order to have a stabilize income and sustainable production in agriculture sector.

#### 2. **Who are eligibly covered under this scheme?**

All Farmer having insurable interest can be covered under these scheme including sharecroppers and tenant farmers. Further, Covered farmer are divided under 2 components:-

##### a. **Compulsory Component**

All farmers availing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO) loans from Financial Institutions (i.e. loanee farmers) for the notified crop(s) would be covered compulsorily. It is mandatory for all loanee cultivators to insist on insurance coverage as per provisions of the Scheme.

- ✓ Any change in crop plan should be brought to the notice of the bank within one week of sowing.
- ✓ Insurance Proposals are accepted only upto a stipulated cut-off date as declared by the SLCCCI.

##### b. **Voluntary Component**

The Scheme would be optional for the non-loanee farmers and cultivators desirous of availing insurance under PMFBY for any notified crop in any notified insurance unit may approach nearest bank branch/ PACS/ authorized channel partner/ insurance intermediary of insurance company within cut-off date, fill-up proposal form completely in prescribed format, submit form and deposit requisite premium to bank branch/ Insurance Intermediary / CSC Centers along with necessary documentary evidence regarding his insurable interest in cultivating land/ crop (e.g. ownership/ tenancy/ cultivation rights) proposed for insurance.

- ✓ The farmer desiring for coverage should open/operate an account in the branch of the designated bank, and the details should be provided in the proposal form.
- ✓ The farmers should mention their land identification number in the Proposal and must provide documentary evidence with regard to possession of cultivable land. The cultivator must furnish area sown confirmation certificate.
- ✓ The farmer should ensure that he gets insurance coverage for a notified crop(s) cultivated/proposed to be cultivated, in a piece of land from a single source only. No duplicate or double Insurance is allowed and in any such cases farmer will not be eligible for coverage. The insurance company shall reserve the right to repudiate all such claims and not refund the premium as well in such cases.
- ✓ Company may also take legal action against such farmers.

Scheme also aims a covering maximum farmers under SC/ ST/ and Women Farmers under both these components.

#### 3. **Which crop can be covered under this scheme?**

- a. Food Crops (Cereals, Millets and Pulses)
- b. Oilseeds
- c. Annual Commercial /Annual Horticulture Crops

4. **What are the stages of crops and risk covered under this scheme?**

A. **Prevented Sowing/ Planting Risk:** In case of majority of insured crops of a notified area are prevented from sowing/planting due to adverse weather conditions such as deficit rainfall or adverse seasonal conditions, the insured crops that will be eligible for indemnity claims upto maximum of 25% of the sum-insured.

- I. **Coverage** is applicable to farmers in case of widespread incidence of eligible risks affecting crops in more than 75% of area sown in a notified unit at early stage leading to total loss of crop or farmer is not in a position to either sow or transplant the crop ( or ) either sowing or germination of crop due to deficit or excess rain fall.
- II. **Eligibility Criteria:**  
Only those farmers who have paid the premium / the premium has been debited from their account before the damage. The State Government would provide Notified Insurance Unit and crop wise normal area sown at the beginning of the season within 15 days.  
“Prevented Sowing/ Planting” pay-out only if more than 75% of Crop Sown Area for notified crop remained unsown due to occurrence of any of the above perils.
- III. **Loss assessment procedure:**
  - ✓ The cover will be available for major crops only.
  - ✓ The payout will be 25% of total sum insured and the policy will be terminated after that.

Note: The Insurance company will disburse claims within 30 days of State Govt notification / order, subject to receipt of premium, as per scheme guidelines.

B. **Standing Crop (Sowing to Harvesting):** Comprehensive risk insurance is provided to cover yield losses due to non- preventable risks, viz. Drought, Dry spells, Flood, Inundation, Pests and Diseases, Landslides, Natural Fire and Lightening, Storm, Hailstorm, Cyclone, Typhoon, Tempest, Hurricane and Tornado.

- I. **On account** payment of claims due to mid season adversity of claims is applicable for standing crops in case of floods, prolonged dry spells, severe drought etc , where expected yield will be less than 50%.
- II. **Eligibility Criteria for farmers** who have paid the premium or whose premium has been debited from their account before the damage.

Note: If adversity occurs within 15 days before the normal harvest time, this provision will not be invoked. The provision is invoked by the State Government through damage notification based on the proxy Indicators.

III. **Loss assessment procedure:**

Joint Loss Assessment so conducted with government and if applicable the On-account payment would be calculated as per following formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Threshold Yield} - \text{Estimated Yield})}{\text{Threshold Yield}} \times \text{Sum Insured} \times 25\%$$

Note: Maximum amount payable would be 25% of the likely claims, subject to adjustment against final claims.

#### **IV. Time frame for loss assessment and submission of report**

Eligibility on account Loss Details will provided by government within 7 days after the damage. Loss assessment will be completed within 15 days after the damage.  
The On-account payment would be disbursed by the insurance company, subject to receipt of premium, as per scheme guidelines

#### **C. Post-Harvest Losses:** coverage is available only up to a maximum period of two weeks from harvesting for those crops which are allowed to dry in cut and spread condition in the field after harvesting against specific perils of cyclone and cyclonic rains and unseasonal rains.

- I. The damage to the harvested crop after “cut and spread” in field due to cyclone, cyclonic rains and unseasonal rains throughout the country resulting in damage to harvested crop  
Maximum period is two weeks (14 days) from harvested date to drying purpose
- II. **Eligibility criteria:** Only those farmers who have paid the premium / the premium has been debited from their account before the damage  
Damaged by specified perils, up to 14 days after the harvesting is done.

#### **III. Loss assessment procedure:**

Farmer needs to provide Intimation with in 72 hrs after the damage should be provided on our call center number **1800 266 0700** and Intimation must contain details of survey number-wise insured crop and acreage affected  
Farmer should also subsequently provide the filled Claim form along with all relevant documents as requisite for payment of claims  
The Loss assessor will be appointed and assessment will be completed within stipulated timelines post which the claims will be settled after the loss assessment report is finalized, subject to receipt of premium ,as per scheme guidelines

#### **D. Localized Calamities:** Loss/ damage resulting from occurrence of identified localized risks of hailstorm, landslide, and Inundation affecting isolated farms in the notified area.

- I. If crop losses occur due to any localized perils/calamities such as Landslide, Hailstorm and inundation which affect part of a notified unit or a plot the farmer is eligible to claim for a localized calamity.
- II. **Eligibility criteria:**  
Only those farmers who have paid the premium / the premium has been debited from their account before the damage can claim.

Note: Maximum pay-out would be in proportion to cost of inputs, incurred up to the occurrence of insured peril, subject to the sum insured.  
If the payout under area approach (based on CCEs data) is more than localized losses, the higher claims of two will be payable to insured farmers, subject to receipt of premium, as per scheme guidelines

#### **III. Loss assessment procedure:**

Farmer needs to provide Intimation within 72 hrs after the damage should be provided on our call center number **1800 266 0700** and Intimation must contain details of survey number-wise insured crop and acreage affected. Farmer should also subsequently provide the filled Claim form along with all relevant documents as requisite for payment of claims. The Loss assessor will be appointed and assessment will be completed within stipulated timelines post which the claims will be settled after the loss assessment report is finalized.

**Note: Losses arising out of war and nuclear risks, malicious damage and other preventable risks shall be excluded.**

**5. What are the Preconditions for implementation of this scheme?**

- a. State/ UT should conduct requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) at notified insurance unit area on a sliding scale basis.
- b. State/ UT to submit CCE based yield data to insurance companies within the prescribed time limits i.e. within one month from the date of final harvest.
- c. State/ UT should facilitate strengthening of automatic weather station network for the purpose of on account payment settlement.
- d. State/ UT to adopt modern technology for conduct of CCEs.

**6. What are the Premium Rates charged under this scheme?**

Actuarial premium rates to be charged under PMFBY scheme are as follow:-

- a. For Kharif Crops, the maximum premium rates payable by the farmers is **2 %** of Sum Insured or Actuarial premium rate whichever is less.
- b. For Rabi Crops, the maximum premium rates payable by the farmers is **1.5 %** of Sum Insured or Actuarial premium rate whichever is less.
- c. For Kharif and Rabi Crops, the maximum premium rates payable by the farmers is **5 %** of Sum Insured or Actuarial premium rate whichever is less.

**7. What would be the Normal Premium subsidy ratio?**

- a. Difference between actuarial premium rate and farmer payable premium rate shall be treated as Normal premium subsidy rate, which shall be shared equally by Central and State Govt.\
- b. *However, the State/ UT Governments are free to extend additional subsidy over and above the stipulated subsidy from its budget*

**8. What is Sum Insured Limit for individual farmer?**

- a. Sum Insured for individual farmer is equal to scale of finance per hectare multiplied by area of notified crop by the farmers for insurance.

**9. What are the indemnity levels under this scheme?**

- a. The level of indemnity under PMFBY scheme is defined at 3 levels: -70% corresponding to **High Risk**, 80% to **Moderate Risk** and 90% to **Low Risk**. SLCCCI in consultation with Insurance Company approves the above indemnity level for notified crop and area.

**10. What is the Seasonality Cut-off dates disciplines?**

- a. Post issuance of administrative instruction from Govt. Of India for implementation of PMFBY scheme. SLCCCI would conduct the meeting to finalize various terms and conditions on Notification of crops, Notified area, Scale of finance, Indemnity level etc., along with issuance of bid notice.
- b. **SLCCCI** to issue notification and its circulation to all concern implementing agencies of their respective states at least one month in advance of the commencement of crop seasons i.e. For Kharif is **March** and Rabi is **September**.
- c. Uploading of all requisite information of notification on the Crop Insurance portal([www.agri-insurance.gov.in](http://www.agri-insurance.gov.in)) in co-ordination with State Govt. and selected implementing agency should be made available within one week from issuance of notification.
- d. For Bankers, Loaning Period for covering of loanee farmers under compulsory components would be, for Kharif – **April to July** and Rabi – **October to December**.
- e. For Bankers, Cut-off dates for receipt of proposal form/ debit of premium from farmers account for both Loanee and Non loanee farmers would be, for Kharif – **31<sup>st</sup> July** and Rabi – **31<sup>st</sup> December**.
- f. For Insurance Companies, Cut-off dates for receipt of consolidated declaration/ proposal from Nodal bank/ Bank branches would be within **15 days** for Loanee farmers and **7 days** for Non loanee farmers from cut-off date of debit of premium from farmers account for Kharif and Rabi season respectively.
- g. For Insurance companies, Cut-off dates for receipt of Proposal from designated Insurance Agent's would be within 7 days of receipt of declaration/ premium respectively.
- h. For Banker and intermediaries, Cut-off dates for uploading of soft copy of individual insured farmers in crop insurance portal would be, within 15 days after cut-off date of collection of premium.
- i. For State Govt. / UT, Cut-off dates for receipt of Yield data by Insurance Companies from State Govt./ UT would be, within one month from the date of final harvest.
- j. For Insurance Companies, Cut-off dates for payment of final claims based on yield data would be, within three weeks from the receipt of yield data from the State Govt.
- k. It may be noted that neither DAC & FW nor any State/ UT Government will be authorized to extend the cut-off dates of seasonality under any circumstance once it is fixed and notified.

**11. Basic requirements of Insurers for pricing or to derive the premium rate?**

- a. The scheme shall operate on the principle of Area Approach in the selected define area called **Insurance Unit (IU)**. State Govt. should notify the Insurance Unit to Village Panchayat or other equivalent units for **Major Crops** and unit size above the level of Village/ Village Panchayat for **Minor Crops**.
- b. SLCCCI to provide at least past 10 years historical yield data based on insurance unit for Major and Minor Crops in a standard format within stipulated time.

- c. Also furnish Insurance Unit wise Area sown of insured crops within two month from sowing period to insurance company.
- d. Calamity years if any, declared in respect of any district/ area for that year to be provide to insurance company for calculation of premium rates.
- e. Sum Insured per hectare for both loanee and non-loanee farmers will besame and equal to the Scale of Finance as decided by the District LevelTechnicalCommittee, and SLCCCI to pre declare and notify the same to Insurance companies.

**12. What is the collection process of proposal and premium from loanee farmers?**

a. Loanee Farmer under Compulsory component – Financial institutions

Based on seasonality of Crops, banks should separately calculate the eligibility of loan amount for both Kharif and Rabi seasons based on the scale of Finance and declared acreage of individual loanee farmer under notified crops and shall be taken into consideration for compulsory coverage.

Crop loan under Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) are also covered under compulsory coverage through banks and shall maintain all records relating to compliance with these scheme.

Nodal Bank will be responsible for collection of proposal and premium from loanee farmer.

Individual bank branches for Commercial Banks/ RRBs shall act as Nodal branch. Necessary guidelines to concerned bank branches will be governed by concerned Lead bank and Regional offices/ Administrative offices of commercial banks/ RRBs.

Declaration submitted by Nodal banks/ Branches shall contain details about Insurance Unit, sum insured per unit, premium per unit, total area insured, and category of farmers covered (small and marginal or other) and number of farmers under other categories (SC/ ST/ others) / Women along with their bank account details etc. (bank / their branches) as per the format envisaged / provided in the crop insurance portal.

*The bank branches of commercial banks/ RRBs will directly submit the consolidated proposals along with details of insured farmers in the format as governed in the crop insurance portalwithin the stipulated time.*

Nodal Banks/ Intermediaries to collect the list of individual farmers with requisite details like Farmer name, Bank A/c No, Village, Category of farmers, Acreages, Crop, Sum Insured, Premium Collected, Govt. Subsidy etc., from concerned branches in soft copy and send the same to insurance company along with declaration within 15 days of final cut-off dates.

**13. What is the collection process of proposal and premium from loanee farmers?**

a. Non Loanee Farmer under Optional component - Channel partner/ Intermediaries

All those farmers who have not availed the SOA loans and having the insurable interest can be covered simply by visiting to nearest commercial bank or Regional Rural Bank (RRB) or PACS (DCCB) branch. Bank official will assist and guide the farmers related to filling of the proposal form, relevant documents, Sum insured and applicable premium Etc. Operating a bank account is essential for such cases.

All those farmers who have not availed the SOA loans and having the insurable interest can also be covered simply by filling the proposal form and relevant documents with requisite premium amount and can submit the same to approved and designated by **IRDA, Intermediaries. Designated intermediaries to verify the insurable interest and relevant document pertaining to Land Record, 7/ 12 Extract or Record of Land**

**Rights, Sowing Certificate, ID Proof, Bank Passbook, Cancelled Cheque – Only if required Photo id not available in bank passbook and applicable contract/ agreement in case of sharecroppers or tenants.** Intermediaries to collect and submit the requisite premium and remit individual/ consolidated premium to insurance company, accompanied by individual proposal forms and summary details in Declarations/ Listing sheet (MIS), provide soft copy to IA and details of each insured farmer and will also upload the data directly to the crop insurance portal.

b. Non Loanee Farmer under Optional component – Directly to Insurance Companies.

Non loanee farmers having insurable interest can send the proposal form through Post to insurance companies Or can also avail insurance through insurance companies Online portal or through Crop Insurance portal with requisite premium and relevant document i.e. Land record or applicable Agreement/ Contract in case of sharecroppers or tenants.

Insurance companies retain the right to accept or reject the insurance proposal. Premium will be refunded by insurance companies within 1 month of receipt of proposal, if any proposals are rejected. To download Proposal form click here [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#)

**14. What is the process to inform the company about crop sown and changes?**

In case the farmer changes the crop to be sown, he should intimate the change to insurance company, at least 30 days before cut-off-date for buying insurance or sowing either through financial institution/ channel partner/ insurance intermediary/ directly; as the case may be, along with difference in premium payable, if any, accompanied by sowing certificate issued by concerned village/ sub-district level official of the State. In case the premium paid was higher, insurance company will refund the excess.

**15. How is the assessment of claim done?**

- a. If the Actual yield per hectare of insured crops for the insurance unit (calculated on the basis of requisite no. of CCEs) in insured season falls short of specified Threshold yield, all insured farmer in that defined area and crop are deemed to have suffered shortfall in yield.

'Claim' shall be calculated as per the following formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Threshold Yield} - \text{Actual Yield})}{\text{Threshold Yield}} \times \text{Sum Insured}$$

Where,

Threshold yield is the average yield of past seven years (excluding a maximum of two calamity year(s) as notified by State Government/ UT) multiplied by applicable indemnity level for that crop.

- b. Settlement of claim to the farmers would commence once premium subsidy from Central and State/ UT Govt. have been received for the season by insurance company.
- c. After receiving the claim amount from concerned insurance companies, the financial institution/ banks should remit the claim amount to beneficiaries farmer account within 1 week and should display the complete details of beneficiaries at branch offices within 7

days and send the report to insurance companies along with utilization certificate for verification and audit.

- d. In case of farmers covered through voluntary basis i.e. Intermediaries, payable claim will be directly credited into individual farmer accounts with an intimation of claim details by insurance company.

**16. Is there any timelines for enrollment in the scheme?**

All enrolments need to necessarily be completed within the cutoff date as defined in the respective State Government notification and farmer share of premium duly remitted by the Bank or Intermediary within the cut off date to the Insurance Company. In case of any delays beyond the cut off dates the Insurance company has the right to reject coverage.

**17. What are the Commission and Bank charges payable?**

Bank and other financial institutions etc. shall be paid service charges @4% of the premium collected from farmers. Rural agents engaged in providing insurance related services to farmers may be paid appropriate commission as decided by the insurance company, subject to as prescribed under IRDA regulations.

**18. Is service tax applicable under this scheme?**

PMFBY is exempted from Service Tax.