

Five Successful Years of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY)

(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare)

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Introduction

Launched on September 12, 2019, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojna (PM-KMY) has been providing social security to all land-holding Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs) across the country.



This old-age pension scheme is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme. Under the initiative, eligible small and marginal farmers are given a fixed monthly pension of Rs. 3,000 after attaining the age of sixty. To qualify, farmers contribute monthly to the pension fund during their working years, with matching contributions from the central government.

This landmark scheme to provide a safety net to farmers in their old age has completed five years of its implementation.

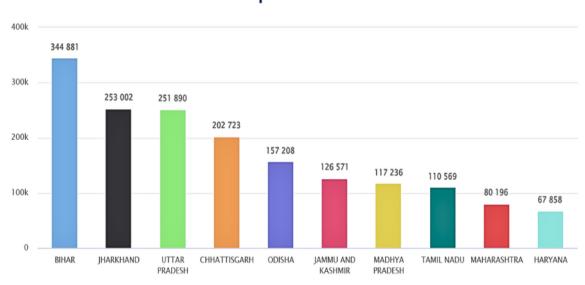
Successful Implementation of PM-KMY

Under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojna (PM-KMY), small and marginal farmers can enroll by paying a monthly subscription to the Pension Fund. Farmers aged between 18 and 40 years need to contribute between Rs. 55 to Rs. 200 per month until they turn 60.

Once they reach the age of 60, enrolled farmers receive a monthly pension of Rs. 3,000, provided they meet the scheme's <u>exclusion criteria</u>. The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) manages the pension fund, and beneficiary registration is facilitated through Common Service Centres (CSCs) and State Governments.

All farmers with cultivable land holdings of up to 2 hectares and listed in state/UT land records as of 1st August 2019 are eligible for benefits under the scheme. As of August 6, 2024, a total of 23.38 lakh farmers have joined the scheme.¹

Under the scheme, Bihar leads with over 3.4 lakh registrations while Jharkhand ranks second with over 2.5 lakh registrations.



Top 10 States

Further, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha have over 2.5 lakh, 2 lakh, and 1.5 lakh farmer registrations, respectively. The huge registration reflects strong uptake in these states, highlighting the scheme's reach and impact in providing social security to farmers. The widespread participation also underscores the growing awareness and adoption of the PM-KMY initiative among small and marginal farmers.

Key Benefits Under PM-KMY

❖ Minimum Assured Pension: Each subscriber to the scheme is guaranteed a minimum pension of Rs. 3000 per month upon reaching the age of 60 years

¹ https://sansad.in/getFile/loksabhaguestions/annex/182/AU2460 7AgQm0.pdf?source=pgals

- ❖ Family Pension: If a subscriber passes away while receiving their pension, their spouse will be entitled to a family pension equal to 50% of the amount the subscriber was receiving i.e. Rs.1500 per month as Family Pension. This is only applicable if the spouse is not already a beneficiary of the scheme. The family pension benefit is exclusively for the spouse.
- ❖ PM-KISAN Benefit: SMFs can choose to use their PM-KISAN benefits to make voluntary contributions to the scheme. For this, eligible SMFs must sign and submit an enrolment-cum-auto-debit-mandate form. This will authorize automatic debit of their contributions from the bank account where their PM-KISAN benefits are credited.
- ❖ Equal Contribution by Government: The Central Government, through the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, also contributes an equal amount as contributed by the eligible subscriber, to the pension Fund
- ❖ Monthly Contributions: Monthly contributions are in the range from Rs. 55 to Rs. 200, based on the farmer's age at the time of entry into the Scheme, according to the contribution chart.

Entry Age	Superannuation Age	Member's contribution (Rs.)	Government's contribution (Rs.)	Total contribution (Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
18	60	55	55	110
19	60	58	58	116
20	60	61	61	122
21	60	64	64	128
22	60	68	68	136
23	60	72	72	144
24	60	76	76	152
25	60	80	80	160
26	60	85	85	170
27	60	90	90	180
28	60	95	95	190
29	60	100	100	200
30	60	105	105	210
31	60	110	110	220
32	60	120	120	240
33	60	130	130	260
34	60	140	140	280
35	60	150	150	300
36	60	160	160	320
37	60	170	170	340
38	60	180	180	360
39	60	190	190	380
40	60	200	200	400

Entry Age-Specific Monthly Contribution Chart

Enrolment Process

To enroll in the scheme, eligible farmers need to visit the nearest Common Service Center (CSC) or contact the Nodal Officer (PM-Kisan) appointed by the State or UT Governments. Registration can also be completed through the scheme's official web portal at www.pmkmy.gov.in.

The beneficiary will provide the following information at the time of registration:

- Farmer's / Spouse's name and date of birth
- Bank account number
- IFSC/ MICR Code
- Mobile Number
- Aadhaar Number

Leaving the Pension Scheme

- 1) If an eligible subscriber exits the Scheme within less than ten years of joining, then the share of contribution will be returned along with the savings bank rate of interest payable thereon
- 2) If the subscriber exits after ten years but before reaching age sixty, they will receive their contributions plus accumulated interest, either as earned by the Pension Fund or at the savings bank rate, whichever is higher
- 3) Suppose a subscriber dies while making regular contributions. In that case, their spouse can either continue the Scheme with regular contributions or exit by receiving the subscriber's contributions plus accumulated interest, as earned by the Pension Fund or at the savings bank rate, whichever is higher
- 4) Upon the subscriber's and spouse's death, the remaining corpus shall be returned to the fund

Conclusion

Over five years of implementation, the PM-KMY has significantly empowered Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs) across India. One of the key achievements of PM-KMY is its role in providing financial stability to farmers, many of whom face uncertain futures due to the seasonal nature of agriculture and fluctuating incomes.

By securing a pension for their retirement years, the scheme has addressed a significant gap in social security for the rural population. Its success over the past five years underscores its critical role in enhancing one of the country's 'Annadata' quality of life.

References

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