Disclaimer: The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and the responses hereunder are a synopsis of the queries/ clarifications raised by stakeholders over time. These are for general information and guidance only. These questions and responses have been framed keeping in view possible doubts that may arise and are not based on individual cases; therefore, it is not to be taken as a final view of the Ministry on the extant provisions of the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme under Prime Minister Formalization of Micro Enterprises.

Contents

General Overview of the PMFME Scheme

Q.1 What is the PMFME Scheme?

Ans. It is a centrally sponsored scheme launched to formalize and strengthen micro food processing enterprises across India.

For more information about scheme, kindly check the video link given below

About the scheme **English Video Link**

https://youtu.be/6Yzo8mn81XI?si=w56AhnR4zLvD1f7U

Hindi Video Link

https://youtu.be/_gNMQpDZY6I?si=Zk0jJA4dQ90r2qDr

Q.2 What is the total outlay of the scheme?

Ans. The scheme has an outlay of ₹10,000 crore over 6 years (2020–2026).

Q.3 How is the expenditure shared between Centre and States?

Ans. 60:40 for most states, 90:10 for North Eastern & Himalayan states, 100% by Centre for UTs without legislature.

Q.4 What is the coverage target?

Ans. It aims to formalize, upgrade, and support 2,00,000 micro food processing units through financial, technical, and infrastructural assistance.

Q.5 What is the definition of a micro enterprise?

Ans. Micro Enterprise is an enterprise where the investment in Plant and Machinery or Equipment is not more than Rs. 2.5 crore and Annual Turnover is not more than Rs. 10 crore.

FAQs on Credit Linked Subsidy

Eligible Project Cost (PMFME)

Q.1 What is considered as eligible project cost under PMFME?

Ans. The eligible cost includes Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Work (<30% of eligible project cost).

Q.2 Are land and building costs included?

Ans. No. Cost of land, rental, or lease work shed is not covered.

Q.3 Is there a maximum limit for technical civil work?

Ans. Yes. Technical civil work should not exceed 30% of the eligible project cost.

Support for Individual Category

Q.1 What level of financial support is available for individual micro enterprises?
Ans. Individuals can avail credit-linked capital grant @35%, with a maximum ceiling of ₹10 lakh per unit.

Q.2 Who is eligible in the individual category?
Ans. Eligible applicants include:

- Individual entrepreneurs
- Proprietorship Firms
- Partnership Firms
- Startups
- Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)
- NGOs
- Cooperatives
- Pvt. Ltd. Companies
- Self Help Groups (SHGs) or SHG members (as a single food processing unit)

Q.3 What contribution is required from the beneficiary?
Ans. At least 10% of project cost. The balance (including Grants-in-Aid) should be arranged as a bank loan.

Q.4 Who is eligible – new or existing units?
Ans. Both new micro food processing enterprises and existing units seeking expansion/upgradation are eligible.

Q.5 Are ODOP enterprises compulsory?
Ans. No. While ODOP enterprises are preferred, non-ODOP enterprises are also eligible.

Q.6 What is the age requirement?
Ans. The applicant must be above 18 years.

Q.7 Is there any educational qualification required?
Ans. No minimum educational qualification is required.

Q.8 What ownership rights are required?
Ans. The applicant must have ownership right over the enterprise premises (ownership, rental, or leasehold).

Q.9 How many members per family can avail support?
Ans. Only one person per family (self, spouse, children) can get assistance.

Q.10 Is prior turnover or experience mandatory for eligibility?
Ans. No, there is no precondition of minimum turnover or experience for organizations to apply.

Q.11 Do individuals need DPR support?
Ans. Yes, DPR is mandatory, prepared with DRP support.

Q.12 What are the DPR parts to be filled?
Ans. Applicant details, Business details, Financial details, Lending bank details, Upload documents, Declaration & submit.

Q.13 Can an applicant who has taken loans under other schemes apply?
Ans. Yes. Applicants are eligible even if they have availed loans under other government subsidy-linked schemes.

Q.14 Can applicants avail multiple government schemes simultaneously?
Ans. Yes. Applicants can also avail Interest Subvention and Top-Up convergence with other schemes.

Q.15 How do I register on the portal?
Ans. Visit the PMFME portal registration link. After filling basic details, login credentials are sent by email.
Link: PMFME Registration : https://pmfme.mofpi.gov.in/pmfme/#/Register-New-User

Forgot/reset Password:

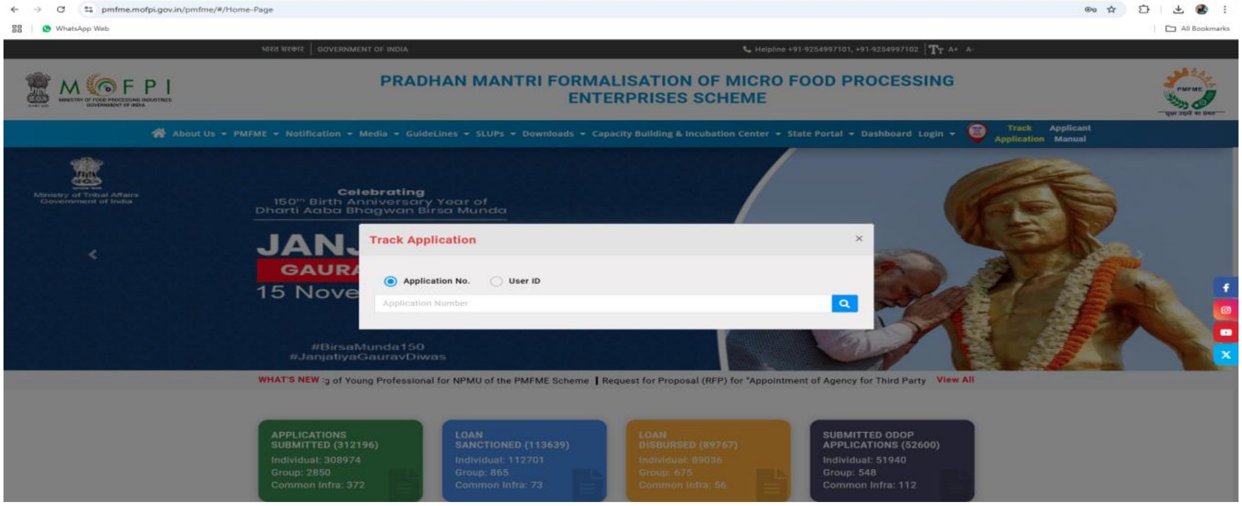
- User needs to click on Forgot Password on MIS login page.
- A popup will appear to enter USER ID and an option to send OTP either on email or mobile. After selecting, an OTP will send to the respective Email / Mobile.
- Enter the OTP received, new password, confirm password and captcha then click on "Update" button to change the password.

Q.16 What types of property are allowed for units?
Ans. Owned, rented, or leased premises (lease/rent should cover loan repayment period).

Q.17 Is GST mandatory for machinery quotations?
Ans. Yes, machinery quotations must include GST details.

Q.18 How can an applicant check application status?
Ans. By logging into the PMFME portal with user credentials.
Link: PMFME Home : https://pmfme.mofpi.gov.in/pmfme/#/Home-Page

Or Click on the Track Status as indicated in the image below.



Q.19 Can subsidy be availed for working capital?
Ans. No, subsidy is provided only for plant & machinery and technical civil works.

<u>Support for Group Category (Common Infrastructure)</u>

Q1. What level of financial support is available for groups?
Groups can avail **credit-linked capital subsidy @35%**, with a maximum ceiling of **₹3 crore**.

Q2. What constitutes eligible project cost for groups?

- Plant & machinery
- Technical civil works (≤30% of total project cost)
- **Excludes:** land, rental, or lease work shed

Q3. Who is eligible in the group category?

- Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)
- Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs)
- Cooperatives
- Self Help Groups (SHGs) & their Federations
- Government Agencies

Q4. What is the maximum project cost allowed for groups?
Ans. There is no maximum project cost limit.

Q5. Is prior turnover or experience required for groups?
Ans. No. There is **no precondition of turnover or prior experience**.

Q6. Are both ODOP and non-ODOP projects eligible?
Ans. Yes. Both categories are eligible for assistance.

Q7. What must be obtained before applying on the portal?

Ans. Before applying on the portal, the applicant organization is also required to submit in-principle approval from the lending bank for the loan envisaged in the means of finance of the project.

Q8. Must group facilities be shared?
Ans. Yes. The **substantial capacity** of infrastructure and processing lines must be made available to other units and the public on a **hiring basis**.

Q9. What assistance is available for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR)?

Ans. Applicant organizations are eligible for **support of ₹50,000 per case** towards preparation of a DPR, which is provided **after the loan is sanctioned by the bank**.

Q10. Is hiring a DRP mandatory for groups?
Ans. No. Groups can engage **any professional or agency** with experience in DPR preparation.

Q11. Is there a minimum contribution requirement for groups?
Ans. Yes. Groups must contribute at least **10% of the project cost**, with the remaining funded by bank loan.

Q12. When is grant disbursed?

Ans. After disbursement of at least 35% of the project cost, the grant is credited to the bank's transient account, where it remains for 3 years or until the account becomes NPA.

Q13. On what basis is project eligibility decided?

Ans. Factors include benefit to farmers and industry, viability gap, lack of private investment, and criticality to the value chain.

Q14. Can incubation centres be used for training?

Ans. Yes, partly. They must also be run on a commercial basis.

Q15. What is the first step for groups seeking assistance?

Ans. Preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) in the prescribed format.

Q16. What must the DPR include?

Ans. Details like project cost, manpower, turnover, marketing channels, raw material sources, P&L account, cash flow, etc.

Q17. To whom should DPRs be submitted?

Ans. The DPR must be submitted to the State Nodal Agency (SNA).

Q18. Can training support be included in DPR?

Ans. The DPR may also contain proposal for training support to the group members based on the training hours & modules, as prescribed and the cost norms of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Q19. How is training funded?

Ans. Training and capacity-building components are fully funded by the Centre under the scheme.

Q20. What condition applies to the capacity created?
Ans. The substantial capacity and processing line set up under the scheme must be made available for other units and the public on a **hiring basis**.

FAQs – Application Flow under PMFME

Stage 1: Registration / Draft Stage & Submission Stage

Q1. Where does the applicant start the process?
Ans. By registering on the PMFME Portal with KYC details, land/lease documents, machinery quotations, and construction estimates.

Q2. What happens after registration?
Ans. Login credentials and DRP contact details are sent to the registered email ID.

Q3. What is the "Draft Stage"?
Ans. When mandatory documents are incomplete or missing, the application stays in **Draft Stage** until corrected.

Q4. What is the "Submission Stage"?
Ans. If documents and DPR are complete, the application automatically moves to **Submitted Stage**.

Q5. What documents are mandatory for submission?
Ans. KYC (Aadhaar, PAN), ownership/lease rights of land (lease must be longer than loan period), machinery quotations (with GST), and construction estimates.

Q6. What is the minimum lease period required for eligibility?
Ans. Lease/rental period must be **longer than the loan repayment period**.

Q7. Can one mobile number be used for multiple registrations?
Ans. No. Registration is allowed only once per mobile number.

Q8: Can DPRs be modified after submission?

Ans. Yes, revised DPRs and documents can be uploaded for bank appraisal.

Stage 2: DRP Stage

Q9. What is the main responsibility of a DRP?
Ans. To handhold beneficiaries by preparing DPRs, verifying documents, and ensuring applications are complete.

Q10. What financial checks must DRPs verify?
DPR ratios like **DSCR ≥ 1.5**, **positive BEP**, **profit margin ≥ 2%**, along with quotations and construction cost estimates.

Q11. Is a field visit required by DRP?
Ans. Yes, DRPs must conduct site visits and upload photos of the existing or proposed unit.

Q12. Is the DRP mandatory for individuals?
Ans. Yes, for individual applications.

Q13. What site verification must DRP do?
Ans. DRPs must visit the project site and upload geo-tagged photos.

Q14. Can DRPs assist in revising applications after deficiencies?
Ans. Yes, DRPs support correction and resubmission.

Stage 3: DNO / SNA Stage

Q15. Who are District Nodal Officers (DNOs)?
Ans. Officials at district level responsible for scrutinizing and recommending applications to banks.

Q16. What happens when an application reaches DNO/SNA?

Ans. In case of Individual Applications, the application would be forwarded by DRPs to DNOs for further recommendation to Lending Bank. In case of Group Common Infrastructure Applications, the application would be forwarded by DRPs to SNA for further recommendation to Lending Bank. However, in case of Group Applications, engaging District Resource Person (DRP) is not mandatory.

Q17. Who approves group applications for Common Infrastructure?
The **State Level Approval Committee (SLAC)** approves/rejects group project proposals. SLAC **Ans.** may also consider delegating the powers for approval of the projects under various components to the Nodal Department implementing this scheme by prescribing appropriate limits.

Q18. What documents are checked at DNO stage?
Ans. Inbuilt DPR, KYC, property ownership/lease/rent papers, financial statements, copy of statutory permissions (applicable for the proposed cost).

Q19. What if deficiencies are found?
Ans. DNO issues deficiency notes, and the application is returned to the beneficiary for correction.

Q20. What role does SNA play for common infrastructure proposals?
Ans. SNA must ensure project cost, DPR quality, in-principle bank approval, and SLAC clearance before forwarding.

Stage 4: Bank Stage

Q21. What is the first step by the bank?
Ans. Banks verify documents, generate Credit Information Report (CIBIL/EQUIFAX), and conduct a personal interview covering his background, brief details of the proposed project with overview of techno – economic viability aspects viz. reasons for opting proposed project, location of the project, land ownership, Raw Material supply, Labour, electricity, water, transport facilities, marketing arrangements, demand for the product, order book etc.

Q22. What security is required?

- Loans ≤ ₹10 lakh: Hypothecation of machinery (MUDRA).
- Loans > ₹10 lakh: Land mortgage -Primary Security, only if the loan is also sought for construction and Machinery for hypothecation (CLU is also required for mortgage except UP, MP, Rajasthan and Maharashtra), and CGTMSE cover (of course with annual guarantee fee to be borne by the beneficiary) or Collateral Security (mortgage of land/building other than the Unit, if the beneficiary is not agreeable for payment of Guarantee Fees

Q23. Does the bank conduct inspections?
Ans. Yes. Pre-sanction site inspection is mandatory to verify project feasibility.

Q24. What is done for loan for construction of shed?
Ans. Title search & valuation reports are conducted, and genuine machinery quotations are verified.

Q25. How are sanctions processed?

Ans. If the sanction falls within delegated authority of the Branch, entire processing and sanction is completed at Branch level and if it falls within delegated authority of higher authorities / Head – Centralized Processing Centre (CPC) - the application, project report, search report, valuation report, permissions, inspection report and other related documents to be forwarded to the CPC for further processing and sanction.

Q26. What happens if the first bank rejects the application?
Ans. It automatically moves to the second preferred bank chosen at registration.

Q27. What happens if the account turns NPA?
Subsidy in the transient account is adjusted against the outstanding loan.

Q28. Can revised DPRs be uploaded at bank stage?
Yes, banks must allow corrected DPRs/documents.

Q29. Can subsidy be claimed on working capital loans?
No. Subsidy is only on fixed capital, not on working capital.

Q30. Can banks reject applications due to DPR mismatch?

Ans. No, banks must allow revised DPR/documents to be uploaded.

Compliance & Formalization

Q1: Which registrations are compulsory for beneficiaries?

Ans. Udyam, FSSAI, GST (where applicable).

Q2: What is the role of DRPs in compliance?

Ans. To ensure beneficiaries obtain all mandatory registrations and certifications.

Q3: Can units operate without registrations?

Ans. No, registration is mandatory under PMFME.

Activities Not Eligible

Q1: Which activities are not eligible for subsidy?

Ans. Trading of unprocessed cereals, pulses, spices, milk, fruits, vegetables, minor forest produce, etc.

Q2: Is loose milk or curd eligible?

Ans. No, selling of unprocessed or loose milk/curd is not covered.

Q3: Is bee keeping or honey repacking supported?

Ans. No, loose selling of honey is not eligible.

Q4: Are hotels, restaurants, or tiffin services eligible?

Ans. No, food service enterprises are not eligible.

Q5: Are poultry, piggery, or goat rearing units eligible?

Ans. No, animal rearing activities are not supported under PMFME.

Document Checklist

Q1: What mandatory documents are needed for new enterprises?

1. PAN Card of concern/all promoters or Form 60.
2. Aadhaar Copy & Photo of all promoters/guarantors
3. Address Proof: Any of Officially Valid Documents-OVD : i. Utility bill, not more than two months old of any service provider, (Electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill) or ii. Property or Municipal tax paid receipt or iii. Ration Card (Individual),iv. Driving Licence,v) Adhar Card, vi) Voter ID Card
4.Detailes of site where Unit is to be established. Whether owned/rented/leased and Proof thereof.
5. Photocopy of Bank Statement/ Bank Passbook for the last 6 months.
6. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment to be purchased.

Q2: What mandatory documents are needed for existing enterprises- Individual/ Firms < ₹1 crore turnover?

1. PAN Card of the concern
2. Aadhaar Copy & Photo of all promoters/ proposed guarantors, if any
3. Address Proof :Any of Officially Valid Documents-OVD : i) Utility bill, not more than two months old of any service provider, (Electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill) or ii. Property or Municipal tax paid receipt or iii. Ration Card (Individual), iv) Driving Licence, v) Adhar Card, vi) Voter ID Card
4. Details of site where Unit is established. Whether owned/rented/leased and Proof thereof.
5. Udhayam Registration Certificate/s/ IE code- wherever applicable/Licenses (Trade License/Shop & Establishment Registration/Panchayat License/Corporation License/Municipality License), Udyam Aadhar, FSSAI, GST-wherever applicable
6. Business Partnership Agreement (If Individual/Proprietor- not applicable)
7. Photocopy of Bank Statement/ Bank Passbook for the last 6 months of the firm
8. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment to be purchased. Photo of the Existing Units.

Q3: What mandatory documents are needed for existing- Individual/ Firms enterprises > ₹1 crore turnover?

1. PAN Card of concern/group concerns/all promoters/guarantors
2. Aadhaar Copy & Photo of all promoters/guarantors
3. Address Proof :Any of Officially Valid Documents-OVD : i) Utility bill, not more than two months old of any service provider, (Electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill) or ii. Property or Municipal tax paid receipt or iii. Ration Card (Individual), iv) Driving Licence, v) Adhar Card, vi) Voter ID Card
4. Udhayam Registration Certificate/s/ IE code- wherever applicable/Licenses (Trade License/Shop & Establishment Registration/Panchayat License/Corporation License/Municipality License)
5. Business Partnership Agreement (If Individual/Proprietor- not applicable)
6. Photocopy of Bank Statement/ Bank Passbook for last 6 months of the firm
7. Details of site where Unit is established. Whether owned/rented/leased? and Proof thereof.
8. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment to be purchased. Photo of the Existing Unit.
9. Audited balance sheet with annexures of max. 3 years with ITR
10. Copy of License as per industry (FSSAI, Pollution Clearance, ESI etc) for existing enterprises
11. GSTIN Registration Certificate
12. GST returns of last financial years
13. List of existing machinery and equipment

Q4: What mandatory documents required for Farmers Producer Companies/FPC/FPO - Existing Enterprises/New Enterprises for Individual applications/Group-Common Infrastructure?

1. PAN Card of Company/ Chairman/Chief Executive
2. Aadhaar Copy & Photo of Chairman/Chief Executive
3. Address Proof: Any one of Officially Valid Documents-OVD : i) Utility bill, not more than two months old of any service provider, (Electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill) or ii. Property or Municipal tax paid receipt or iii. Ration Card (Individual), iv) Driving Licence, v) Adhar Card, vi) Voter ID Card
4.Udhayam Registration Certificate/s/ IE code- wherever applicable/Licenses (Trade License/Shop & Establishment Registration/Panchayat License/Corporation License/Municipality License)
5. Certificate of Incorporation/Registration
6. Memorandum and Articles of Association
7. List of Directors/Shareholders/beneficial owners and brief bio-data attested by authorised signatory –and OVD of each Director duly attested by authorised signatory
8. Board resolution for availing loan/borrowing power/borrowing authority and Power of Attorney, if any, to transact the account.
9. Photocopy of Bank Statement/ Bank Passbook for the last 6 months of the company
10. Audited balance sheet with annexures of max. 3 years with ITR
11. Copy of License as per industry (FSSAI, Pollution Clearance, ESI etc) only for existing enterprises and Nil for new.
12. GSTIN Registration Certificate
13. GST returns of last 3 years (for existing unit)
14. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment to be purchased. List of existing machinery and equipment. Photo of the existing unit
15.Details of site where Unit is established. Whether owned/rented/leased and Proof thereof.

Q5: What mandatory documents required for Co-operative Societies- Existing Enterprises/New Enterprises for Individual applications/Group-Common Infrastructure. cooperatives?

1. PAN Card of Society/Chairman/President/Chief Executive
2. Aadhaar Copy & Photo of Chairman/President/Chief Executive
3. Address Proof: Any one of Officially Valid Documents-OVD : i) Utility bill, not more than two months old of any service provider, (Electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill) or ii. Property or Municipal tax paid receipt or iii. Ration Card (Individual), iv) Driving Licence, v) Adhar Card, vi) Voter ID Card
4.Udhayam Registration Certificate/s/ IE code- wherever applicable/Licenses (Trade License/Shop & Establishment Registration/Panchayat License/Corporation License/Municipality License)
5. Certificate of Co-operative Society registration
6. Copy of Society Bye laws with its amendments if any
7. List of Board Executive Members and brief bio-data attested by authorised signatory
8. Details of share holding pattern attested by authorised signatory
9. Board resolution for availing loan/borrowing power/borrowing authority
10. Photocopy of Bank Statement/ Bank Passbook for the last 6 months of the society

11. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment
12. Audited balance sheet with annexures of max. 3 years with ITR (for existing unit)
13. Copy of License as per industry (FSSAI, Pollution Clearance, ESI etc) for existing enterprises and NIL for new.
14. GSTIN Registration Certificate
15. GST returns of last one year (Existing Units)
16. List of existing machinery and equipment
17. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment to be purchased. Photo of the existing unit.
18.Details of site where Unit is established. Whether owned/rented/leased and Proof thereof

Q6: What Mandatory documents required for Self Help Groups-SHGs/Group-Common Infrastructure?

1. Aadhaar Copy of all the Members of the group
2. List of all the members of the group with photo, contact no. & address of individual members
3. Address Proof: Any one of Officially Valid Documents-OVD : i) Utility bill, not more than two months old of any service provider, (Electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill) or ii. Property or Municipal tax paid receipt or iii. Ration Card (Individual), iv) Driving Licence, v) Adhar Card, vi) Voter ID Card
4. Resolution copy signed by all the members of SHG to avail loans.
5. Estimates and Quotation of all capital expenditure and Machineries and Equipment to be purchased. Photo of the existing unit.
6. Details of Group Savings, loans details etc.
7.Details of site where Unit is established. Whether owned/rented/leased? and Proof thereof.

FAQs on District Resource Persons (DRPs) under PMFME Scheme

Q.1. Who is the DRP of my district and how to contact them?

Ans. The list of DRPs for all 36 States/UTs is available on the Applicant Registration & Login page, and also under the Download section of the PMFME website: https://pmfme.mofpi.gov.in/pmfme/#/Home-Page. You may download the list, search for your State/UT and district, and contact the concerned District Resource Person (DRP).

Q.2. How will my DRP help me?

Ans. The Scheme envisages DRPs at the district/regional level for providing handholding support to micro food processing enterprises. Their functions include:

i. Identification and facilitation of applications for availing credit-linked subsidy.
ii. Assisting micro enterprises in preparing DPRs and getting bank loans sanctioned.
iii. Facilitating upgradation and formalisation of units by obtaining necessary regulatory approvals and certifications, such as FSSAI, Udyam, GST, etc., as applicable.
iv. Coordinating training of beneficiaries or mobilising them for training in collaboration with SNA/SLTI or designated training agencies.
v. Assessing beneficiaries during training programmes and certifying trainee attendance.

Q.3. What to do if my DRP is not helping me / I am unable to contact my DRP?
Ans. If the DRP does not respond to calls/emails, kindly contact the District Nodal Officer (DNO) or State Nodal Agency (SNA). The contact list is available under the Download section of the PMFME website. You may also report the issue to the National Support Team:

- **Phone:** 9254997101, 9254997102, 9254997103, 9254997104, 9254997105
- **Email:** support-pmfme@mofpi.gov.in

Q.4. Is there any fee to be paid to the DRP for their services?
Ans. No fee is to be paid to the DRP by beneficiaries. DRPs are paid under the scheme by the Government based on each successful application supported.

Q.5. My DRP is asking for money. What should I do?
Ans. If any DRP demands money from the applicant, kindly report immediately to the SNA/DNO and copy to Support team.
Payments to DRPs are made directly by the system, based on beneficiaries supported. Each DRP is paid Rs. 20,000 per case — Rs. 10,000 after the sanction letter is uploaded by the bank on the portal, and another Rs. 10,000 after Formalization i.e. uploading FSSAI, Udyam, and GST registrations, wherever applicable, Unit photos with Geo location.

Q.6. Can I take the help of a DRP from a nearby district?
Ans. No. If a DRP is not responding or not appointed for your district, please contact another DRP listed for that district, or reach out to the DNO/SNA.

Q.7. My district has no DRP. What should I do?
Ans. If no DRP is appointed for your district, please contact the concerned DNO or SNA.

Q.8. Should I visit the DRP's office/residence for application filing?
Ans. Beneficiaries may meet the DRP at the District Nodal Offices or as per convenience.

Q.9. How can I verify if someone claiming to be a DRP is genuine?
Ans. Beneficiaries may verify the DRP's details from the official DRP list available on the PMFME website, link as follows: https://pmfme.mofpi.gov.in/mis/#/Login

Q.10. How to become a DRP in the PMFME Scheme?
Ans. Any suitable person (e.g., retired Government/Bank officials, insurance agents, Bank Mitras, consultancy firms, individual professionals, etc.) assisting micro food processing enterprises may be appointed as a DRP by the SNA.

Eligibility: A Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in any field, along with relevant knowledge/experience in DPR preparation. The candidate must not be a Government employee. At least one DRP should be appointed per district, with the option of more than one depending on area and population of the District.

Q.11. How long will the DRP support me during the process?
Ans. DRPs provide end-to-end handholding — from loan application until the bank loan sanction and

Formalization i.e. uploading FSSAI, Udyam, and GST registrations, wherever applicable, Unit photos with Geo location as mandated by the PMFME scheme.

Q.12. If I am not satisfied with the support provided by the DRP, can I request another one?

Ans. Yes. Beneficiaries may escalate the matter to the District Nodal Officer/State Nodal Agency, who can review and reassign support where needed. You may also report the issue to the National Support Team:

- Help Line: 9254997101, 9254997102, 9254997103, 9254997104, 9254997105
- Support Email: support-pmfme@mofpi.gov.in

FAQs on One District One Product (ODOP)

Q: 1. What is ODOP?

Ans. ODOP stands for "One District One Product". It means one product has been identified in every district of India that has some indigenous s traditionally well-known, has production strength, and market potential. The aim is to promote these products through value addition, branding, marketing, and infrastructure support.

Q: 2. What is the ODOP of my district?

Ans. Each district has a notified ODOP. You can check the ODOP of your district: On the PMFME Scheme official portal By contacting the State Nodal Agency (SNA) or District Resource Person (DRP) By calling the PMFME customer care helpline

Q: 3. Can I avail benefits for upgradation of my existing food processing unit?

Ans. Yes. Existing units can apply under the scheme for upgradation. However, the assistance (loan + subsidy) can only be used for capital expenditure such as machinery, equipment, and building improvements – not for working capital.

Q: 4. Is it mandatory to work on the ODOP product of my district?

Ans. No, it is not mandatory. Beneficiaries can choose any food product. Units can avail credit linked subsidy for both ODOP or Non-ODOP product. However, preference and special support (like branding and marketing) will be given to units working on the ODOP product of the district.

Q: 5. Where can I find the complete ODOP list?

Ans. The complete ODOP list is available on the PMFME Scheme Portal. You may also get details from your State Nodal Agency or District Industries Centre (DIC).

Q: 6. Do ODOP-based units get any preference under PMFME?

Ans. Yes. While all eligible food processing units can apply, ODOP units receive priority support in branding, marketing, and common infrastructure facilities.

Q: 7. What financial assistance is available for ODOP beneficiaries?

Ans. Beneficiaries (individuals or groups) working on ODOP as ell as Non ODOP products are eligible for: Credit-linked subsidy of 35% of the project cost (up to ₹10 lakh for individuals). Support for common infrastructure projects (cold storage, packaging centers, processing units, etc.) through FPOs, SHGs, Cooperatives, or Govt. agencies. Branding and marketing assistance for ODOP products.

Q: 8. Are ODOP products eligible for branding and marketing support?

Ans. Yes. ODOP products get special focus for branding, packaging, labeling, and marketing at local, national, and international levels to help them reach bigger markets.

Q: 9. If I choose a non-ODOP product, will I still get support?

Ans. Yes. All eligible food processing units can get credit-linked subsidy and training support. However, branding and marketing support is mainly prioritized for ODOP products.

Q: 10. Can ODOP be changed?

Ans. Yes, the ODOP product can be changed on the recommendation of the State/UT Government with appropriate justification. The proposed ODOPs are then examined and approved by the Ministry.

FAQs on Seed Capital

Q: 1. What is Seed Capital under PMFME Scheme?

Ans. Seed Capital is a financial support given to Self Help Group (SHG) members under the PMFME Scheme to help them start or expand small food processing businesses.

Q: 2. Who can get Seed Capital?

Ans. Only SHG members engaged in food processing activity are eligible. The amount is released to SHG federation as a grant, which then released to SHGs and SHG members.

Q: 3. How much Seed Capital can I get?

Ans. Each SHG member can get up to ₹40,000 as Seed Capital with maximum of Rs. 4 lakh per SHG.

Q: 4. What is the purpose of Seed Capital?

Ans. You can use Seed Capital for: Working capital (buying raw materials, ingredients, packaging, etc.) Small tools and equipment (mixers, grinders, ovens, sealing machines, etc.)

Q: 5. Do I need to repay Seed Capital?

Ans. Yes. Seed Capital under PMFME Scheme is to be repaid to the SHG Federation which would remain in the corpus of the federation.

Q: 6. How can my SHG apply for Seed Capital?

Ans. The SHG members under the ambit of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) may apply for the Seed Capital Support. The SHG members may approach the Community Resource Persons/ SHGs/SHG Federation of SRLM & SULM for applying for Seed Capital.

Q: 7. Are Seed Capital Beneficiaries eligible for Credit Linked Subsidy?

Ans. Yes. An SHG member may first use Seed Capital for starting small activities, and later apply for credit-linked subsidy under PMFME to expand into a bigger unit and the seed capital amount could be used as Margin money by the SHG member.

Q: 8. Are Seed Capital beneficiaries eligible to avail benefits of other components of the Scheme?

Ans. Yes. The Seed Capital beneficiaries are eligible to avail the benefit of Training and Marketing & Branding. For Training, Seed capital beneficiaries are eligible to receive 1 day (8 hours training) on Food Processing Entrepreneurship Development Program.

Q: 9. What documents are required?

Ans. SHG membership Existing business/activity Bank account details Proposed Business and products manufactured Tools proposed

Q10. Can I get Seed Capital and apply for credit-linked subsidy under PMFME?

Ans: Yes. SHG members can first avail Seed Capital and later apply for credit-linked subsidy for larger enterprise expansion, subject to eligibility.

Q11. Can beneficiaries avail interest subvention or credit-linked subsidy benefits from other schemes in addition to the credit-linked subsidy under the PMFME Scheme?

Ans: Yes. Beneficiaries may avail a 3% interest subvention benefit under schemes such as the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF), and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF), in addition to the credit-linked subsidy available under the PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme, subject to their eligibility and the provisions of the respective schemes.

Self-Help Group (SHG) units can avail loans at a subvented interest rate of 7% under the Ministry of Rural Development's scheme, in addition to the credit-linked subsidy available on loans under the PMFME Scheme.

Q12. How can Cooperatives avail loans under the PMFME Scheme if they are not eligible to borrow from Commercial Banks or Gramin Banks?

Ans: Cooperatives that do not qualify for loans from Commercial Banks or Gramin Banks can avail credit-linked subsidy loans through the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) by selecting NCDC as the lending institution in the PMFME MIS portal.

Q13. What benefits do SC and ST beneficiaries get under NSFDC and NSTFDC in the PMFME Scheme?

Ans: The Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) beneficiaries can avail additional support under the PMFME Scheme. Apart from the 35% subsidy on your loan, concessional financial assistance to SC and ST beneficiaries, including term loans at subsidized interest rates up to 3%, is facilitated through Banks empanelled under:

- NSFDC – for SC beneficiaries (National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation)
- NSTFDC – for ST beneficiaries (National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation)

Q14. Are the FPOs under Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) and Cooperatives under National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC) and Ministry of Cooperation eligible to apply under PMFME Scheme?

Ans: Yes, the applicants registered under Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC), and Ministry of Co-operation (MoC) are eligible to apply and avail the benefit under the PMFME Scheme.

FAQs on Branding and Marketing

Q: 1. What is the branding and marketing component under the PMFME Scheme?

Ans. The branding and marketing component provides up to 50% grant support to groups such as FPOs, SHGs, Cooperatives, or SPVs of micro food processing enterprises for activities that help market and brand their processed food products, following the ODOP (One District One Product) approach.

Q: 2. Who is eligible for branding and marketing support?

Ans. Eligibility for branding and marketing support under the PMFME Scheme is designed to strengthen micro food-processing enterprises through collective action and proven management. Groups such as FPO’s , SHG’s, Cooperative, or SPV linked to micro food-processing, with State or regional level proposals relating to ODOP approach are eligible to avail the assistance. Management and Entrepreneurship capability of promoting entity should be established in the proposal. The applicant entity should either have an existing or identified a substantial network of micro-enterprises engaged in processing of the selected products in the relevant district/s.

Q: 3. How can groups apply for branding and marketing assistance?

Ans. Eligible groups need to prepare a detailed project report (DPR) specifying ODOP linkage, value added products, branding, and marketing strategy, proposed financial turnover for the next 3 years and other details as outlined in the guideline for the preparation of the DPR. Applicant entity will submit the DPR to the respective State Nodal Agency for necessary action and approval.

Q: 4. Is there any financial assistance available for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) under the branding and marketing component of the PMFME Scheme?

Ans. Yes, financial assistance upto Rs. 5 lakh is provided for DPR preparation under the branding and marketing component of the PMFME Scheme on re-imbursement basis only after the proposal gets approved by the Ministry.

Q: 5. What expenses are covered under the branding and marketing grant?

Ans. The grant supports expenses for developing a common brand, graphic designing, trademark registration, packaging, product standardization, quality control, marketing tie-ups with retail chains, and related training, promotional activities, warehouse rentals and logistical support. The expenditure to be on hiring basis only.

Q: 6. Will there be any support provided for opening retail outlets?

Ans. No, the scheme does not provide support for opening retail outlets. Branding and marketing support is limited to activities like common branding, packaging, and marketing tie-ups and not infrastructure for individual stores.

Q: 7. What is the process for common brand and packaging development?

Ans. Applicant entities work with state agencies to design a common brand and packaging following standardization protocols for their ODOP product. The level (district or state) is decided by the SNA in consultation with stakeholders.

Q: 8. Are individual micro-enterprises eligible for direct branding and marketing grants?

Ans. Direct support is generally provided to groups (FPOs, SHGs, Cooperatives, SPVs) rather than individual enterprises, to ensure scalable impact and collective marketing benefits.

Q: 9. Is there a time limit to avail branding and marketing support?

Ans. Yes, the PMFME Scheme is active for five years, from 2020-21 to 2024-25 and been extended till 2025-26 and proposals should align with this timeframe.

Q: 10. Whom to contact for additional guidance or queries?

Ans. Applicants and stakeholders can contact the customer care or write to for further assistance on the branding and marketing component.

FAQs on Capacity Building/ Training Support

Q: 1. Is training provided under the PMFME scheme?

Ans. Yes, comprehensive capacity building and training support is an integral component of PMFME.

Q: 2. Who conducts the training programs?

Ans. Master Trainers (MTs) are trained by national institutes like NIFTEM Kundli and NIFTEM Thajavur. District Level Trainers (DLTs), District Resource Persons (DRPs), and beneficiaries are trained by designated State Nodal Agencies (SNAs) and State Level Training Institutes (SLTIs) with the support of government/private training agencies.

Q: 3. What is the training process?

Ans. A three-tier cascading model:

i. MTs trained centrally
ii. MTs train DLTs and DRPs at the State level (SNA)
iii. DLTs and DRPs train beneficiaries and SHG members at the district level

Q: 4. Who are eligible to be trainers?

Ans. i. DLTs- EDP : EDP trainers of RSETI/ RUDSETI/NIRD/Designated Agencies/District level training institutes or candidates with Diploma/ Degree in Management with minimum 2 years of experience.
ii. DLTs- Food Processing: UG degree/ Diploma in Food Technology/ Food Eng. / Food Science or any related subject in Food processing with minimum 2 years of experience.

Q: 5. What is the duration and content of the trainings?

Ans. Trainings for DLTs and DRPs are 16 hours/ 2 days covering entrepreneurship, finance, food processing technologies, food safety, regulatory compliances, marketing, and scheme guidelines.

Beneficiaries receive 8- or 24-hours training tailored to their needs including business setup, food safety, packaging, marketing, and digital skills.

Q: 6. Are the trainings conducted online or offline?

Ans. Beneficiaries Trainings are classroom-based while MT/DLT/DRP may be trained online via video conferencing, or hybrid modes, depending on resources and locality.

Q: 7. Is assessment and certification part of the program?

Ans. Yes, for trainers' formal assessments are conducted by FICSI with certificates issued bearing MoFPI and PMFME logos.
For beneficiaries inhouse assessment is recommended with system generated participation certificate.

Q: 8. What are the cost norms for training?

Ans. Training costs, including trainer honorarium, infrastructure, materials, refreshments, travel allowances, and assessment fees, are fully borne by the Central Government. Typical cost per trainee is based on the type of training such as Rs. 892 (SHG seed capital beneficiaries) to Rs. 4,183 (DLTs training) for more details Capacity Building guideline may be referred.

Q: 9. How is the training process monitored?

Ans. Training activities are managed through a centralized web portal supporting real-time batch creation, attendance, documentation, and monitoring by DNO at the district level while SNA/SLTI at the State level.

Q: 10. Can beneficiaries repeat training?

Ans. No, one-time participation is allowed to maximize reach and resource utilization.

Q: 11. Is online training content available for beneficiaries under the PMFME scheme?

Ans. Yes, training materials including PDFs, PowerPoint presentations, videos, and recorded webinars are available for beneficiaries for self-learning and reference. The content is developed and updated by NIFTEM and other expert agencies to cover entrepreneurship development, food processing technologies, marketing, and regulatory compliances. Beneficiaries can access these materials anytime through the official PMFME training portal:

PMFME Portal Link: https://pmfme.mofpi.gov.in/pmfme/#/Home-Page
NIFTEM-Thanjavur Link: https://niftem-t.ac.in/olapp/pmfme/web/material.php
NIFTEM- Kundli Link: https://niftem.ac.in/newsite/pmfme/