

Semester 5 MJC 9

PM Kisan Samman Nidhi

Introduction

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) is a flagship scheme launched by the Government of India in February 2019. The primary objective of this initiative is to provide financial support to small and marginal farmers, ensuring they have a stable income to manage their agricultural activities effectively. This scheme is part of the government's broader effort to enhance the livelihood of farmers and promote sustainable agriculture.

Key Features of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi

1. Financial Support: Under the PM-Kisan scheme, eligible farmers receive ₹6,000 per year, disbursed in three equal installments of ₹2,000 each. This financial aid is provided directly into the bank accounts of the beneficiary farmers.

2. Eligibility Criteria: The scheme initially targeted small and marginal farmers with landholdings of up to 2 hectares. However, later it was expanded to cover all farmers, irrespective of their landholding size. The eligibility criteria may vary

based on the guidelines issued by the government from time to time.

3. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): The PM-Kisan scheme operates on the principle of Direct Benefit Transfer, ensuring that the financial assistance reaches the intended beneficiaries without any leakage or intermediaries.

4. Land Ownership: The scheme emphasizes land ownership, with the land being in the farmer's name. In cases of joint ownership, the benefit can be claimed by one or more of the co-owners.

Objectives of PM Kisan Samman

Nidhi

1. **Income Support:** To provide a supplementary income source to farmers, helping them meet their agricultural and domestic needs.
2. **Financial Inclusion:** To ensure that small and marginal farmers have access to timely financial support, reducing their dependence on informal credit sources.
3. **Agricultural Productivity:** By providing financial stability, the scheme aims to promote the adoption of modern farming techniques and technologies, thereby enhancing agricultural

productivity.

Impact of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi

1. **Increased Income:** The scheme has provided a steady source of income to millions of farmers across the country, improving their financial stability.
2. **Reduced Debt:** By providing direct financial support, the scheme has helped in reducing the debt burden on farmers, which in turn has contributed to a decrease in farmer distress.
3. **Social Security:** The PM-Kisan scheme serves as a form of social

security for farmers, ensuring they have a minimum guaranteed income to fall back upon.

Challenges and Future Directions

1. Implementation Issues: Despite its success, the scheme has faced challenges related to beneficiary identification, data accuracy, and timely disbursement of funds.

2. Sustainability: Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the scheme remains a challenge, given the vast number of beneficiaries and the financial outlay involved.

3. Extension and Expansion: There

is a need for continuous efforts to extend the benefits of the scheme to all eligible farmers and to explore ways to increase the financial support amount based on the rising costs of agricultural inputs.

Conclusion

The PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme represents a significant step towards supporting the agricultural sector in India. By providing direct financial assistance to farmers, it aims to improve their livelihoods and promote sustainable agricultural practices. However, addressing the challenges and ensuring the scheme's sustainability

will be crucial for its long-term success.

Follow-up Questions

1. How does the PM-Kisan scheme contribute to the financial stability of farmers?
2. What are the potential challenges in implementing such a large-scale scheme?
3. How can the PM-Kisan scheme be further improved to benefit ?

