

**RUBBER PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT
AND
EXTENSION SCHEME**

**PLANTING ACTIVITY-
(NEWPLANTING / REPLANTING)
SCHEDULED CASTE COMPONENT
TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLANTING**

(PHASE VIII) RULES

2017-18 to 2019-20



THE RUBBER BOARD

THE RUBBER BOARD

1. MAJOR COMPONENT: - RUBBER PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION

Sub component: 1.1.1&1.2.1. PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT (NEWPLANTING & REPLANTING)

RULES 2017-'18 - 2019-'20

I. Objective

The Scheme is intended to increase production of natural rubber in India by accelerating new planting and replanting of rubber on scientific lines. Accelerated new planting/replanting would be achieved by giving proper technical guidance and financial assistance to growers. The scheme would be implemented for three years from 2017-18 to 2019-'20.

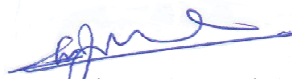
II. Definitions

In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. 'Scheme' means the sub components-Plantation Development –under the major component of the Scheme **Rubber Plantation Development and Extension**.
2. 'Permit' means approval for new planting and/or replanting under these rules.
3. 'Traditional rubber growing area' means area suitable for rubber cultivation in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
4. 'Non-traditional rubber growing area other than NE' means area outside the traditional rubber growing areas excluding North-East (NE) and NE means North-Eastern states of India, certified as fit for rubber cultivation by the Executive Director, Rubber Board, for the purpose of this scheme.
5. Other words and expressions shall bear the same meaning as in the Rubber Act 1947 and the Rubber Rules 1955.

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III. Components and Activities

The major component Rubber **Plantation Development & Extension** has two components as follows.

- i. **Rubber Plantation Development & Extension in Traditional** (Kerala and Tamil Nadu) **& Non Traditional Area other than North East** (Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands) **(RPDETNT)**
- ii. **Rubber Plantation Development & Extension in North East (RPDENE)**

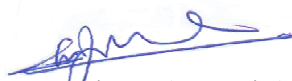
Plantation Development is a subcomponent of both the components

IV. Eligibility

1. The growers owning rubber area not exceeding 2.00 hectares in traditional area 5 ha in Non Traditional area (NT) and NE will be eligible for assistance under Rule VI of the scheme. The planting grant payable will be limited to an area of 1.00 hectares in the traditional area, 2.00 hectares in the non-traditional areas and 2.00 hectares in NE region as detailed in Scheme Rules VI.
2. The growers who undertakes new planting / replanting rubber in any one year in a minimum area of 0.10 hectare of contiguous land, or part of 0.10 hectare, if that part is the only area remaining to be replanted in a holding will be eligible for assistance under the Scheme.
3. Replanting is to be undertaken after removal of existing old / uneconomic rubber trees from the area. The decision regarding suitability of any area for replanting under the scheme will vest with the Board.
4. The land selected for planting suitable, in all respects, for economic cultivation of rubber in the opinion of the Board will only be eligible for assistance.
5. The applicant should have absolute ownership over the land in respect of which assistance is sought.

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6. Selection of land for planting and maintenance of plantation shall be at the sole risk and responsibility of the owner of the holding, whereas eligibility for assistance or granting of assistance under the scheme will be the sole discretion of the Board and will not create any liability whatsoever for the Board in respect of the holding.
7. Areas notified / certified in the documents as paddy field are not eligible for any kind of assistance under this scheme

V. Application for assistance

1. Application for assistance shall be submitted in the prescribed forms made available by the Rubber Board, which can be downloaded from website www.rubberboard.org.in, and while submitting the application. The application should be accompanied by a sketch (2 copies) of the planted / area proposed for planting indicating clear boundaries, land marks, approach route to the plot, extent and other necessary details, which would enable any independent inspecting agency to immediately locate the plot proposed to be planted. The applicant shall also furnish such other details pertaining to the holding as may be required by the Board from time to time.
2. The Board may grant the assistance in pursuance of any application for the whole area for which the application is made, or for any part thereof, or may refuse to grant any assistance under the scheme subject to the budgetary allocation of the financial year and availability of fund. The Executive Director of Board may refuse assistance without assigning any reason.
3. When it is decided to grant assistance to the planted area a permit will be issued to the applicant.

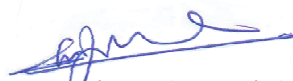
VI. Extent of assistance and mode of payment

The rates of financial assistance for both replanting and new planting payable under Phase VIII are as follows:

A)	For Traditional area (Kerala & Tamil Nadu)	a) Rs. 20,000/- ha limited to 1.00 ha for new planting
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The assistance shall be paid upto 1.00 ha during the plan period (2017-18 to 2019-20)

and replanting as under Rule IV-1.

- b) Rs 5,000 /ha for the use of certified planting material (polybagged/ Root trainer plants) of advanced growth. The assistance will be @ Rs 10/- per plant limited to 500 plants per ha

B) For Non Traditional area other than Northeast.

The assistance shall be paid upto 2.00 ha during the plan period (2017-18 to 2019-20)

- a) Rs. 35,000/- per ha limited to 2.00 ha for new planting and replanting subject to eligibility as under Rule IV -1

b) In addition to the above, growers are entitled for reimbursement Rs 5,000 /ha for the use of certified planting material of Polybagged/ Root trainer plants of advanced growth. The assistance will be @ Rs 10/- per plant limited to 500 plants per ha

C) For Northeast

The assistance shall be paid upto 2.00 ha during the plan period (2017-18 to 2019-20)

- a) Rs. 35,000/- per ha limited to 2.00 ha for new planting and replanting subject to eligibility as under Rule IV -1

b) In addition to the above, growers are entitled for reimbursement of cost of Polybagged /Root trainer plants of advanced growth. The assistance will be @ Rs. 10/- per plant limited to 500 plants per ha.

Schedule of payment of financial assistance for both new planting and Replanting

Year	Traditional Region (Rs. per ha)			Non Traditional Region including NE (Rs. per ha)		
	Planting Subsidy	Reimbursement of cost of polybagged/ Root trainer plants	Total	Planting Subsidy	Reimbursement of cost of polybagged/ Root trainer plants	Total
1 st	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 nd	10,000	5,000	15,000	15,000	5,000	20,000
3 rd	0	0	0	10,000	0	10,000
4 th	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0	10,000
Total	20,000	5,000	25,000	35,000	5,000	40,000

VII. Scheduled Caste component in Traditional Area and NT area other than North East (sub component 1.1.1.4.)

Growers from Scheduled Caste communities are proposed to be provided a higher rate of planting subsidy. Other need based support will also be provided.

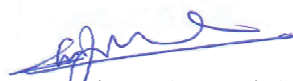
Schedule of payment of financial assistance for SC communities

Year	T& NT Region (Rs. per ha)		
	Planting Subsidy	Reimbursement of cost of polybagged/ Root trainer plants	Total
1 st	0	0	0
2 nd	15,000	5,000	20,000
3 rd	10,000	0	10,000
4 th	10,000	0	10,000
Total	35,000	5,000	40,000

For the economic uplift of poor and marginal growers of Scheduled Caste community, financial assistance at enhanced rate will be provided in three instalments.

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1. Each instalments of planting subsidy shall be paid only after completion of the stipulated items of work specified in the schedule for that year to the satisfaction of the Board, and subject to the condition that plants have attained minimum required / average growth specified in the schedule. The prescribed minimum stand of rubber plants should be maintained and growth should be satisfactory as assessed by the inspecting officer.
2. Board will assess performance of the plantation in the subsequent years and payment of prescribed part of planting grant will be sanctioned if the norms set for scientific development of plantation are achieved. If the work at any stage is not considered satisfactory, the permit holder will be advised to rectify the defects within a specified time. Payment will be sanctioned only if those defects are rectified within the time allowed.

VIII. Conditions

1. Planting shall be done only with the planting materials approved by the Board. Documentary evidence such as bills, receipts or delivery notes or any other relevant document in proof of the quality and source of the planting materials shall be furnished by the applicant / permit holder to the Board's inspecting officials on demand.
2. Sloppy lands with gradient steeper than 1 in 2 should be protected from soil erosion by contour terracing or construction of contour bunds or digging silt trenches or silt pits and also by planting of cover crops.
3. Inter planting with crops is permitted, if such crops do not affect the growth of rubber or do not result in considerable loss of soil through erosion and run off. The intercrops shall be raised only after taking care that they are confined to inter-row areas and at least one metre away from the rubber rows.
4. The number of non rubber trees, which already exist on the land proposed for new planting/replanting can be retained in a proportion of 20 trees or 40 coconut palms or 80 arecanut palms per ha, in a well distributed manner. If the non rubber trees are concentrated at a location, the area where they are concentrated will be excluded for consideration of assistance. If the trees fall under two or more of the above categories,

they may be retained in the proportion of one coconut tree equal 2 arecanut trees and one fruit/timber tree equals 2 coconut trees.

5. Tea and coffee plants already existing in the area can be retained provided they are at least 1 meter away from the rubber plant rows.
6. Pepper vines trained on existing top-cut soft wood trees may be allowed to stand, provided they are at least one meter away from the rubber plants in a single line between two rows of rubber plants and not affecting the growth of rubber trees. In such cases, maximum number of such pepper climbed top-cut soft wood trees shall not exceed 50% of number of rubber plants in the area for which permit is recommended.
7. Planting and maintenance operations in areas coming under the scheme shall be carried out satisfactorily as per the specifications given in the schedule. Fertilizer application, disease and pest control etc. shall be adopted as per the Board's recommendations. Bills, receipts, delivery notes etc. evidencing purchase of fertilisers and other chemicals used in the area planted under the scheme shall be furnished by the permit holder to the Board's inspecting officials as and when required.
8. It is the responsibility of the applicant/permit holder to insure the planting of applied/permit area during the immaturity period against the risks of fire or other natural calamities. If any crop insurance scheme is introduced by Rubber Board, insurance will become mandatory for issue of permit and Rubber Board reserves the right to deduct premium instalments from eligible financial assistance.
9. Tapping shall normally be commenced in any area planted under the scheme when 70% of the trees have attained a girth of 50 cm at the height of 125 cm from the bud union. However grant of permission for tapping can be considered as a special case for trees which have attained girth for tapping specified above even if the percentage of such trees are less than 70%. Tapping shall be commenced in the permit area only after obtaining required tapping certificate from the Board and in the manner specified in the certificate.

10. In case of any dispute, the decision of the Executive Director, Rubber Board will be final and binding on the applicants.
11. Rubber Board reserves the right to alter or withdraw any of the rules and add new rules during the implementation of the scheme.

IX. Additional assistance for use of plants of advanced growth

All growers owning rubber area up to 2.00 ha in Traditional area, 5.00 ha in non-traditional and NE area will be eligible for assistance of reimbursement of cost of polybagged plants/Root trainer plants @ Rs. 10/- per plant limited to a maximum of 500 plants per hectare. The financial assistance will be limited to 1.00 ha in Traditional area and 2.00 ha in Non Traditional area respectively. The inspecting officer should satisfy that the plants are of good growth, vigour and quality and is brought / raised from certified source. In Traditional and Non Traditional area other than NE, the assistance will be restricted to planting materials certified by Board.

X. Technical support

The Board shall provide pre-planting advice, information on suitability of clones for the area, scientific management practises, proper planting advice including land preparation, rain water harvesting/soil protection etc. The Board shall extend necessary advisory and extension support to the permit holders at the time of field visit/group meeting at RPSs and through other extension tools, including print and electronic media.

XI. Payment of Subsidy

Payment of subsidy shall be only through bank by e- transfer or other mode of payment as decided by the Rubber Board in time to time. The applicant/permit holder shall provide required documents for disbursement of financial assistance. Beneficiaries should provide Aadhar linked bank account details in the application for financial assistance

XII. Deductions that may be made from subsidy:

The Board shall have full powers to deduct from planting grant and other financial assistance any sum due from the permit holder to the Board.

XIII. Stoppage of payment of subsidy and other benefits for violation of conditions or failure to achieve minimum results.

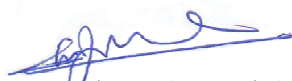
1. Violation of any of the conditions or failure to conduct planting or upkeep or failure to maintain prescribed minimum stand per ha or minimum prescribed average girth in accordance with the schedule will entail complete stoppage of payment of planting grant and other benefits and cancellation of permit.
2. The decision of the Executive Director shall be final in the above circumstance.

XIV. Recovery of subsidy and other amounts in case of wilful destruction of the plantation or acquisition of land for public purpose

1. If any plantation or part of a plantation in respect of which planting grant or any other amount has been paid under the scheme is wilfully destroyed by the permit holder or by any others with or without the knowledge of the permit holder, the Board shall have the right to cancel the permit and to recover from the permit holder the entire amount of financial assistance already paid. Interest at the prevailing rate shall also be charged on the total amount from the date on which it becomes due.
2. If any land in respect of which planting grant or any other amount has been paid under the scheme, is surrendered to Government, as excess land the permit holder shall be bound to refund the same to the Board.
3. If any person is found to have obtained permit and planting grant and other assistance from the Board by fraud or by misrepresentation, the permit shall be liable to be cancelled and the entire amount of financial assistance paid together with the amount given by way of additional assistance if any, shall be liable to be recovered. Interest at prevailing rate on the total amount availed shall also be recovered from the date(s) on which the same has been paid.

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XV. Transfer of permit

A successor in the title to any area in respect of which a permit has been issued shall be entitled to have the permit transferred to his name, subject to his applying for the same in the manner prescribed by the Board. The transfer shall be also subject to his furnishing declaration to the effect that he shall abide by these rules and the terms and conditions of the permit. In the event of any amount paid under these rules becomes recoverable, the same shall be recovered from him together with the interest due.

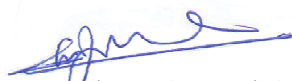
SCHEDULE

The permit holders shall be entitled for assistance in the following scale per hectare, provided the eligibility conditions are satisfied:

Sl No	Items of Work	Release of Instalment	Assistance (Rs /ha)		
1	To be given after completion of the following items of work:	Second Year of Planting	Replanting/Newplanting in Traditional area up to 1ha	New Planting /Replanting in Non Traditional area up to 2 ha in NT/NE Region	Reimbursement of cost of polybagged/Root trainer plants in Traditional/Non-Traditional/North Eastern Regions
a.	Felling or removal of existing rubber trees/other trees.				
b.	Clearing, lining and in the case of gradient steeper than 1 in 2 contour terracing or construction of contour bunds or digging silt trenches or silt pits				
c.	Cutting not less than 420 and not more than 500 pits per ha for planting bud grafts. The dimensions of the pits should be at least 75 cm x 75 cm with a minimum depth of 75 cm. In areas with loose soil conditions, the dimension of the pits could be reduced to 60 cm x 60 cm with a minimum depth of 75 cm. In soils with a depth of one metre or more, planting can be done in small pits dug				

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Sl No	Items of Work	Release of Instalment	Assistance (Rs /ha)		
	to accommodate polybag plants. (Note: The number of planting points lost for estate roads and paths and on account of small rocky patches, other than extensive sheet rocks, both underground and on surface will be taken into account while counting the minimum number of pits).				
d.	Refilling of the pits with good top soil.				
e.	Weeding - as many rounds of strip weeding/ring weeding/or general slash weeding, as are required, in order to provide proper weed control.				
f.	Manuring top 20 cm of soil in the filled pits as advised and applying recommended dose of fertilisers two to three months after planting.				
g.	Fencing (no separate fencing is necessary if the area planted is protected otherwise by fencing of any surrounding area in the holding or of the whole estate).				
h.	Planting and establishing satisfactorily at least 420 high quality plants, of approved high yielding variety, per ha.				
i.	Planting and satisfactory establishment of leguminous cover crops, subject to constraints of inter cropping, if any.				
j.	Pruning low side shoots and false shoots, if any.				
k.	Plant protection (shading, mulching, disease and pest control, fire control etc).				
	Total		10,000	15,000	5,000

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Sl No	Items of Work	Release of Instalment	Assistance (Rs /ha)		
		Third Year of Planting			
a.	Weeding -as many rounds of strip weeding, ring weeding and or general slash weeding as are required in order to provide proper weed control.				
b.	Supplying vacancies in the original stand of rubber plants of approved clones and establishing the minimum recommended initial stand of plants of approved clones.				
c.	Application of recommended dose of fertilizers in two split doses before and after the monsoon.				
d.	Repair to fence or ensuring boundary protection otherwise				
e.	Plant protection (shading, mulching, white washing, disease and pest control, fire control etc.)				
f.	Planting and satisfactory establishment of leguminous cover crops subject to constraints of intercropping, if any.				
g.	Pruning of low side shoots and false shoots if any.				
h.	Maintenance of minimum stand of 420 bud grafted plants per ha under healthy and uniform growth conditions and attainment of an average girth of not less than 18 cm.				
	Total		0	10,000	0
		Fourth year of Planting			
a.	To be given after satisfactory weeding, maintenance of proper leguminous cover crops, application of recommended doses of fertilizers				

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Sl No	Items of Work	Release of Instalment	Assistance (Rs /ha)		
	during pre and post monsoon seasons and taking plant protection measures subject to satisfactory upkeep of a minimum stand of 390 bud grafted plants per ha under healthy and uniform growth conditions and attainment of an average girth of not less than 25 cm.				
	Total		10,000	10,000	0
	Grand Total		20,000	35,000	5,000


Note: The eligibility conditions for release of subsidy to SC category growers will remain the same as above in T& NT area.

XVI. Tribal Development Planting (sub component-1.1.1.2 &1.2.1.2)

The Tribal Development planting is intended for the economic uplift of resource poor SC/ST communities through rubber planting. The scheme is implemented in project mode in collaboration with concerned state government and beneficiaries. The projects are initiated by signing MOU and cost is shared among the State Government, Rubber Board and beneficiaries. Some of the projects started during XI and XII plan period are in its immaturity phase. Board will provide necessary technical support for the proper maintenance of the plantation. No fresh planting is envisaged for SC/ST in project mode under MTF; however, Board will give technical support for fresh planting with 100% financial assistance from State Government.

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