

National SC/ST HubMarket-linkage & capacity building for SC/ST entrepreneurs

1. Details

National SC/ST Hub (NSSH) is a flagship scheme launched by the Government of India in October 2016 under the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**. The scheme is implemented by the **National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)** and was formally launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Objective

The primary objective of the National SC/ST Hub scheme is to:

- Provide professional support to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs • Fulfill the obligations under the Central Government Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises Order 2012
- Achieve at least 4% share of total procurement from SC/ST owned MSEs by Central/State Governments and CPSEs
- Promote entrepreneurship culture among SC/ST population
- Create a conducive ecosystem for SC/ST entrepreneurs through market linkage and capacity building

Scheme Duration & Budget

- **Current Phase:** 2021-22 to 2025-26 (15th Finance Commission cycle)
- **Total Budget Allocation:** ₹438 crore for 5 years
- **Implementation Period:** Valid till March 31, 2026

Key Focus Areas

The scheme focuses on four main pillars:

1. **Finance:** Credit support and subsidies
2. **Technology:** Technological upgradation support
3. **Market Linkages:** Government procurement opportunities
4. **Capacity Building:** Skill development and training programs

2. Benefits

A. Financial Benefits

Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS)

- **Subsidy Rate:** 25% capital subsidy on investment in plant & machinery
- **Maximum Subsidy:** Up to ₹15 lakh per unit
- **Purpose:** Technology upgradation, capacity augmentation, and creation of new enterprises

Reimbursement Schemes

1. Testing Fee Reimbursement

- **Coverage:** 80% or ₹1,00,000 (whichever is lower)
- **Purpose:** NABL accredited laboratory testing and BIS certification fees

2. Bank Loan Processing Fee Reimbursement

- **Coverage:** 80% or ₹1,00,000 (whichever is lower)
- **Purpose:** Bank loan processing charges for business loans

3. Bank Guarantee Charges Reimbursement

- **Coverage:** 80% or ₹1,00,000 (whichever is lower)
- **Purpose:** Performance bank guarantee charges for government tenders

4. Export Promotion Council Membership Reimbursement

- **Coverage:** Membership fees for export promotion councils
- **Purpose:** Facilitate export business development

5. Capacity Building Management Fee Reimbursement

- **Coverage:** Course fees for training programs
- **Purpose:** Short-term training (1-30 days) at top 50 management institutes (NIRF ranking)

6. E-commerce Portal Membership Fee Reimbursement

- **Coverage:** 80% or maximum ₹25,000 (whichever is lower)
- **Purpose:** Membership on government e-commerce portals (GeM,

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B. Market Access Benefits

Single Point Registration Scheme (SPRS)

- **Free Tender Sets:** No cost for government tender documents
- **EMD Exemption:** No Earnest Money Deposit required
- **Price Preference:** 25% quota in government procurement at L1 price
- **Reserved Items:** Access to 358 items reserved for exclusive SSI purchase

Government Procurement Opportunities

- **Direct Access:** To Central/State government departments and PSEs
- **Vendor Development Programs:** Facilitated participation in CPSE vendor development
- **GeM Access:** Direct selling on Government e-Marketplace platform

C. Capacity Building Benefits

Training Programs

- **Fully Sponsored Training:** Skill and entrepreneurship development programs
- **Management Development:** Access to top management institutes
- **Sector-Specific Training:** Customized programs for different industries
- **Digital Training:** Online and offline capacity building modules

Mentorship Support

- **Industry Mentors:** Access to experienced business leaders
- **CPSE Mentorship:** Support from Central Public Sector Enterprises
- **Handholding Support:** Continuous guidance for business development

D. Marketing Support

Special Marketing Assistance Scheme (SMAS)

1. **International Exhibitions:** Participation in overseas trade fairs
2. **Domestic Exhibitions:** Support for national trade shows
3. **Vendor Development Programs:** Facilitated participation
4. **Workshops and Seminars:** Industry-specific awareness campaigns
5. **Trade Visits:** Organized visits to international and domestic markets

E. Technology & Innovation Support

- **Technology Upgradation:** Financial assistance for modern equipment

- **R&D Support:** Access to research and development facilities
- **Quality Certification:** Support for ISO and other quality certifications

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- **Digital Transformation:** Support for adopting digital technologies

3. Eligibility

A. Primary Eligibility Criteria

Entity Type Requirements

- **Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs)** only
- Must have valid **Udyam Registration** (formerly EM-II/UAM)
- Should be engaged in manufacturing or service activities

Caste Category Requirements

For Proprietorship:

- Proprietor must belong to SC/ST category

For Partnership:

- SC/ST partners must hold at least **51% share** in the unit

For Private Limited Companies:

- At least **51% shares** must be held by SC/ST promoters

Registration Requirements

- Valid **Udyam Registration** certificate
- **GST Registration** (if applicable)
- **PAN Card** of the enterprise
- **Bank Account** in the name of the enterprise

B. Specific Eligibility for Different Components

For SCLCSS (Capital Subsidy)

- SC/ST owned MSEs in manufacturing sector
- Investment in plant & machinery through institutional finance
- Unit should be in commercial production
- Should not have availed similar subsidy earlier

For SPRS Registration

- All Micro & Small Enterprises with valid Udyam Registration

- Should have commenced commercial production
- **Special Benefit:** SC/ST MSEs get registration at token fee of ₹100 + GST

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For Marketing Assistance

- NSSH registered SC/ST MSEs
- Should have viable business plan
- Product/service should have market potential
- Compliance with all statutory requirements

For Capacity Building Programs

- Existing and aspiring SC/ST entrepreneurs
- Age limit: 18-45 years (for certain programs)
- Educational qualification: Minimum 10th pass
- Commitment to start/expand business after training

C. Geographical Coverage

- **Pan-India Coverage:** All states and union territories
- **Special Focus:** North-Eastern states and tribal areas
- **Hub Offices:** 56 NSSH offices across India

D. Exclusions

- **Large Enterprises:** Not eligible for any benefits
- **Medium Enterprises:** Limited access to certain schemes
- **Non-SC/ST Enterprises:** Cannot avail SC/ST specific benefits
- **Sick Units:** Under liquidation or BIFR proceedings

4. Application Process

Step 1: Preliminary Registration

1. **Visit Official Website:** www.scsthub.in
2. **Create Account:** Register with basic details
3. **Complete Profile:** Fill comprehensive business information
4. **Upload Documents:** Submit required certificates and proofs

Step 2: Scheme-Specific Application

For SPRS Registration

1. **Online Application:** Visit www.nsicspronline.com

2. **Fill Application Form:** Complete SPRS application (in duplicate) 3.

Pay Registration Fee: ₹100 + GST for SC/ST MSEs

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4. **Submit to NSIC Office:** Nearest zonal/branch office

5. **Technical Inspection:** Arranged by NSIC through designated agency 6.

Certificate Issuance: SPRS certificate upon approval

For SCLCSS Application

1. **Prepare Business Plan:** Detailed project proposal

2. **Arrange Finance:** Tie-up with Prime Lending Institution (bank)

3. **Submit Application:** Through PLI to NSIC

4. **Technical Scrutiny:** Evaluation by technical committee

5. **Approval Process:** Sanction by competent authority

6. **Subsidy Disbursement:** After completion of investment

For Marketing Assistance

1. **Identify Opportunity:** Select exhibition/trade fair

2. **Submit Proposal:** Detailed participation plan

3. **Approval Process:** Evaluation by NSSH office

4. **Advance Payment:** Partial advance if approved

5. **Participation:** Attend event with NSSH support

6. **Reimbursement:** Submit bills for final settlement

For Capacity Building Programs

1. **Program Identification:** Choose suitable training program

2. **Application Submission:** Fill nomination form

3. **Selection Process:** Merit-based selection

4. **Training Participation:** Attend full program

5. **Certification:** Receive completion certificate

6. **Follow-up Support:** Post-training mentoring

Step 3: Document Verification

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- **Online Verification:** Initial document screening
- **Physical Verification:** On-site inspection if required
- **Compliance Check:** Statutory requirement verification •
- Approval Process:** Committee-based decision making

Step 4: Benefit Disbursement

- **Direct Transfer:** Benefits credited to bank account
- **Reimbursement Mode:** For eligible expenses
- **Subsidy Release:** As per approved schedule
- **Monitoring:** Regular progress tracking

Important Contact Information:

- **Official Website:** www.scsthub.in
- **Helpline:** Available through website contact form
- **NSSH Offices:** 56 offices across India
- **NSIC Head Office:** New Delhi
- **Email Support:** Through official portal

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Key Benefits Summary:

- **Financial Support:** Up to ₹15 lakh capital subsidy
- **Market Access:** Government procurement opportunities •
- Capacity Building:** Free training and mentorship
- **Reimbursements:** Multiple fee reimbursement schemes •
- Technology Support:** Upgradation assistance