

Scheme for Group Processing Center (GPC)

1. Title of the Scheme

Group Processing Center for Agro and Rural Products (GPCARP)

2. Background

Farmers and rural producers often face difficulties in processing, storing, and marketing their agricultural products. Lack of processing facilities leads to post-harvest losses and low income. Establishing a **Group Processing Center (GPC)** can help farmers and producer groups process raw agricultural products into value-added products, improving quality and market value.

3. Objectives

- To establish a common processing facility for farmers and producer groups.
- To improve the quality and value of agricultural products.
- To reduce post-harvest losses.
- To increase farmers' income through value addition.
- To promote cooperative work among farmers and rural entrepreneurs.

4. Target Group

- Small and marginal farmers
- Farmer Producer Groups (FPGs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)
- Self-Help Groups (SHGs)
- Rural youth and women entrepreneurs

5. Products for Processing

- Rubber sheets and rubber products
- Spices such as ginger, turmeric, and pepper
- Fruits and vegetables
- Food processing items such as pickles, chips, and dried products
- Local agricultural produce

6. Major Activities

- Establishment of a common processing center building
- Installation of processing machines and equipment
- Training farmers in processing and quality control
- Packaging and branding of processed products
- Storage and distribution facilities
- Marketing support and market linkages

7. Infrastructure and Facilities

- Processing hall and storage room
- Processing machines and tools
- Drying and grading units
- Packaging and labeling equipment

- Electricity, water supply, and transportation facilities

8. Implementation Strategy

- Formation of a producer group or cooperative
- Identification of suitable location for the processing center
- Mobilization of funds from government schemes, NGOs, or financial institutions
- Training members in processing and management
- Establishing market connections for selling processed products

9. Expected Outcomes

- Increased income for farmers and producer groups
- Improved quality and value of agricultural products
- Reduction in post-harvest losses
- Employment generation in rural areas
- Strengthening of rural cooperative enterprises

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Regular review of production and sales
- Monitoring the financial performance of the processing center
- Evaluation of income improvement among members
- Periodic maintenance of equipment and facilities

11. Conclusion

The Group Processing Center Scheme will help farmers and rural producers add value to their agricultural products and access better markets. It will strengthen rural livelihoods, promote cooperative work, and contribute to sustainable economic development.