

SCHEME - GRANT TO EXPORTERS FOR PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIRS

Sub Rules for providing grant to NR/ Rubber Wood exporters for participation in international trade fairs during the 12th plan period

[based on MDA guidelines, Govt. of India]

Title

These rules will be named as “Rules for providing financial assistance to NR/Rubber Wood exporters for the participation in International Trade Fairs during the 12th Plan period. Rules are framed based on the guidelines issued by the Government of India under the MDA Scheme.

Objective

The broad objective of providing financial assistance to natural rubber and rubber wood exporters is to facilitate their participation in international trade fairs and thereby helping them in utilizing the opportunities in the international market in Natural Rubber (NR) and Rubber wood for increasing the volume of export from the country. The Board shares the space with NR/Rubber wood exporters in the international fairs and the exporters participating in such fairs and exhibitions are eligible for the grant specified in the Scheme ‘Market Development Assistance’ (MDA) issued by the Government of India and outlay will be met from the component- Market Development, sub component-Market Promotion of the scheme run by the Board. The Board provides financial assistance to the medium and small scale exporters to contain part of the expenditure.

Definition: In these rules, unless the context otherwise means,

1. ‘Board’ means ‘Rubber Board’ constituted under the Rubber Act 1947
2. ‘Chairman’ means the ‘Chairman of the Rubber Board’.
3. NR Exporters means are those having a valid Registration – cum – Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued by the Board.
4. Rubber wood exporters means those having a valid RCMC issued by Capexil or an approved Export Promotion Council.
5. NR Exporter for using ‘Indian Natural Rubber Logo’ means those exporters having registration with Board for using Indian Natural Rubber Logo.

Eligibility

NR exporters in India having valid Registration – cum – Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued by the Board and registration for using Indian Natural Rubber Logo is eligible to participate with the Board in international exhibitions/trade fairs approved by the Board. Rubber wood exporters having a valid Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued by Capexil is eligible for participation in trade fairs. The exporter/s selected for trade fair participation is eligible for availing grant under this scheme after their participation. Eligibility criteria for selection of exporters for participation of trade fair are as follows.

Sl. No	Exporters of NR / Rubber wood	Eligibility criteria
1	Exporters of NR (RCMC holders) registered for using “Indian Natural Rubber (INR) logo	a. Export turnover of NR up to Rs 50 crores (FOB value) in the previous year of participation. b. Export turnover of NR exceeded Rs 50 crores (FOB value) in the previous year of participation. The exporter/s selected for trade fair participation under this category is to fulfill an export obligation of 100 MT of branded rubber “Indian Natural Rubber” during the period of selection for participation.
2	Rubber wood Exporters registered with Capexil.	Export turnover up to Rs 30 crores (FOB value) in the previous year of selection.

Scheme Period

The scheme will be implemented during the 12th Plan period effective from 2014-15 to 2016-17 and is applicable for participation in international trade fairs approved by the Board.

Quantum of Financial Grant

The quantum of assistance to exporters and the number of visits in a year are given below [as per MDA guidelines].

Sl No (1)	Area/Sector (2)	No of visits (3)	Maximum Financial grant per event (Rs) (4)
1	Focus LAC	1	2,50,000
2	Focus Africa (including WANA Countries)	1	2,00,000
3	Focus CIS	1	2,00,000
4	Focus ASEAN + 2	1	2,00,000
5	General Areas	1	1,50,000
	Total	5	-

Terms and Conditions

1. The participating exporter of NR should have registration for using Indian Natural Rubber Logo and have a valid RCMC issued by Rubber Board for complete 12 months and have filed returns to the Board regularly. Exporter of rubber wood should have registration with Capexil.
2. Exporting units of NR with an FOB value up to Rs 50.00 crore in the preceding year of participation will be eligible for the grant.
3. Exporting units of NR with FOB value exceeding Rs. 50.00 crore in the previous year will also be considered for participation in international trade fairs, on fulfillment of an export obligation of 100 MT of INR branded products in the year of participation. The claims for their financial assistance will be processed only after fulfillment of the export obligation.
4. The selected exporter will be eligible for reimbursement of the following.
 - (a) Travel expenses by air, in economy excursion class fare.
 - (b) Visa processing charges, as per the original invoice by the approved travel agent or as per the documentary evidence.
5. Stall rent will initially be paid by the Rubber Board to the fair organizer. Participating exporter's share of the stall rent would thereafter be reckoned as 5% of the stall rent or Rs 15,000/- whichever is less. If the share of stall rent so arrived at along with the travel grant exceeds the maximum financial grant per

event, given in column No 4 at “Quantum of Financial Grant”, the excess will have to be paid to the Board by the exporter.

6. The grant will be made available as reimbursement on production of the following documents.

(a) Intimation application

(b) Claim along with the declaration duly completed in the prescribed format.

(c) Supporting documents of the claim

(i) Self attested photocopy of visa to the host country of fair/exhibition

(ii) Self attested photocopy of passport highlighting the entries about departure from and arrival into India and also countries visited

(iii) Original air ticket/jacket used during journey. If original air ticket/ jacket is lost, a legible photocopy of the same along with a certificate from the concerned airline indicating name of the traveler, ticket number, flight number, date of departure from India, sectors / countries visited, class in which travelled, economy excursion class fare for sectors/countries visited.

(iv) Boarding passes in original

(v) Original Invoice/Bill issued by the travel agent for air charges

(vi) Original Invoice/Bill issued by the travel agent for visa charges

7. The participating exporter shall remit Rs. 40,000/- to the Board's account for confirming his participation. After participation in the fair, this amount will be reimbursed to the exporter along with the eligible grant.

8. Assistance shall be permissible to one regular employee/director/partner/ proprietor of the company. Assistance would not be available to exporters of foreign nationality or those holding foreign passport.

9. The Company should not be under investigation/charged/prosecuted/debarred/blacklisted under Foreign Trade Policy of India or any other law relating to export and import business.

10. Maximum financial assistance shall be inclusive of assistance received from all Government bodies/FIEO/EPC's Commodity Boards/Export Development Authorities/ITPO etc.
11. A maximum of three participations in a particular trade fair/exhibition would be eligible for financial assistance under this scheme and exporting companies after availing assistance three times including past cases for a particular fair/exhibition, have to participate in that fair, if any, on self-financing basis.
12. An exporter can participate in five trade fairs based on the sector-wise classification noted above. However, the Board has the discretionary power to select the exporter for a particular fair.
13. The financial assistance under this scheme will be considered on receipt of the application completed in all respects within 90 days of return to India. Claims submitted within in 30 days from the expiry of 90 days period will also be considered with 10% deduction in payment.
14. Chairman Rubber Board reserves the power to alter, modify or make any changes in the terms and conditions as detailed above or to grant or refuse any claim tendered by any exporter under this scheme.
15. In case of any dispute, the decision of Chairman, Rubber Board will be final and binding on the applicants.
16. Rubber Board reserves the right to alter or withdraw any of the rules and add new rules during the implementation of the scheme.

(6/ 2014)
