

F.No. 3-23/2021-M&T (I&P) (C.No. 92197)
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(Mechanization & Technology Division)

547 Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 08th December, 2025.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Testing Fee for agricultural machinery developed by 'Start-ups' - regarding.

With a view to encourage and support the Start-ups in scaling up their innovations in the field of farm mechanization, all the FMTTIs & FMTCs authorized by this Department shall charge the testing fee @ 50% of the full test fee applicable for the respective category of agricultural machines. **(Framework for implementing this initiative is at Annexure-I)**

2. Therefore, all the Director FMTTIs & In-charges of FMTCs are requested to implement the above instructions with immediate effect and ensure that the concessional testing fee structure is extended to all eligible 'Start-ups'.

3. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(Dr. V. N. Kale)
Additional Commissioner (Machinery)

Distribution:

1. Director FMTTI at Budni/Hisar/Anantapur/B. Chariali
2. In-Charges of FMTCs authorized by this Department
3. President, Agricultural Machinery Manufactures Association (AMMA)/TMA/PTAI/AICMA
4. Agricultural Engineering Division, ICAR, Pusa New Delhi

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Annexure-I**FRAME WORK FOR CHARGING TEST FEES FROM START UPS****1.0 Introduction**

Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is promoting Start Ups in agriculture through schemes like RKVY RAFTAAR to specifically cater to the need and modalities for agribusiness promotion. It has a component for innovation and agripreneurship. Through this initiative, a thrust is being given to promote agripreneurship and startups.

1.1 Under SMAM

Sub mission on Agriculture Mechanisation (SMAM) support grassroots innovations in agricultural mechanization in following manner:

- Provides financial support and technical guidance to innovators at concept, prototype, and demonstration stages.
- Phase-1 (Project cost up to ₹5 lakh): Max 90% support for concept/prototype validation.
- Phase-2 (Project cost ₹5–35 lakh): Max 80% support for prototype development and field demonstration.

2.0 Objective

These FMTTIs/FMTCs are engaged in conducting performance testing of various agricultural machinery equipments. The basic aim of testing of agricultural machinery is to assess functional suitability and performance characteristics under different agro-climatic conditions of agricultural machinery, which helps for improvement in quality and their assurance so that a genuine product should reach to farmers. Testing also helps financial institutions in recommending financial assistance to the manufacturers as well as the farmers. Machine-wise applicable testing charges levied by these institutions as on date are attached herewith.

With a view to further, facilitate Start-ups, in scaling up their innovations in the field of farm mechanization, it has been decided to charge only 50% fees of the normal testing fees being levied by FMTTIs/FMTCs for testing of agriculture machinery/equipments being produced by Start ups

3.0 Eligibility & Definitions

- (a) A “Start-up” for this provision must be an Indian start-up as per the definition provided by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- (b) The start-ups are expected to develop and deploy innovative farm mechanization technologies to boost agricultural productivity, reduce costs,

and promote sustainability.

(c) Start-ups/ Agri innovators promoted under RKVY RAFTAAR & SMAM shall also be eligible for availing reduced testing fees (50% of normal test fees)

4.0 Support Services to the Start-Ups by the FMTTIs/FMTCs

- - Technical mentoring, design feedback, assistance in documentation and preparation for certification.
 - Free of cost training covering product evaluation, certification norms, manufacturing quality, etc.
 - Access to institute's lab facilities and test benches