

Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of Fisheries.

File No. Fish-CO(17)/1/2026

Dated: Shimla-2

23 July, 2026

NOTIFICATION

The Governor of Himachal Pradesh is pleased to notify the "Mukhya Mantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana" to provide a lump sum honorarium of Rs. 3500/- (Rupees three thousand five hundred) only per year to eligible reservoir fisherman families during fishing close season period, as annexed at Annexure-A, with immediate effect.

By order

Priyanka Basu Ingty
Secretary (Fisheries) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
23 July, 2026

Endst. No. FISH-CO(17)/1/2026

Dated Shimla-2,

Copy is forwarded to the following:-

1. All administrative Secretaries to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2
2. The Principal Private Secretary and Special Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, H.P
3. The Principal Accountant General (Audit), H.P. Shimla-3
4. The Sr. Deputy Accountant General, H.P. Shimla-3
5. The Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries, H.P. Bilaspur-174001.
6. Deputy Director of Fisheries (Hq.), Directorate of Fisheries, Bilaspur- 174001.
7. Deputy Director of Fisheries, Trout Farm Patlikuh, Distt. Kullu, H.P
8. All the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Joint Secretary (GAD) to the GoHP w.r.t. item No. 56, dated 20.07.2026 for information please.
10. Guard file.


(Priyanka Basu Ingty)
Secretary (Fisheries) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Implementation of "Mukhyamantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana" for Reservoirs of Himachal Pradesh

1. Background

Fishermen engaged in reservoir fisheries in Himachal Pradesh are largely dependent on fishing as their primary source of livelihood. However, during the annual fishing ban period, imposed for conservation and breeding of fish, these fishermen face temporary loss of income, leading to economic hardship.

Recognizing this concern, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, in his Budget Announcement, introduced the "**Mukhyamantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana**" to provide financial assistance to active fishermen.

2. Objective of the Scheme

- To provide financial support to reservoir fishermen during the closed fishing season.
- To ensure livelihood security during periods of fishing ban.
- To promote sustainable fisheries management by supporting fishermen during conservation measures.
- To recognize and support genuine and active fishermen of the State.
- This provision is intended to ensure wider coverage, equitable distribution, and inclusion of the maximum number of beneficiary families, thereby enhancing the overall scope and outreach of the scheme.

3. Scope of the Scheme

The scheme shall be applicable to reservoir fisheries of Himachal Pradesh, covering all eligible active fishermen engaged in fishing activities through registered cooperative societies adhering a valid fishing license.

4. Eligibility Criteria

The following conditions shall be applicable for availing benefits under the scheme:

1. The beneficiary must be a licensed fisherman of a reservoir for the last three years in Himachal Pradesh.

(OR)

The fisherman must have been actively engaged in fishing for at least 50 days per year during the last one year.

(OR)

Newly registered fishermen under the newly formed Fisheries Cooperative Society, having valid fishing license.

2. Only one member per family shall be eligible for availing benefits under the scheme:

5. Coverage of Beneficiaries/families.

Under this option, the benefit shall be extended taking a **family as a unit**, wherein only one eligible member from a fisherman family, i.e. the head of the family, shall be selected for availing assistance under the State Scheme. However, if the head of the family is found ineligible, preference shall be given to the other eligible member of the family who is higher in age, as per the age details recorded in the Parivar Register of the Gram Panchayat. In any case the benefit shall be provided to only one member of the family. Accordingly, selection of beneficiaries shall be made from amongst the members of the fisherman family, with the objective of ensuring wider family-wise coverage and equitable distribution of benefits among reservoir fishing households. Based on the data provided by all the Assistant director of Fisheries, the following are the number of fisherman families engaged in the State reservoirs.

- Gobind Sagar: 1,680 families
- Koldam: 110 families
- Pong Dam: 1,790 families
- Chamera: 80 families
- Ranjeet Sagar: 40 families

Total : 3700 families.

Thus, approximately **3,700 fishermen families** will be covered annually under this scheme, subject to verification of eligibility conditions.

6. Financial Assistance

- A lump sum amount of ₹3,500 (Rupees Three Thousand Five Hundred only) shall be provided to each eligible fisherman family.
- The assistance shall be provided once annually during the fishing ban period.

- An annual expenditure of approximately **₹129.50 lakh** will be required to cover **3,700 fishermen families** under the scheme.

7. Funding Pattern

- The scheme shall be fully funded by the State Government (100% State Share).
- No contribution shall be required from beneficiaries or other agencies.

8. Implementation Mechanism

Application Process through Fish Cooperative Societies:

- i) Eligible fishermen shall apply to their respective Fish Cooperative Societies for availing assistance under the Scheme.
- ii) The application shall be submitted in writing alongwith all supporting documents.
- iii) The following documents shall mandatorily be attached with the application.
 - Valid Fishing License.
 - Aadhaar Card.
 - Parivar Register of the Gram Panchayat.
 - Valid NFDP registration number.
 - Fish Cooperative Society Membership Details/Certificate.

1. Forwarding of Applications:

- i) The concerned Fish Cooperative Society shall scrutinize and verify the application received from eligible fishermen.
- ii) Thereafter, the Fish Cooperative Society shall forward complete applications and supporting documents along with its recommendations to the concerned Fishery Officer.
- iii) The concerned Fishery Officer shall compile and forward the consolidated report/recommendations to the office of the Assistant Director Fisheries (ADF) concerned for further necessary action.

2. Identification of Beneficiaries:

- i) Beneficiary lists shall be prepared by the Assistant Director Fisheries (ADF) at the district level on the basis of recommendations received through the concerned Fishery Officers and Fish Cooperative Societies.

ii) Verification shall be carried out through license records and cooperative societies.

3. **Verification Process:**

Cross-checking of the following records/documents shall be undertaken:

- i) Valid Fishing Licenses.
- ii) Active engagement in fishing activities for the last three years which will be verified through Society Membership Records
- iii) One eligible member from one family (as per Parivar Nakal).

4. **Approval Authority :**

District-level approval shall be accorded by the Deputy Director Fisheries (DDF)/Assistant Director Fisheries (ADF).

5. **Disbursement of Funds :**

Funds shall be transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) into the bank accounts of eligible fishermen.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Regular monitoring by the Directorate of Fisheries.
- Random verification to ensure only genuine beneficiaries receive benefits.
- Maintenance of a database of beneficiaries by the respective DDF/ADF.
- Annual review of scheme performance and beneficiary coverage at Directorate Level.

10. Expected Outcomes

- Financial relief to fishermen during non-fishing periods.
- Reduction in economic vulnerability.
- Increased compliance with fishing ban regulations.
- Promotion of sustainable fisheries practices.
- Strengthening of cooperative fisheries structure.

11. Conclusion

The “Mukhyamantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana” is a welfare-oriented initiative aimed at ensuring economic stability and social security for reservoir fishermen during the fishing ban period. With 100% State funding and a targeted approach towards active fishermen, the scheme will significantly contribute to the welfare of the fishing community and sustainable fisheries management in Himachal Pradesh.