

PAYMENT OF GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY ON ESSENTIAL GOODS (GSOG) TO ELIGIBLE TRADERS

1. Further to the promulgation of the Consumer Protection (Maximum Price of Essential Goods) Regulations 2021 (Government Notice No. 158 of 2021), the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development has entrusted the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) the responsibility to effect payment of subsidy on a monthly basis on essential goods, specified in the GN 158 of 2021, to **eligible traders** at the rate mentioned in the communiqué issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection on 10 July 2021. An extract of the communiqué related to the applicable rate is being reproduced hereunder:

Product	Subsidy (Rs) (i.e. retail price will be reduced by)	Unit of Measure
Canned Fish (Pilchard & Sardines)	2	Unit
Canned Tomatoes	6	Unit
Cheese	5	250g
Edible Oil	15	1 Litre
Margarine	10	500g
Milk Powder	15	1 kg
Pulses (dholl petit pois, dholl gram, lentilles noires, lentilles rouges, gros pois)	5	500g

2. **This measure shall come into operation on 12 July 2021.**
3. Eligible traders under this measure shall be:
- any registered/licensed importer, manufacturer, wholesaler or distributor of the essential goods specified in the GN 158 of 2021, **who sells those goods directly to a retailer;**
 - any registered/licensed importer or manufacturer who also holds a Retailer Licence and sells the essential goods specified in the GN 158 of 2021 **directly to members of the general public;**
 - any licensed retailer who still has in his possession a remaining stock of essential goods as specified in GN 158 of 2021 on 12 July 2021.
4. To benefit from the payment of the subsidy, eligible traders are required to **register with the MRA** through its website on **www.mra.mu**. The necessary online facility along with a registration guideline will be available as from **Monday 19 July 2021**.
5. At the time of registration, the eligible traders under paragraph 3 shall also be required to provide the details of their unsold stock in their possession on 12 July 2021 of essential goods as specified in GN 158 of 2021 as per the template and in the registration guideline provided on the online platform.
6. To benefit from the payment of the subsidy, registered eligible traders under paragraph 4 shall be required to submit their application **ONLINE** through MRA website **as from 01 August 2021**, as follows:
- any licensed retailer referred to under paragraph 3 (iii) shall make their application as from 01 August 2021.
The application for payment of subsidy shall be made only **once** in respect of the unsold stock of essential goods which was still in his possession on 12 July 2021.
 - any importer, manufacturer, wholesaler or distributor referred to under paragraph 3 shall –
 - make the application for payment of the subsidy not later than 7 working days after the end of that month for all sales effected during the preceding month; and
 - be required to submit together with their application, the details of purchases and sales of essential goods to licensed retailers made during the preceding month as per the template and application guideline provided on the online platform.
- Facilities for the submission of online applications for the payment of the subsidy under this measure, along with an application guideline, will be available on MRA website as from 01 August 2021.
7. **All payments of the subsidy will be credited directly in their respective bank accounts.**
8. Copies of the GN 158 of 2021 and the communiqué issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection on 10 July 2021 are available on the MRA Website.
9. For further details, kindly visit the MRA website: www.mra.mu or phone the MRA Helpdesk on 207 6000 or Customs Department on 202 0500 during working hours.

