

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

- Further to the communiqué dated 15 July 2021 issued by the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), relating to GN 158 of 2021 (covering 231 essential goods), eligible traders are hereby informed of the promulgation of the Consumer Protection (Maximum Price of Essential Goods) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (GN 162 of 2021) which have come into operation on **19 July 2021**.
- The applicable rate of subsidy for essential goods as per GN 162 of 2021 as per the communiqués issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection on 10 and 19 July 2021 is being reproduced below:

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 (dholh petit pois, dholh gram, lentilles noires, lentilles rouges, gros pois)	5	500g

- Eligible traders under this measure shall be:
 - any registered/licensed importer, manufacturer, wholesaler or distributor of the essential goods specified in the GN 158 and 162 of 2021, **who sells those goods directly to a retailer** in Mauritius;
 - any registered/licensed importer or manufacturer who also holds a Retailer Licence in Mauritius and sells the essential goods specified in the GN 158 and 162 of 2021 **directly to members of the general public**;
 - any licensed retailer in Mauritius who:
 - on 12 July 2021**, still has in his possession a remaining stock of 231 essential goods as per GN 158 of 2021; and
 - on **19 July 2021**, still has in his possession a remaining stock of 153 new essential goods which have been introduced in GN 162 of 2021. The list of the 153 essential goods is posted on the MRA website.
- Eligible traders under paragraph 3(i) and (ii) shall benefit from the payment of the subsidy on the:
 - 231 essential goods as per GN 158 of 2021 for the period of **12 July 2021 to 18 July 2021**;
 - 371 essential goods as per GN 162 of 2021, **as from 19 July 2021 and onwards**.
 - Licensed retailers under paragraph 3(iii) shall benefit from the payment of the subsidy on the unsold stock of the:
 - 231 essential goods as per GN 158 of 2021 which were **still in their possession on 12 July 2021**;
 - 153 essential goods which have been introduced in GN 162 of 2021 and were **still in their possession on 19 July 2021**.
- To benefit from the payment of the subsidy, eligible traders are required to **register with the MRA** through its website on **www.mra.mu** where a registration guideline is also available.
- At the time of registration, the eligible traders under paragraph 3 shall also be required to provide the details of their unsold stock of:
 - 231 essential goods as per GN 158 of 2021 on 12 July 2021**; and
 - 153 essential goods** which have been introduced in GN 162 of 2021, on **19 July 2021**,
 as per the template and registration guideline provided on the online platform.
- To benefit from the payment of the subsidy, registered eligible traders under paragraph 5 shall be required to submit their application **ONLINE** through MRA website **as from 02 August 2021** as follows:
 - any licensed retailer referred to under paragraph 3 (iii) shall make their application as from 02 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 and 19 July 2021, as the case may be.
 - 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's website as from 02 August 2021.
- All payments of the subsidy will be credited directly in their respective bank accounts.**
- Copies of the GN 158 and 162 of 2021 and the communiqués issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection on 10 and 19 July 2021 are available on the MRA Website.
- 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.

