



NAFSCOB

JOURNAL OF RURAL COOPERATIVE CREDIT AND BANKING



International Year
of Cooperatives
Cooperatives Build a Better World

Vol. - XIV

Issue -2

April - June 2025



Website: www.nafscob.org



**THE SATARA DISTRICT CENTRAL
COOPERATIVE BANK LTD., SATARA.**

An ISO 9001-2015 Certified bank.

CONTINUOUSLY 6 TIMES NABARD'S

"BEST PERFORMANCE AWARD" AND

"Special Commemorative Award-2018-19"

WINNER BANK



Uniqueness of the Bank.

- The bank is established on 15th August 1949 and being awarded audit class "A" from last 75 years.
- Total number of branches is 319 through which bank is providing RTGS/NEFT/Mobile Banking/Rupay Debit/Rupay KCC Card/ CTS clearing/ UPI facilities to the customers.
- Bank has designed more than 75 Medium & Long Term Loan Policies to the farmers for agriculture and agro based activities, and also designed loan schemes for salary earners, professionals & small scale industries.
- Bank has been giving Crop loan to farmers and giving interest subvention from profit to the farmers i.e. 0% interest rate of crop loan since last 15 years.
- Bank has been giving education loan up to Rs.30 lakhs and giving interest subvention from profit i.e.0% interest rate of education loan since last 13 years.
- Bank provides financial support from profit to PACs consecutively for last 17 years (2008-09 to 2024-25) for strengthening of their financial position.
- Bank has been certified by ISO 9001-2015 for its excellence in Management and Customer services. And Recorded as "Cooperative Banking Topper" in Limca Book of Records 2014.
- Bank has received more than 115 Awards from different institutions / agencies. Recently NAFSCOB has awarded the Bank for Best Performance in a decade. The award was presented by Hon'ble Shri Amit Shah, Union Home & Cooperation Minister, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- Bank is implementing DigiGram concept, wherein all customers of the selected village will be trained to utilize digital banking services offered by the Bank.
- Bank is implementing PMSBY for its savings bank account holders and the premium is paid by the Bank.
- In Covid-19 Pandemic, Bank has given financial support to the Covid Centre of the Govt, essential food commodity (Kit) to the farmers/farm worker and has made available medical instruments to the government hospital for corona infected patient.
- Bank has succeeded to get profit in 921 PACs out of 968 PACs as on 31-3-2025
- Board of Directors of the Bank is well experienced, studious and having excellent Administration, and has introduced innovative policies considering the need of farmers and common people.
- Bank has been making profit since last 75 years from 1949.
- Bank maintained 0% NET NPA on loans and advances consecutively for last 19 years from 2007-08 to 2024-25.

Hon. Shri Anil Desai
Vice Chairman

Hon. Shri Nitin Jadhav-Patil
Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
Chairman, Satara DCC Bank Ltd., Satara

All Board of Directors.

Dr. Rajendra Sarkale
Chief Executive Officer

General Manager, Manager, Dy. Manager, Officers and All Staff

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE COOPERATIVE BANKS LTD. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Konduru Ravinder Rao
Chairman, NAFSCOB,
Director, TSCAB



Ulhas B. Phal Dessai
Chairman, Goa SCB &
Vice-Chairman, NAFSCOB
(Western Zone)
(Up to 07-05-2025)



W. K. Kyndiah
Chairman, Meghalaya SCB &
Vice-Chairman, NAFSCOB
(North-Eastern Zone)



Davender Singh Shyam
Chairman, Himachal Pradesh SCB &
Vice-Chairman, NAFSCOB
(Northern-Zone)



Bhima Subrahmanyam
Managing Director, NAFSCOB

CHAIRMEN & CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF MEMBER STATE COOPERATIVE BANKS (AS ON 30TH JUNE, 2025)

SR. NO.	STATE COOPERATIVE BANKS	PRESIDENT/CHAIRMAN/ CHAIRPERSON/SPECIAL OFFICER/ ADMINISTRATOR	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
1	Andaman & Nicobar StCB, Port Blair	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma	Shri K. Murugan
2	Andhra Pradesh StCB, Vijayawada	Shri Ganni Veeranjanyulu, Ex. MLA	Dr. R. S. Reddy
3	Arunachal Pradesh StCB, Naharlagun	Shri Komkar Dulom, APCS	Shri Bittu Kri, APCS
4	Assam StCB, Guwahati	Shri Biswajit Phukan, MLA	Shri Dombaru Saikia
5	Bihar StCB, Patna	Shri Ramesh Chandra Chaubey	Shri Manoj Kumar Singh
6	Chandigarh StCB, Chandigarh	Shri Satinder Pal Singh Sidhu*	Ms. Anuradha S. Chagti , IAS
7	Chhattisgarh StCB, Raipur	Shri Kedar Nath Gupta	Shri K. N. Kandey
8	Delhi StCB, New Delhi	Dr. Bijender Singh, Ex. MLA*	Shri R.K. Kadyan
9	Goa StCB, Panaji	Shri Santosh Kenkre	Shri Anant M. Chodankar
10	Gujarat StCB, Ahmedabad	Shri Ajaybhai H. Patel*	Shri Pradip M. Vora
11	Haryana StCB, Chandigarh	–	Dr. Prafulla Ranjan
12	Himachal Pradesh StCB, Shimla	Shri Davender Singh Shyam*	Shri Sharwan Kumar Manta, HAS
13	Jammu & Kashmir StCB, Srinagar	--	Shri Akram Ullah Tak (JKAS)
14	Jharkhand StCB, Ranchi	Smt. Vibha Singh	Shri Brajeshwar Nath
15	Karnataka StCB, Bangalore	Shri Belli Prakash, Ex. MLA	Shri C. N. Devaraj, KCS
16	Kerala StCB, Thiruvananthapuram	Shri Gopi Kottamurickal*	Shri Jorty M. Chacko
17	Madhya Pradesh StCB, Bhopal	Smt. Deepali Rastogi, IAS	Shri M. K. Gupta (I/c)
18	Maharashtra StCB, Mumbai	Shri Vidyadhar V. Anaskar*	Shri Dilip Nanasaheb Dighe
19	Manipur StCB, Imphal	Shri Pangambam Ranjit Singh	Smt. Bidyarani Ayekpam, MCS
20	Meghalaya StCB, Shillong	Shri W. K. Kyndiah*	Shri O.E.J. Nongbri
21	Mizoram StCB, Aizwal	Shri Lalnunsanga*	Shri A. Lallungmuana
22	Nagaland StCB, Dimapur	Shri Sentianger Imchen, IAS	Shri Abhijit Kumar Deb
23	Odisha StCB, Bhubaneswar	Shri T. Prasad Rao Dora	Shri Siddhartha Das, IAS
24	Puducherry StCB, Puducherry	Thiru S. Yesvanthaiyah	Thiru D. Kumaran
25	Punjab StCB, Chandigarh	Shri Jagdev Singh*	Shri Harjeet Singh Sandhu, PCS
26	Rajasthan StCB, Jaipur	Smt. Manju Rajpal, IAS	Shri Sanjay Pathak
27	Sikkim StCB, Gangtok	--	Smt. Pema Chenzom*
28	Tamil Nadu StCB, Chennai	Shri P. Loganathan	--
29	Telangana StCB, Hyderabad	Shri Marneni Ravinder Rao	Shri Yadla Krishna Rao
30	Tripura StCB, Agartala	Shri Nagadhiraj Datta	Shri Bhajan Chandra Ray
31	Uttar Pradesh StCB, Lucknow	Shri Jitendra Bahadur Singh*	Shri R. K. Kulshrestha
32	Uttarakhand StCB, Haldwani	Shri Dileep Jawalkar, IAS	Shri Pradeep Mehrotra
33	West Bengal StCB, Kolkata	Shri Aveek Bhattacharya	Shri Sujan Sarkar

* Board of Directors.



The Editor

'NAFSCOB JOURNAL OF RURAL COOPERATIVE CREDIT AND BANKING'

National Federation of State Cooperative Banks (NAFSCOB)

J.K. Chambers, Fifth Floor, Plot No. 76, Sector-17,

Vashi, Navi Mumbai – 400 703, India

Phone: 91-22-27892741/27892697/27892738. Fax: 91-22-27892604

E-mail: nafscob@nafscob.org, Website: <http://www.nafscob.org>

EDITORIAL TEAM



Editor

Bhima Subrahmanyam

Associate Editor

J S Hanamashetti

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in the articles published in this journal are those of the authors of the articles and not necessarily of the NAFSCOB.



गोवा राज्य सहकारी बँक मर्यादित

THE GOA STATE CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

(Scheduled Bank)

Head Office "SAHAKAR SANKUL", Patto Plaza, EDC Complex, Panaji-Goa.

Tel. :0832-2437641-45; email: gscbpro@gscbgoa.in, gscbadm@gscbgoa.in; Website: www.gscbgoa.in

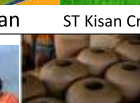
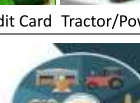
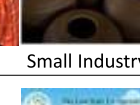
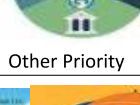
The Apex Financing Agency in the Co-operative Sector in the State of Goa

BANK WITH A MISSION

Mission: Agricultural & Micro Finance to assist economic growth of the State

Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most of real wealth to lead satisfied life!

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banking at the doorstep through Mobile Banking Cash Counter & ATM Services for North and South Goa. Providing RTGS/NEFT (IFS Code) NACH, AEPS, ABPS, ECS facilities to bank customers Loans for Agriculture, allied activities, etc. at concessional rate of interest Loans under KAMDHENU SCHEME for purchase of milch animals and Dairy activities Providing RuPay ATM Card, Rupay KISSAN CREDIT CARD, POS services & QR code services Vehicle, Housing, Property Mortgage Loans, Gold Loans and loans to small entrepreneur etc. on easy terms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Bancassurance & life cover through Govt. sponsored insurance scheme such as PMJJBY, PMSBY etc Anywhere banking facility on Core Banking Platform. Bank has installed micro ATMs at some of the merchant locations & at some of the Branches where there are no ATMs available in the vicinity Loans to Co-operative Societies & Self Help Groups with low rate of interest. Personal Loans to Government Servants, Autonomous Bodies, Employees of Govt. aided school, etc. Better returns on deposits, 0.5 % extra interest for Senior Citizens & Co-operative Societies. |
|--|---|

Non - Agriculture Loans					
	Gold Loan	Housing Loan	Vehicle Loan	Business Loan	Mortgage Loan
Agriculture Loans					
	Agriculture Loan (Plantations & Paddy)	Dairy Loan	ST Kisan Credit Card	Tractor/Power Tiller	
Priority Sector Loans					
	SRWTO Loan	JLG Loan	SHG Loan	Small Industry	Other Priority
ATM, Micro ATMs, RTGS / NEFT & Bancassurance					
	RTGS / NEFT	ATMS	POS Service	Rupay Card	PMJJBY/PMSBY



BANK PROVIDES FACILITIES THROUGH NETWORK OF 55 BRANCHES IN GOA WITH ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

WE FULFILL ALL YOUR DREAMS AT EASE

CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS FIRST

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL.....

ARTICLE

- A Few Issues in Refinance for Short Term Agricultural Operations - Krishna Kumar Gupta 01-05
- An Insight into Major Schemes in the Cooperative Sector of Kerala, 2024-25 - Sunitha Sahadevan 07-08
- देवगांव (सलुम्बर) के विकास में मील का पत्थर साबित हुई ग्राम सेवा सहकारी समिति - Alok Kumar Choudhary 09-11
- Reinforcing Financial Governance and Risk Discipline in Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) - Dr. Diksha Sharma 13-15
- Self Help Groups in the Cooperative Sector - Nilanjan Sinha 17-18

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Activities proposed by the Ministry of Cooperation for the celebration of IYC during Ministry's formation day Week (1st to 6th July, 2025) 19
- Maharashtra State Proposes bold reforms to boost Maharashtra's Co-op sector..... 20-21
- Launch of Cyber Security Operations Center (C-SOC) in the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank Ltd..... 22-23
- International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay)..... 23-25
- Concept Paper on Opening of Deposit Collection Centres and Branches- Maharashtra StCB..... 26-27

NEWS FROM UNION MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

- 61 initiatives of MoC, Gol aimed under the overarching vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi' - A List 28-30
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses the State Level Cooperative Conference in Bhopal as the Chief Guest 31-32
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses Mega Sammelan on "The Role of Cooperation in Building Viksit Bharat" in Gujarat 33-35

IYC - 2025

- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses a national seminar held in Mumbai on the occasion of 'International Cooperative Year 2025' 36-37
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, chairs a "Manthan Baithak" with Cooperation Ministers of all States and UTs to commemorate the 'International Year of Cooperatives 2025' in New Delhi 38-40

SPECIAL ADDRESS: Reproduced

- Moving the Boundaries of Financial Inclusion-A Regulatory Perspective-Shri M Rajeshwar Rao, Deputy Governor, RBI..... 41-45

BOARD MEETING

- NAFSCOB Board Meeting 46

EXECUTIVE DIARY

- Shri Santosh R Kenkre, Chairman, The Goa State Cooperative Bank Ltd..... 47

CIRCULARS

- Circular of RBI on Liquidity Adjustment Facility - Change in rates..... 48
- Circular of RBI on Inoperative Accounts/ Unclaimed Deposits in Banks - Revised Instructions (Amendment) 2025 48
- Circular of RBI on Updation/ Periodic Updation of KYC - Revised Instructions..... 49
- Circular of NABARD on Phase IV of Amalgamation of RRBs - One State One RRB..... 49-50

NAFSCOB EVENTS..... 51

ICBA EVENTS..... 53-55

CURRENT NEWS..... 56

STATISTICS 57-59

In connection with the International Year of Cooperatives, Shri Konduru Ravinder Rao, Chairman, Karimnagar District Central Cooperative Bank and Chairman, NAFSCOB has taken out rally along with Presidents of all the PACS, Weaver Societies and employees of the Karimnagar DCC Bank on 28-06-2025.



From the Editor's Diary. . . .



Strengthening Cooperative Banks through a Shared Services Entity

A Shared Services Entity (SSE) is being established by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for Rural Cooperative Banks (RCBs) to enhance their IT infrastructure and digital capabilities. This entity, with an authorized capital of ₹1,000 crore, is a private limited company under the Companies Act, with contributions from NABARD (33.33%), NCDC (33.33%), and RCBs (33.33%) and the first set of services is expected to be rolled out in FY 2025-26. The SSE aims to provide RCBs with shared IT infrastructure, including centralized MIS servers, cyber security solutions, and support for regulatory compliance. The services to be provided to RCBs include centralized payment systems, on boarding for Account Aggregators, Cyber insurance etc. under SSE.

This initiative will help smaller cooperative banks overcome high IT costs and limited manpower. According to NABARD, this initiative is part of a broader effort to modernize rural credit delivery and strengthen the cooperative banking sector through technology. The main purpose of SSE is aimed to offer an unified and efficient digital platform for RCBs, specifically District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) and State Cooperative Banks (StCBs). The SSE will enable them to upgrade their IT infrastructure, access cost-effective digital solutions, improve operational efficiency & enhance customer experience.

This excellent initiative of NABARD with endorsement from RCBs is both timely and transformative. By pooling resources and offering common infrastructure especially in areas like Core Banking Solutions (CBS), cybersecurity, data management, Cyber Insurance etc., the SSE can help even the smallest cooperative banks access high-quality digital tools and services at an affordable cost. This initiative also promises standardization, improved efficiency, and enhanced risk management and also exercises freedom of functional Autonomy. The SSE also facilitates lesser dependence on regulatory/supervisory agencies and accord more empowerment for self-regulation, self-help and management/governance.

'Co-operatives Build a Better World'-IYC 2025

BHIMA SUBRAHMANYAM

EDITOR



THE NAGALAND STATE COOPERATIVE BANK LTD
(Sponsored & Financed by Govt. of Nagaland)
H.O Administrative Building, Churches Colony, Khermahal,
House No.64, P. B No.153, P.O Dimapur -797112, Nagaland

Registration No. & Date : O/o RCS vide No.NL/0126 dt.04-11-1966.
 Date of Commencement of Business : 21-04-1967
 RBI License No : RPCD.Guwa/2011-12/SCB-6 dated April 13, 2012
 Golden Jubilee Year : 10th November, 2017
 No. of Branch : 23
 Audit Class : B+
 PAN : AAABT0198A GSTN : 13AAABT0198A1ZZ IFSC : UTIB0SNSCB1
 RBI Bank Code : 00007014 GSTIN : 13SHLTO1888FIDC DEAF Code : 0167
 DICGC Institute Code : STCBNL0001 Registration No. 7014
 Area of Operation : State of Nagaland Email : ho@nscb.co.in Website: www.nscb.co.in

Services	Deposit Scheme	Loans & Advances
- Locker Facility - ATM Services - Mobile ATM Service - Fund Transfer - RTGS/NEFT/IMPS - Clearing/Collection/Cheque - Truncation System (CTS) - Rupay Debit Card - Classic/Platinum	- Saving Bank - PMJDY - Saving Bank - Premium - Recurring Deposit - Reinvestment - Scheme - Cooperative Gold - Golden Growth - Certificate - Lakhpatti Deposit - Scheme - Monthly Pension - Scheme - Festive Bonus - Scheme - Education Cum - Capital Formation - Scheme - Salary Plus Saving	- Crop Loans - Rupay -KCC - VDB Micro Finance - SHG - JLG - ACABC - CMMFI - Cash Credit - General Credit Card - SRTO/Car Loans - Personal Loans - Micro Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) - Community Sponsored Projects - Loans under service sector - Govt. sponsored Programme. - Home Loan. - Salary Plus Loan Scheme - KCC AH

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS AS ON 31-03-2025: (Rupees in Lakhs)

Paid up Capital	: 7167.60
Owned Funds	: 12668.15
Deposits	: 114752.13
Borrowings	: 9889.87
Business	: 193572.32
NPA	: 13.29
Net Profit	: (+) 1247.28
Net worth	: (+) 14,590.37
CRAR	: (+) 31.11



ARTICLE

A FEW ISSUES IN REFINANCE FOR SHORT TERM AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS

Krishna Kumar Gupta *

The theme of UN-IYC2025 "Cooperatives Build a Better World" aims at highlighting the role of cooperative institutions in the local, national and international economy particularly for the service of the 'have-not' sections of the society that are not able to reap the benefits of the development process to its desired level due to the growing complexities of the economic development process. The cooperatives are the organisations of the masses, for the masses and by the masses. However, in order to serve their clientele effectively and efficiently, the cooperative institutions have to emerge as organisations strong enough intrinsically to safeguard the interest of the downtrodden masses and should be able to compete appropriately with various other players in the parallel economic space. The financial strength is one important parameter to gauge the strengths of the cooperative institutions and the rural financial cooperatives (the rFinCoops) in India have to do a lot to strengthen themselves to manage their own finances in the current economic scenario. It is in this context that in case of the Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS) in India, the refinance from NABARD as a big financial resource for their lending program for Short Term (Seasonal Agricultural Operations) assumes importance in the financial management strategy of the State Cooperative Banks (StCBs) and District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs). This paper endeavours to highlight a few points for consideration of the cooperative leadership in StCBs and DCCBs.

It may be recalled that even though the cooperative societies of different kinds had been set up with the initiatives of various individuals in different part of British India in the years at the far end of the nineteenth century, the cooperative movement came into being as an organised structure with the setting up of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies on promulgation of the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904. This Act provided for organisation of the credit cooperative societies separately in rural and

urban areas; however, the contemporary Government decided against any Government financial participation in these societies and, as such, these societies were left to raise their own financial resources. Moreover, the rural credit societies, having the membership with unlimited liability, were not allowed to share any dividend out of the profit and this provision affected the members' interest in these societies. The Act also did not make any provision regarding the business of societies other than the supply of credit to the individual members or for membership in a cooperative society available to any other cooperative society. With the evolution of credit societies, the establishment of other classes of co-operative societies also got momentum and, as such, by 1910 several classes of societies including those for production, distribution, consumer cooperatives etc. came into existence. In the organisation of co-operative societies in Europe the ground level credit societies were grouped as Unions and their financing was facilitated by means of Central Banks the members of which would be other co-operative credit societies. Taking into consideration various such constraining factors, the Act, 1904 was amended and the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 was promulgated under which, inter alia, the Central Cooperative Banks came into existence that had credit societies as members and these banks catered to the financial needs of their member societies to a considerable extent. In due course of time the State Cooperative Banks were also set up to facilitate financial intermediation amongst the Central Cooperative Banks. However, with the growth of agriculture, the demand for financial resources at the level of the credit societies kept on increasing. In 1966, the Cooperative Banks were brought under the regulatory control of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under the Banking Regulation Act (as applicable to cooperative societies). Apart from the regulatory role, RBI initiated a host of measures over a period of time for development of the cooperative credit structure as

* Krishna Kumar Gupta is a retired Chief General Manager of NABARD. The views expressed herein are personal. Krishna Kumar Gupta is a retired Chief General Manager of NABARD. The views expressed herein are personal.

a part of which it introduced the scheme of refinance to the State Cooperative Banks for augmenting the resources at the level of the Central Banks for funding the credit societies for seasonal agricultural operations (SAO). Upon establishment of NABARD, this function was taken over by NABARD; RBI provided a General Line of Credit (GLC) to NABARD for meeting the resource requirements for the aforesaid ST (SAO) refinance to the State Cooperative Banks. However, in due course of time, the funds from GLC got reduced gradually for regulatory prudence reasons; then the Government of India decided to provide funds to NABARD out of the shortfall in Priority Sector Lending targets of Scheduled Commercial Banks, to purvey concessional refinance to State Cooperative Banks through setting up the Short Term Cooperative Rural Credit (Refinance) Fund (STCRCF) in FY 2008-09. The condition for this refinance was that it would support the banks with funds through NABARD at an interest rate of 04.50% per annum, provided the banks lend to the ultimate borrower at an interest rate of 07.00% per annum upto an amount of Rs. 03.00 lakh per borrower. NABARD also introduced the facility of Additional Short-Term Refinance for Seasonal Agriculture Operations [Additional ST(SAO)], over and above the aforesaid normal ST(SAO) limit to StCBs, through market borrowings to tide over the StCBs' liquidity constraints arising due to increased ground level demand for credit, loans not covered under the normal ST(SAO) limit, low accretion of deposits, and for offsetting the delay in receipt of STCRC funds allocated by RBI/Gol etc. The refinance under this line of credit is eligible for interest subvention as per extant interest subvention guidelines of Government of India; however, the interest rate charged by NABARD on this facility is pegged to the market rates and has options of 'floating' and 'fixed' rates. Currently, an interest subvention is provided to the StCBs on this refinance @ of 01.50% p.a. on normal ST (SAO) and 02.00% on additional ST (SAO) limits. The Additional ST(SAO) refinance serves as a supplementary resource to the Cooperative Banks at the prudence of the bank. It is on record that during the year 2022-23, the StCBs availed of the normal ST (SAO) refinance to the extent of Rs 49405 crores and during the year 2023-24 it went up to Rs 50518 crores. As against this, the Additional ST (SAO) limits availed by the StCBs were Rs 47714

crore and Rs 57659 crores respectively. In addition to these two refinance facilities, NABARD also provides short term credit limits to StCBs for the purposes other than the short-term agricultural operations. In all, the total refinance provided by NABARD to STCCS during the two years respectively amounted to Rs 116773 crore and Rs 134286 crore. These facilities have helped the STCCS substantially in enlarging their loan portfolio as also their geographical expanse across the country. In the wake of the competitive market-led circumstances of the rural finance in our country in the last at least three decades, some amount of stress has been witnessed on the financials of the units under the STCCS. The Government of India is aware of the same and, therefore, the Ministry of Cooperation has introduced various Schemes of Support to the STCCS so that the credit flow to the farmers and entire agriculture sector is enhanced in line with the ever-increasing demand for financial resources by various sectors of the national economy. Interest subvention on refinance as also the ultimate rate of interest on loans is one such important initiative. However, with the ever-increasing quantum of refinance requirement under reckoning, there is a perceived stress on continuously increasing the quantum of funds available to NABARD on annual basis out of the shortfall of PSL Targets of commercial banks, as also on the amount of the interest subvention from Gol, both for the normal and for the additional limits of ST-SAO Refinance to STCCS from NABARD. Under these scenarios, there is a need for the STCCS to review entire gamut of issues relating to their financing for short term agricultural credit operations. Some of such issues are being deliberated upon in the following paragraphs for consideration in such an internal review by the cooperative leadership.

The Deposits of all DCCBs in India during the year ended 31 March 2022, 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024 were Rs 412573 crore, Rs 433358 crore and Rs 4,76,610 crore respectively. The Deposits of StCBs during the same year-end were Rs 240953 crore, Rs 242327 crore and Rs 25682 crore respectively; this includes the amount of deposits kept by the DCCBs with the respective State's StCB. As against this, the total agricultural short term crop loan disbursement of the cooperative banks at the ground level was around Rs 2,29,092 crore in the FY 2021-22, Rs 2,19,478 crore in 2022-23 and Rs 2,24,331 crore in 2023-24; during

the FY 2024-25, the target for the same was at Rs 240000 crore. Out of this amount, the refinance support during the FY 2024-25 from NABARD is expected to be around Rs 110000 crore and the balance of Rs 130000 crore would be expected to be managed from out of the deposit resources of the cooperative banks; of this, around Rs 24000 crore would be from out of the deposit-resources of the StCBs and the balance Rs 106000 crore from out of the deposit-resources of the DCCBs. It is also noted that around 48% of the disbursement of crop loan is under the scheme of GoI to provide crop loans to ultimate beneficiaries at the interest rate of not more than 07.00% p.a. wherein the refinance at a concessional rate of interest is provided by NABARD along with the interest subvention. The balance around 52 % is for other farmers at normal rates of interest of the bank with only an interest subvention being available to the banks.

The refinance from NABARD for both the normal and additional ST (SAO) is available only if the borrowing StCB has CRAR level of 09.00% or more. Further, the quantum of normal ST(SAO) refinance made available by NABARD to the StCBs so eligible is linked to the net NPA of the StCB in the previous FY such that the StCBs with net NPA not exceeding 06.00% are eligible for refinance upto 40% of the of the Realistic Lending Program (RLP) of DCCBs / StCB in three / two tier structure respectively. In case of net NPA more than 06.00% upto 10.00%, the quantum is limited to 35% of RLP and for NPA between 10.00% to 12.00% it is 30% of RLP and no refinance is available if the net NPA exceeds 12.00%. Thus, greater the NPA, larger is the own involvement of the DCCBs / StCB. The StCBs in Eastern Region viz. Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh States and 28 districts in Eastern Uttar Pradesh (under BGREI scheme of Govt. of India) are eligible for additional refinance of 5% over and above the applicable aforesaid normal quantum of refinance. The StCBs in the North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, are eligible for additional refinance of 20% with relaxation in net NPAs such that the StCBs with NPA upto 10.00% are eligible for a quantum of refinance @ 60% of the RLP. In case of the Additional ST (SAO) limit, the quantum of refinance in different categories as aforesaid is higher by 20% of RLP across the board with reference to the respective quantum available for normal ST (SAO) limit. Taking into consideration all

these facts as also the trend of past couple of years, it is estimated that around 46% of the financial resources for the RLP are raised out of refinance and rest around 54% are raised out of own contribution of STCCS.

In the aforesaid backdrop, it is worthwhile to examine the economics of the refinance in terms of the impact on the profitability of the STCCS as to how far the provision of financial support to the farmers for short term agricultural operations at the terms and conditions specified by the Government of India is profitable for the STCCS. The own resources for the purpose of lending under reference here largely reckons to a part of the deposit-resources as other components covered under the definition of 'own funds' are already tied up in various accounting heads such as fixed assets, share capital contribution to higher agency, accumulated losses (in many banks), and various other respective liabilities. Therefore, the 'own involvement resources' for the realistic lending program is deemed to be coming from the deposits at the level of StCB and DCCBs. The discussion here does not take into consideration, justifiably, each and every fund on the liability side of the balance sheet of a bank and, hence, does not consider the 'cost of funds' in its entirety as shown in the balance sheet. Further, the returns on investments (that are mostly in the form of SLR to be maintained by these banks in respect of their deposits) are not reckoned in this write-up as the same are just sufficient in amount for offsetting the 'no-returns' situation on items like CRR, Cash on Hand, fixed assets, current assets and various expenses. The arguments here proceed with the assumption of the bank's contribution to the lendable resources for ST(SAO) coming from the deposit-resource of the SCB & DCCBs, in addition to the refinance component coming from NABARD.

As per the figures published by NABARD, the cost of deposits of StCBs was 5.96% and 5.32% during FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 whereas the same for DCCBs was 05.50% and 04.97% respectively. The Cost of Management (that has to be loaded proportionately upon the deposit resources for own involvement) was 0.99% and 01.03% for StCBs and 01.71% and 01.70% for DCCBs in the respective years. The Risk Cost figures (in terms of the interest loss and provisioning in case of NPAs) are 0.63% and 0.65% for StCBs and 0.68 and 0.83% for DCCBs respectively. Even though these figures are for an average of all StCBs and

DCCBs in the country that had furnished their respective figures to NABARD, for the purpose of elaboration of our arguments here a substantial reliance has been placed on these figures though it is to be recognised that the case for individual StCB or the DCCB would be different (plus or minus) within a reasonable limit from these figures. The Financial Costs of funds for own involvement for lending under the normal ST (SAO) scheme can be computed from these figures and this may be suitably adjusted for the interest subvention to be received by the STCCS. Now, in order to lend @ 07.00% to the farmers, the StCB must lend funds (including the refinance received from NABARD and own involvement of StCB in a three-tier structure) to the DCCB @ not more than 05.00% and from DCCB to PACS @ not more than 06.00% rate of interest. At these rates, the gross margin on the funds for own involvement in most of the cases would not be sufficient to meet the Cost of Management plus the risk cost. The rate of interest on refinance of NABARD is 04.50%. As against this, the cost of deposit funds is around 05.00% which; the computations indicate that this difference of around 0.50% makes a difference of not more than 0.25% in the overall financial cost of funds for lending for ST (SAO) operations under the normal Scheme though it causes a substantial enhancement in the quantum of financial resources available with the STCCS for lending. The intent of this hypothesis is that each unit of the STCCS should work out the financial economics of the lending for the ST (SAO) under both the schemes referred to earlier as a part of its prudent financial management. The STCCS cannot afford not lending to the ST (SAO) operations as it is the basic mandate of the business of the STCCS; however, in order to remain profitable at the end of the financial year the StCBs and DCCBs have to cross-subsidise the losses or the marginal income from ST(SAO) by way of an increasing amount of lending for high-value and high-income generating avenues of loans. A well-calibrated and planned diversification in their portfolio with carefully crafted policies, procedures and risk-management systems cannot be postponed by the STCCS any more. This may call for certain high level policy decisions at the regulatory and the government levels also to allow the StCBs and the DCCBs on a graduated scale for all types of lending facilities, whether short term or medium / long term, to their potential clients at par with that permissible at present to any other banking entity regulated by RBI; for

achieving this, these banks will have to shed their tag of the "Short Term Credit" Structure, particularly in a scenario where the so-called LTCCS is gradually losing its significance because of increasing dormancy. The leadership in the STCCS will have to mobilise opinion-building for this purpose through the Ministry of Cooperation in Government of India, apart from its own national level cooperative bodies. Then only the StCBs and the DCCBs would be able to compete with other players in the rural financial market.

These banks should also keep in consideration that the demand for the ST(SAO) loans is ever increasing and, therefore, the StCBs and DCCBs would have to mobilise greater quantum of financial resources so as to remain relevant in the rural financial ecosystem. The refinance from NABARD is relevant and cannot be ignored as a substantial financial-resource augmentation. However, the normal ST(SAO) refinance is sourced by NABARD at present from Gol and RBI from out of the shortfall of the priority sector targets of commercial banks. The shortfall in PSL is inversely proportional to the increasing demand for the priority sector credit that includes the ST(SAO). Therefore, the quantum of normal ST(SAO) refinance shall have its limitations and it may not increase in proportion to the enhancement in the Realistic Lending Program (RLP) of DCCBs / StCB in next couple of years' period from now. Therefore, these banks shall have to either raise their own resources by way of increase in low-cost deposits or borrow refinance from NABARD at higher rates of interest under the Additional ST(SAO) dispensation. Therefore, these banks shall be well advised to conduct the financial review of their ST(SAO) lending, both from the angle of resource availability and its costs vis-à-vis the returns thereon.

The costs of refinance in the futuristic scenario is another factor in consideration. The rate of interest under the normal scheme for ST(SAO) refinance is pegged at 04.50% p.a. along with an interest subvention of 01.50% p.a. on the amount of banks' ST(SAO) loans not exceeding Rs 03.00 lakhs to the farmers using KCC accounts. There are certain whispers of demand for reduction in the Rol of NABARD refinance under the normal scheme. As the quantum of this refinance-resource is being determined by Gol and RBI in relation to the priority sector lending shortfall (PSL) of the commercial

banks, there will be quite a lot of limitations in increasing the quantum of this resource unabatedly. At the same time, any reduction in the RoI on this amount is also likely to fall against the stonewall for the reason that reduction in the RoI will have a negative impact on the bottom-line of the commercial banks that may not be favoured by the authorities concerned. Further, the resource mobilisation for the Additional ST(SAO) refinance is being done by NABARD from the financial markets and as the trend in the financial market indicates, the expectation for any substantial fall in the interest rates of financial resources will be a far cry unless NABARD is provided a substantial amount of interest subvention by Gol on raising these funds by NABARD from the open financial market.

With the above in consideration, the focal point is the capability of Gol to provide greater amount of interest subvention at all levels as against the current rates thereof. This Scheme of Government of India for interest subvention is being reviewed every year and is being extended on year-on-year basis; as such, it is not a permanent feature for ever. The decision on continuation of the Scheme for the FY 2025-26 has been taken by Gol recently on 28 May 2025. The substantial increase in both the quantum and the rate of the interest subvention hinges upon the possibility of instituting a mechanism by which a controlled enhancement of the interest subvention could be feasible at all levels and a sizeable budgetary allocation is made for this purpose by Gol. Analogies

might be drawn for this purpose from the Production Linked Incentives (PLI) Schemes being instituted by the Central Government for certain priority areas of industrial production, out of the budgetary resources. Until that is done and the StCBs and DCCBs are required to provide finance to the ultimate borrowers for ST(SAO) purposes at the current levels of financial incentives, these banks may take a calculated call on managing their lending portfolio, with special consideration of the ST(SAO).

It is, thus, discernible that the availment of refinance by the rFinCoops is becoming a complex issue, by and by, and a considerable amount of time and intellect would have to be put in by the cooperative leadership in taking the financial decisions on managing their loan portfolio / realistic lending program as also the resources required for the same. The prudence required for such management activities should be developed in all units of the STCCS in an appropriate manner and NAFSCOB will be well-advised to chalk out a series of capacity building programs for all its member units. NAFSCOB should also continue pursuing with the appropriate authorities for a better ecosphere of the Refinance System with enhanced incentives of the interest subvention and interest rates in the interest of its member cooperatives. NAFSCOB should also create a greater awareness of various aspects of refinance issues along with the capacity enhancement measures.

Cooperative - Values

Co-operatives are based on the values of **self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity** and **solidarity**. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

Appeal for Advertisement in the 'NAFSCOB Journal of Rural Cooperative Credit and Banking'

NAFSCOB invites advertisements to publish in its 'NAFSCOB JOURNAL OF RURAL COOPERATIVE CREDIT AND BANKING' quarterly Journal which has a wider circulation among the member SCBs, DCCBs, refinancing institutions, Government of India and other National Level Organisations. Also, it has been decided to provide opportunities to all the cooperative organisations to disseminate their activities & achievements through our NAFSCOB JOURNAL.

The issue covers articles, case studies/profile, special features, information/data etc. on cooperative credit and banking sector. Efforts are being made to improve the quality of presentation and contents of the journal on various issues related to Cooperative Credit Institutions. The Journal also provides opportunities to the member banks, various other cooperative organisations and also the cooperative researchers etc. to disseminate information on their performance, findings, innovative banking practices and innovations in the banking sector etc. and the need for active participation of SCBs is felt to make the cost of the Journal viable and most meaningful. The issue also covers a pictorial presentation of the important moments etc. and publishing of such issue involves expenditure. Therefore, we solicit your support in the form of your bank's advertisement to meet a part of the expenditure for bringing out the issue. The details of the revised advertisement tariff* are given below:

Page	Single Issue	Yearly (4 issues)
4 th cover page (Colour only)	₹. 8,000	₹. 30,000
2 nd or 3 rd cover page (Colour only)	₹. 7,000	₹. 25,000
Inside full Colour page	₹. 6,000	₹. 20,000
Inside full page (Black & White only)	₹. 4,000	₹. 15,000

* w.e.f. 1/04/2019

In order to make the NAFSCOB JOURNAL more viable, meaningful and effective clearing house of thinking and information for cooperatives, we kindly request you to extend your support by advertising through it. The matter and material for advertisement may kindly be sent in CD format or by-mail (nafscob@nafscob.org) to NAFSCOB JOURNAL along with the cheque/ draft in favour of "National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Ltd." payable at Mumbai** to the below given address.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
'NAFSCOB JOURNAL OF RURAL COOPERATIVE CREDIT AND BANKING'
National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Ltd.

J.K. Chambers, Plot No.76, Fifth Floor, Sector-17, Vashi, Navi Mumbai - 400 703.

Phone: 2789 2741, 2789 2697, 2789 2738, Fax: (91)-022-2789 2604

E-mail: nafscob@nafscob.org / Website: www.nafscob.org

**Further, kindly note our SBI A/c No. 57000027372, (IFS Code: SBIN0070665) to remit the advertisement tariff by any means of electronic transfer. Those who prefer to remit the advertisement tariff by any means of electronic transfer (RTGS/NEFT/ECS, etc.) kindly send an e-mail/intimation at nafscob@nafscob.org giving details of the remitter and particulars of the advertisement.

ARTICLE

AN INSIGHT INTO MAJOR SCHEMES IN THE COOPERATIVE SECTOR OF KERALA, 2024-25

Sunitha Sahadevan *

The cooperative sector in Kerala has long been a cornerstone of the state's socio-economic development, serving as a vital mechanism for promoting financial inclusion, rural development, and community welfare. Rooted in a legacy of collective effort and mutual support, Kerala's cooperative movement has evolved over the decades, becoming a model for other regions in India. Today, the Government of Kerala continues to play a pivotal role in nurturing this sector through a range of innovative schemes designed to address contemporary challenges and harness new opportunities. From digitalization initiatives to welfare programs aimed at empowering marginalized communities, these schemes reflect the government's commitment to strengthening the cooperative fabric of the state. This article delves into the major schemes recently introduced by the Government of Kerala in the cooperative sector, highlighting their objectives, key features, and potential impact on the state's economy and society.

Sl. No	Subject	Project Name	Objectives	Initiatives
1	Digital Transformation of Cooperative Banks	Implementation of Core Banking Solutions (CBS)	To enhance the operational efficiency of Cooperative banks and provide members with modern banking facilities	Integration of CBS in Several Cooperative banks across the State. Introduction of Mobile banking apps and online banking Services. Installation of ATM's in Rural and underserved areas to improve access.
2	Strengthening of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)	PACS as Multi - Service Centres	To diversify the activities of PACS and make it central Hub for Rural economic activities.	Conversion of PACS into centers offering services like agricultural marketing, storage and retail. Launch of e-commerce platforms to enable PACS to market their products online.
3	Financial Assistance for Weaker Cooperatives	Revival and Rehabilitation of Weaker Cooperatives	To provide financial support to struggling cooperative societies to help them regain financial stability.	Distribution of grants and soft loans to select cooperative societies. Implementation of restructuring plans to improve the management and financial health of these societies.
4	Women and Youth Empowerment through Cooperatives	New Cooperative Ventures by women and Youth	To encourage the formation of new cooperative societies led by women and youth.	Launch of training programs and workshops focused on entrepreneurship development.

5	Social Welfare Schemes for Cooperative Members.	Cooperative Social Security Scheme	To enhance the social security coverage for cooperative members, particularly those in the organized sector.	Implementation of the insurance schemes and pension plans for cooperative members. Expansion of health and education benefits under cooperative welfare programs.
6	Infrastructural Development Projects	Upgradation of Cooperative Infrastructure	To improve the physical infrastructure of Cooperative societies of Kerala	Construction and renovation of office building and storage facilities. Development of new cooperative markets and retail outlets.
7	Green Cooperative Initiatives	Sustainable Practices in Cooperatives.	To encourage environmentally friendly practices within the cooperative sector	Support for renewable energy projects, organic farming cooperatives and waste management initiatives, financial incentives for green Projects.
8	Cooperative Tourism Development Schemes	To develop tourism cooperatives that promote local culture, heritage and sustainable tourism practices.	Financial Assistance for cooperative run home stays, Eco-tourism projects and community based initiatives	Focus on rural heritage tourism
9	Microfinance through Cooperatives	To expand access to micro finance for marginalized communities through cooperative societies.	Interest free or low interest microloans, financial literacy programme and support for self help groups (SHGs)	Focus on women, rural artisans and small farmers.
10	Kerala Cooperative Social Security Scheme	To provide comprehensive social security coverage to cooperative members, particularly in the unorganized sector.	Insurance coverage, Pension Schemes and Health Benefits	Targeted at low-income and vulnerable groups.
11	Kerala Cooperative Entrepreneurship Development Programme (KCEDP)	To promote entrepreneurship within the cooperative sector, particularly among youth and women	Training programs, financial support and mentorship for new cooperative ventures	Focus on innovation and sustainable business models.
12	Kerala Bank's New Initiatives	To strengthen the role of the Kerala State Cooperative Bank (Kerala Bank) in providing comprehensive financial services to the cooperative sector.	Introduction to new loan products, support for micro and small enterprises and special schemes for women Entrepreneurs.	Focus on Digital banking and financial inclusion.
13	Co-Operative Housing Scheme	To provide affordable housing to members of cooperative societies	Low-interest loans for constructing or purchasing homes, targeted at low and middle-income groups.	

*Programme officer, ACSTI, Trivandrum.

14	Women Cooperative Societies	To empower women through cooperatives by providing them with financial support and training.	Interest-free loans, skill development programs and market linkages for women entrepreneurs.	
15	Integrated Cooperative Development Project (ICDP)	To promote the development of cooperative societies in selected districts through an integrated approach	Financial Assistance for infrastructural development, modernisation and capacity Building	Support for agricultural marketing and processing
16	Kerala Cooperative Development and Welfare Fund	To provide welfare benefits to members of cooperative societies, including healthcare, education and financial support.	Welfare schemes for cooperative society members, including insurance, scholarships for children and pension schemes.	
17	Kerala State Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (KSCARDB)	To provide long-term finance for agricultural and rural development.	Loans for land development, minor irrigation, horticulture and other agricultural activities	Support rural housing and small-scale industries.
18	Cooperative Investment and Credit Scheme (CICS)	To enhance the credit flow to the cooperative sector, particularly in agriculture and allied sectors.	Investment credit for agriculture, allied activities, rural housing and small industries.	
19	Team Audit	Implementation of Team Audit		

Post-independence, the cooperative sector in Kerala witnessed significant growth and diversification, supported by both state and central government policies. In the 1950s and 1960s, the government introduced a series of reforms to strengthen cooperatives, including the establishment of cooperative banks, housing societies, and consumer cooperatives. These efforts were aimed at broadening the scope of cooperatives beyond agriculture to include sectors like banking, marketing, and housing. The 1980s and 1990s saw further expansion, with the introduction of welfare-oriented schemes, the formation of women's cooperatives, and the integration of technology into cooperative operations. Over the years, the Government of Kerala has launched numerous schemes to address the evolving needs of the sector, ensuring its continued relevance and effectiveness in promoting socioeconomic development across the state.

The Government of Kerala has launched a 100-day plan for 2024, which is proposed to be implemented from October 2024.

Under the 100-day program- 2024, the Government of Kerala has undertaken several key projects in the cooperative sector. Here are some of the projects and their budget allocation;

Sl.No	Project	Budget Allocation
1	Dreams-Sahakarna Maal	75000 lakh
2	Akshara Museum	1500 Lakh
3	Aushadha Kendra (Mattathur Labour Contract Service Bank)	200 Lakh
4	CAPE College of Nursing, Alappuzha	
5	Kozhikode Sahakarna Bhavan	200 lakh
6	Gig Workers Cooperative Society (Gig Workers food processing unit, Resting Centre, etc)	1350 Lakh 29 Lakh
7	Material Bank	
8	Sahakarna Ashwas - Care Home project	20000 Lakh
9	Sahakarna Expo- 2024	350 Lakh
10	Online Marketing of Cooperative Societies' Agricultural Products	400 Lakh
11	Cooperative Resort (Peerumede Cooperative Agricultural Rural Development Bank)	298 lakh
12	Sahakarna Vyavsaya Park (Cooperative Business Park)	1000 Lakh
13	Reclassification of Cooperative Societies	
14	Sahakarnam Sutharyam (TV Programme)	500 Lakh

These projects are part of Kerala's commitment to ensuring the cooperative sector remains a vibrant and integral part of the state economy, in supporting rural development, financial inclusion and social welfare. The 100 day-plan is designed to achieve quick wins while laying the groundwork for more long-term goals.

References:

1. Kerala State Planning Board - Annual Economic Review Reports:
2. Kerala State Co-operative Department - Official Website:
3. Government of Kerala Budget Documents -
4. Research Papers and Articles
5. Newspaper Articles and Media Reports

सफलता की कहानी

ARTICLE

देवगांव (सलुम्बर) के विकास में मील का पत्थर साबित हुई ग्राम सेवा सहकारी समिति

Shri Alok Kumar Choudhary¹



परिचय :-

उदयपुर जिले से पृथक होकर बने नवगठित सलुम्बर जिले के मध्य में स्थित एक छोटा सा गांव है 'देवगांव'। 457 हैक्टेयर क्षेत्रफल में बसे इस छोटे से गांव में जनगणना 2011 के आकड़ों के अनुसार 1390 लोग निवास करते हैं, जिनकी आजीविका का मुख्य आधार कृषि है। लगभग आधी आबादी अशिक्षित है, जिनकी सरकारी योजनाओं से अनभिज्ञता वाजिब है। ऐसे ग्रामीण परिवेश में जनता को मुख्य धारा से जोड़ने के लिए वर्ष 2010 में देवगांव वृहत कृषि बहुउद्देशीय सहकारी समिति लि. का गठन किया गया।

सहकारिता का मूल मंत्र है 'बहुजन हिताय, बहुजन सुखाय', इसी मंत्र को ध्यान में रखते हुए समिति के संचालक मण्डल का गठन गांव के निवासियों में से ही किया गया। लोकतांत्रिक आधार पर प्रत्येक 5 वर्ष में समिति के चुनाव करवाकर पदाधिकारियों की नियुक्ति की जाती है, इसी क्रम में वर्तमान में श्री गोविन्द सिंह कृष्णावत समिति के अध्यक्ष हैं, जिनकी देखरेख में श्री विरेन्द्र गिरि समिति के व्यवस्थापक पद पर कार्यरत हैं।

सहकारी समिति की मुख्य गतिविधियां :-

देवगांव ग्राम सेवा सहकारी समिति प्राथमिक रूप से कृषि ऋण दात्री सहकारी समिति है जिसके कार्य क्षेत्र में पांच राजस्व ग्राम हैं।

1 ऋण वितरण:-

वर्तमान में सहकारी समिति में कुल 976 सदस्य हैं जिसमें से 404 ऋणी एवं 576 अऋणी सदस्य हैं तथा समिति द्वारा अपने 404

सदस्यों को वर्ष 2024 & 25 में 335 लाख रुपये का ब्याज मुक्त फसली ऋण उपलब्ध करवाया गया था। सहकारी समिति से जुड़े 11 पशुपालकों को समिति द्वारा राजस्थान सहकारी गोपाल क्रेडिट कार्ड ऋण योजना के अन्तर्गत ब्याज मुक्त ऋण सुविधा दी गई। समिति कृषि के साथ-साथ अकृषि ऋणों की भी सुविधाएं देती है जो की समिति की वित्तीय सक्षमता को बढ़ाने में सहायक होते हैं।

2 कस्टम हायरिंग सेन्टर :-

किसान की महती आवश्यकता है यांत्रिक कृषि उपकरण ताकि वह उन्नत कृषि की ओर एक कदम आगे बढ़ा सके। इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति हेतु राज्य सरकार ने कस्टम हायरिंग सेन्टर स्थापित करने की योजना आरंभ की जिससे किसानों को यांत्रिक कृषि उपकरण - ट्रैक्टर, सीडड्रिल, रोटोवेटर, डिस्क फलो आदि उचित दर पर किराये पर उपलब्ध हो सके।

देवगांव समिति ने भी इस योजना का लाभ उठाकर कस्टम हायरिंग सेन्टर की स्थापना की तथा स्थापना से लेकर 31-03-2025 तक इस सेन्टर पर कुल 160 किसान लाभान्वित हो चुके हैं।



¹ Managing Director, The Udaipur Central Cooperative Bank Ltd., Rajasthan

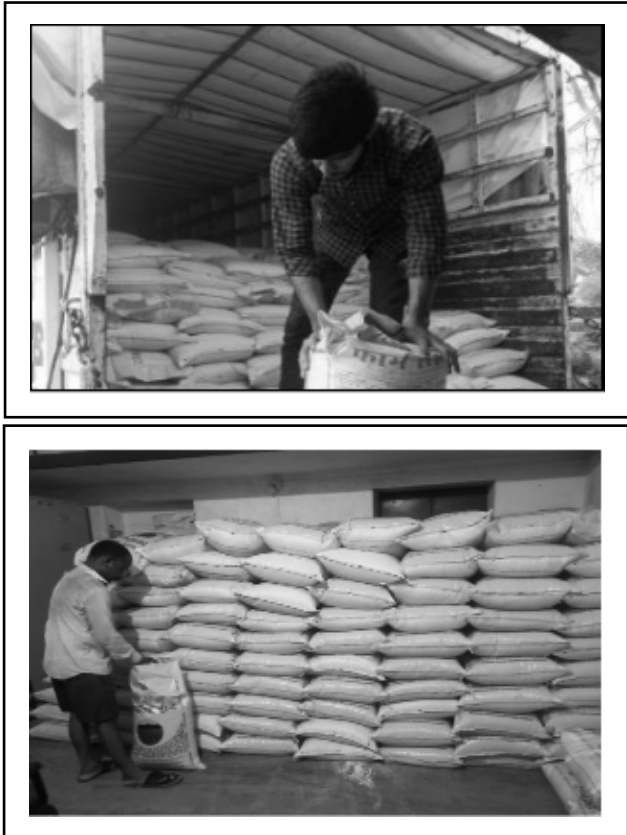
3 पीडीएस (सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली):-

खाद्य एवं आपूर्ति मंत्रालय द्वारा कम आय वर्ग वाली जनता को दैनिक भोजन की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करने के उद्देश्य से राशन कार्ड के माध्यम से अनाज का वितरण किया जाता है। देवगांव के निवासियों को इस योजना के अन्तर्गत लाभान्वित करने की दृष्टि से समिति ने अपने यहाँ पीडीएस केन्द्र की स्थापना की। वर्तमान में सेंटर पर 780 राशन कार्ड हैं जिसकी युनिट संख्या 2600 है।



४ प्रधान मंत्री किसान समृद्धि केन्द्र :-

ग्रामीणों को गुणवत्ता पूर्ण खाद-बीज उपलब्ध करवाने के दृष्टि से समिति में प्रधान मंत्री किसान समृद्धि केन्द्र की स्थापना की गई है। उक्त केन्द्र पर किसानों को डीएपी, यूरिया, सिंगल सुपर फास्फेट, एनपीके नैनों युरिया , नैनो डीएपी खाद उपलब्ध होता है।



5 पैक्स कम्प्यूटराईजेशन योजना :-

वर्ष 2021 में भारत सरकार द्वारा सहकारिता मंत्रालय की स्थापना के पश्चात प्रत्येक समिति को कम्प्यूटराईज करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया। देवगांव समिति सलुम्बर जिले की गो-लाईव हो चूकी समितियों में अग्रणी रही तथा वर्तमान में समिति का अधिकतर कार्य ऑनलाईन किया जाता है।

6 वित्तीय सेवाए:-

देवगांव निवासियों को बैंक संबंधी कार्य के लिये गांव से 10 किलोमीटर दूर स्थित बैंक शाखा में जाने में असुविधा होती थी, अतः समिति में ही मिनी बैंक की स्थापना की गई है। यह समिति क्रेफिकार्ड योजनान्तर्गत चयनित समिति हैं जिसके मिनी बैंक में कुल 2620 बचत खाते खुले हुए हैं।

7 किसान उत्पादक संगठन (FPO) :-

सहकार से समृद्धि अभियान की 54 पहलों में से एक किसान उत्पादक संगठन (FPO) का गठन है। समिति ने इस योजना के अन्तर्गत सलुम्बर जिले के सबसे पहले किसान उत्पादक संगठन (FPO) का गठन दिनांक 08-04-2024 को किया। जिसका नाम शितला माता कृषि उत्पादन प्रसंस्करण एवं विपणन सहकारी समिति लि० देवगांव ब्लॉक झल्लारा रखा गया है, एफपीओ द्वारा वर्तमान में पशुआहार बिक्री का कार्य किया जा रहा है एवं गेहुं ग्रेडिंग तथा प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट पर कार्य किया जा रहा है।





सारांश :-

इस प्रकार स्पष्ट है कि देवंगांव के विकास में वृहत कृषि बहुउद्देशीय सहकारी समिति लि., देवंगांव ने महती भूमिका निभाई है। भविष्य में भी समिति का उद्देश्य अधिक से अधिक जनोपयोगी सेवाओं से गांव की जनता को लाभांवित करना रहेगा।

The Chandigarh State Cooperative Bank Ltd., Chandigarh Installs 93 New Computers to Strengthen Digital Infrastructure



Chandigarh, 16.06.2025: In a significant move towards enhancing banking efficiency, the Chandigarh State Cooperative Bank Ltd., Chandigarh upgraded its present Core Banking Solution (CBS) Version from CBS 7x to CBS 10x under NABARD PROJECT 2025. During this occasion, 93 new Desktops, duly equipped with CBS 10x Version were successfully inaugurated by Shri Satinder Pal Singh Sidhu, Chairman and MC Councillor along with the Board of Directors and Management of the Bank in the presence of Ms. Anuradha S. Chagti, CSS, Managing Director of the Bank.

National Conference on “Shared Services Entity and Cooperation among Cooperatives”



In a major move to digitally empower Rural Cooperative Banks (RCBs), NABARD organized a National Conference on “Shared Services Entity and Cooperation among Cooperatives” at NBSC, Lucknow on 08-05-2025. The event brought together Chairpersons and Managing Directors of State Cooperative Banks (StCBs), DCCBs, senior NABARD officials, and other representatives. Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation, graced the occasion and highlighted the vital role of shared services in modernizing rural credit delivery through digital means. The central theme of the conference was the launch of the Shared Services Entity (SSE) — a long-awaited initiative designed to offer scalable, secure, and cost-effective digital solutions to rural cooperative banks.

Shri Konduru Ravinder Rao, Chairman, NAFSCOB said, “It is a proud moment for the cooperative banking sector. While the idea has been discussed since 2012 and formalized through a committee in 2016–17, it is only now being realized, thanks to the leadership of the Ministry of Cooperation under Amit Shah.” Rao noted that the SSE will especially benefit smaller cooperative banks struggling with high IT costs and limited manpower. With the Reserve Bank of India’s recent nod, the SSE will function as a non-financial services private limited company under the Companies Act.

The SSE will have an authorized capital of Rs 1,000 crore, jointly contributed by NABARD (33.33%), the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) (33.33%), and Rural Cooperative Banks (RCBs) (33.33%).

It will provide shared IT infrastructure including a centralized MIS server, cybersecurity solutions, regulatory compliance support, centralized payment systems, onboarding for Account Aggregators, cyber insurance, and more. Its primary objective is to serve 351 DCCBs and 34 StCBs with unified and efficient digital tools.

As part of the setup, participating StCBs are required to contribute equity based on their share in the average business volume of the rural cooperative structure. NABARD has assured that this contribution can be made in instalments, minimizing financial pressure. Detailed guidelines on shareholding, governance, and operations will be released soon.

On the occasion of the celebration of the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) 2025, Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation; Shri Siddharth Jain, Joint Secretary, MoC; and Shri Shaji K.V., Chairman, NABARD, joined state officials in a tree plantation drive at NBSC, Lucknow.

Rudraksha, litchi, and sapota saplings were planted to mark the occasion. The event marked the first national-level consultation following RBI’s green signal for the SSE and is expected to pave the way for faster implementation and deeper collaboration across the cooperative banking sector.

ARTICLE

REINFORCING FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE AND RISK DISCIPLINE IN PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES (PACS)

Dr. Diksha Sharma*

Abstract

Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) serve as the entry point to India's rural financial system. Positioned at the village level, these societies facilitate credit access, input delivery, and a range of support services to small and marginal farmers. However, many PACS are struggling due to outdated accounting practices, limited oversight, and rising operational risks. Instances of misappropriation, audit lapses, and financial irregularities have raised concerns about their integrity and sustainability. This article explores the common gaps in financial governance and internal controls in PACS. It also outlines a pragmatic approach to build transparency, financial resilience, and risk management frameworks. By adopting modern tools, capacitating governance structures, and embracing compliance, PACS can reclaim their role as credible rural institutions.

Keywords

PACS, rural credit, cooperative governance, financial irregularities, audit, internal control, member accountability, digital oversight, risk handling

1. PACS: A Crucial Rural Institution Facing Governance Pressures

Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies form the first and most direct link between institutional finance and rural communities. Spread across more than 95,000 locations, PACS provide short-term crop loans, distribute farm inputs, and even support warehousing and storage services. Despite their extensive reach, many societies are witnessing a decline in credibility due to financial indiscipline, governance failures, and poor internal systems.

While their importance in government initiatives like direct benefit transfer (DBT) and multi-service center transformation is growing, PACS must urgently revisit their financial foundations. For these grassroots cooperatives to thrive, they must adopt clear financial protocols, reduce dependency, and ensure that

governance is both ethical and performance-driven.

2. Where PACS Fall Short: Challenges in Financial Systems

2.1 Obsolete Recordkeeping and Lack of Automation

Many PACS still rely on handwritten ledgers or outdated accounting formats. Despite the push to introduce the Common Accounting System (CAS) and computerization under national schemes, adoption remains patchy. Inaccurate recordkeeping makes it difficult to close books on time or generate timely audit-ready reports.

Such manual operations result in:

- ♦ Errors in interest calculations
- ♦ Delays in identifying defaults
- ♦ Inefficient loan tracking and reconciliation
- ♦ Inability to respond to regulatory queries on time

The absence of real-time financial visibility also prevents DCCBs and regulators from providing meaningful interventions.

2.2 Dependence on Borrowed Funds and Capital Weakness

Rather than mobilising member equity or accumulating reserves, many PACS rely heavily on loans from DCCBs. Their Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) is often far below desirable norms. In several cases, profit retention is minimal or non-existent, leaving no financial buffer to absorb future shocks or defaults.

Without adequate capital, PACS cannot expand services, introduce new loan products, or even qualify for refinancing or development grants.

2.3 Board's Limited Understanding of Financial Oversight

While the elected nature of PACS governance is a democratic strength, it often leads to technical and

*Lecturer, Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Sector 32 C, Chandigarh

financial inexperience in the Board of Directors. Most board members are farmers or local representatives with little exposure to financial reporting, banking compliance, or recovery planning.

This causes:

- ♦ Passive review of financial statements
- ♦ Failure to act on audit remarks
- ♦ Over-dependence on the Secretary or Manager for key decisions

In the absence of training or structured guidance, board meetings become procedural rather than strategic, with little attention to internal checks or future planning.

3. Financial Irregularities and Embezzlement: A Growing Concern

Several PACS have faced legal and financial scrutiny due to cases of embezzlement and mismanagement. These malpractices typically arise from:

- ♦ Poor segregation of duties
- ♦ Lack of transaction verification
- ♦ Limited rotation of responsibilities
- ♦ Infrequent or ineffective audits

Examples include:

- ♦ Loan repayments collected but not deposited
- ♦ Ghost entries in share registers
- ♦ Diversion of government subsidies
- ♦ Fake supply of inputs or fertilizer stock mismatches

These incidents are often uncovered years after they occur, by which time recovery is near impossible. This not only affects financial sustainability but also damages the trust of members and communities.

4. Strengthening Risk Awareness and Credit Discipline

One of the major weaknesses in PACS is the lack of structured risk assessment. Unlike higher-tier banks, PACS do not practice borrower profiling, exposure caps, or credit rating. Loans are issued based on member familiarity, with limited appraisal of income sources or repayment capacity.

To address this, PACS must:

- ♦ Introduce simple borrower appraisal forms
- ♦ Develop a checklist for loan sanction and verification
- ♦ Regularly review overdue accounts and prepare structured recovery plans
- ♦ Introduce follow-up registers to monitor defaulters

Committees within the board should be formed for recovery supervision, with clear timelines, village-level follow-ups, and member sensitization.

5. Building Internal Controls That Actually Work

Internal controls must become an active part of PACS operations rather than just a compliance checkbox. These can include:

- ♦ Two-person approval for cash withdrawals above certain thresholds
- ♦ Daily recording of receipts and stock movement
- ♦ Physical stock verification every 15 days
- ♦ Maintenance of separate registers for fertilizer, seeds, and loan accounts
- ♦ Review of cash position at the end of each working day
- ♦ Surprise checks by DCCB officials or federation supervisors

In societies where basic internal checks are followed, misappropriation is rare. Therefore, enforcement of such protocols should be monitored regularly by the supervisory banks.

6. Role of Digitization in Enforcing Financial Discipline

The computerisation of PACS under the Ministry of Cooperation aims to integrate societies with modern systems such as:

- ♦ CAS (Common Accounting System): Enables real-time entries and reconciliations
- ♦ MIS Dashboards: Offer daily overviews of receipts, payments, recoveries
- ♦ Audit-ready Reports: Can be auto-generated for external inspection

- ♦ Early Warning Alerts: Help flag unusual transactions or poor recovery trends

By linking PACS data to DCCB-level monitoring systems, a transparent information ecosystem can be built. Moreover, digitization reduces manual manipulation and improves member confidence in recordkeeping.

However, successful implementation of digital systems requires:

- ♦ Local training for PACS staff and secretaries
- ♦ Regular technical support
- ♦ Internet connectivity and hardware maintenance
- ♦ Real-time data entry discipline

7. Enabling Financial Compliance Through Policies and Training

Policy Reforms That Can Strengthen PACS:

- ♦ Mandatory adoption of Model Bye-laws and Uniform Accounting Formats
- ♦ Appointment of trained, certified internal auditors
- ♦ Enforcement of fit & proper criteria for election of board members
- ♦ Mandated quarterly performance review of Secretary and staff
- ♦ Fixing accountability for delay in audit compliance and fund misuse

Training Support that's Essential:

- ♦ Board member training in reading financial reports and audit interpretation
- ♦ Recovery planning workshops and simulations
- ♦ Case study-based training in fraud prevention
- ♦ Mobile app-based training on digital transactions and record entry
- ♦ Practical sessions on budgeting, capital planning, and reserve maintenance

Training cannot be a one-time affair; it must be institutionalized through RICMs, DICMs, or federations to build a new cadre of competent rural cooperative leaders.

8. Reimagining PACS as Trustworthy Rural Institutions

PACS hold immense potential to act as more than credit cooperatives. The emerging vision is of PACS as:

- ♦ Input suppliers
- ♦ Storage providers
- ♦ Agri-marketing support units
- ♦ Insurance and pension enrollment points
- ♦ DBT delivery channels

However, to expand into these domains, credibility is key. No rural household will trust a PACS with their savings, subsidies, or digital payments unless it has:

- ♦ Clean accounts
- ♦ Transparent processes
- ♦ Trained leadership
- ♦ Digital systems in place
- ♦ Zero tolerance for fund misuse

Thus, restoring the financial integrity of PACS is not just about internal functioning — it is central to the future of rural cooperative development.

9. Conclusion: Time for Cooperative Governance 2.0

PACS are not just financial bodies — they are social institutions that reflect the health of local economies and cooperative values. But if they continue to suffer from weak governance, low compliance, and recurrent frauds, the entire cooperative credit structure stands at risk.

It is time to build a new governance model that combines:

- ♦ Democracy with professionalism
- ♦ Member participation with financial discipline
- ♦ Technology with rural simplicity

Reforms must go beyond manuals and training to transform day-to-day culture and decision-making. With the right policy push, leadership capacity, and grassroots awareness, PACS can truly become symbols of trust, service, and inclusive rural transformation.

Mizoram Co-op Apex Bank holds Annual Review Meeting



The Mizoram Cooperative Apex Bank held its Annual Review Meeting for FY 2024–25 on June 16– 17, 2025, at Aijal Club. The event was attended by branch managers from all 31 branches, senior officers, and Board of Management members. The meeting assessed the Bank's key initiatives and progress, with a special focus on efficient loan disbursement and plans to implement the Loan Origination System (LoS) for better accessibility and transparency.

Important topics discussed included collaboration with the government under the Handholding Policy and awareness strategies for Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). Representatives from the Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCS), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and NABARD also participated and extended support.

Following this, a Board Meeting was held on June 18, 2025, where several policies were approved. These included appointing four new Pigmy Collectors to enhance banking access for daily wage earners and creating 56 new posts (14 Officers, 28 Clerks, and 14 Subordinates) due to the Bank's growth.

The Bank recorded total deposits of Rs 1694.21 crore and loan disbursements of Rs 1217.64 crore, with a net profit of Rs 45.77 crore. Chairman Lalnunsanga thanked God and the people of Mizoram for their support and trust in the Bank's journey.

ARTICLE

SELF HELP GROUPS IN THE COOPERATIVE SECTOR

Shri Nilanjan Sinha¹

The Cooperative movement in India has a rich history of more than 120 years. The first Cooperative Law of India The Cooperative Credit Societies Act, 1904 was passed on 25th March 1904. Afterwards, cooperatives have made significant contribution for socio-economic development of our Country.

Increasingly the distinction between Scheduled Commercial Banks, Rural Cooperatives and Urban Cooperatives is getting blurred with all of them competing to serve the same set of clients. In some areas contribution of the cooperatives in nation-building process is pioneering. For example, Cooperatives are responsible for the "Green Revolution" and "White Revolution" in our country.

Cooperatives are most importantly not merely driven by profit motive but primarily meant to help the weaker sections of the society. Cooperative involves people for their mutual benefit. And it becomes evident that when modeled on participatory approach, developmental efforts show better impact and result. One of the most successful participatory model is Self Help Group (SHG).

A large portion of rural work-force is women who are empowered through formation of Self Help Groups (SHG) by these cooperatives. Members of these SHGs by way of mandatory periodical saving also get loan/credit as per their requirement. For prompt repaying SHG-members govt. is also providing back ended Interest Subsidy, which makes the credit facility more lucrative for the resource poor members. Imparting training by different agencies and stake holders on general awareness, skill development, accounting etc. helps in marketing of village crafts through value addition.

A quick glimpse of the related statistics also fortifies the developmental role of cooperatives through formation of the SHGs. As on 31st March, 2023 total 134.03 lakh SHG's were savings linked covering 16.2 crore householders with savings of Rs.58,892.68 cr. Share of Cooperative Banks are 11.95% and 10.19 % respectively in number of SHGs savings linked and amount of savings. Here savings linking means opening of savings account in any institutional banking system.

Now let us take a look on the credit position of the SHG in our country. Loans to the tune of Rs. 145200.23 crore was disbursed to 42.96 lakhs SHGs where share of Cooperative Bank was 5.39%. In India, 69.57 lakh SHGs were credit-linked with banks having loans outstanding of Rs.188078.80 cr. The share of Cooperative Banks at all India level with reference to no. of SHGs credit linked and loan outstanding is 8.08% and 5.65% respectively.

The NPA of Cooperative Banks has reduced to 6.15% from 13.29% as on 31st March, 2022. As on 31st March, 2023 the NPA against total loans outstanding to SHGs at all India level is 2.79%.

Figures that affirms the truth about SHGs

(A) Savings of SHGs with Cooperative Banks (Amount in Lakh)

Year	No. of SHGs	Savings Amount	Average saving / SHG
2020 - 21	14,98,282	5,36,960	0.36
2021 - 22	14,22,326	2,72,275	0.19
2022 - 23	16,02,110	5,99,993	0.37

Figures relating to 2021-22 are of COVID period.

(B) Loan disbursed to SHGs by Cooperative Banks (Amount in Lakh)

Year	No. of SHGs	Loan Disbursed Amount	Average Loans disbursed amount
2020 - 21	2,45,286	5,62,387	2.29
2021 - 22	2,13,835	5,91,221	2.76
2022 - 23	2,53,635	7,82,163	3.08

(C) Total Outstanding Loan amount of Cooperative Sector to SHG (Amount in Lakh)

Year	No. of SHGs	Loan Outstanding Amount	Average Loans Outstanding amount
2020 - 21	5,29,208	7,58,079	1.43
2021 - 22	5,29,286	8,90,507	1.68
2022 - 23	5,61,799	10,61,877	1.89

(D) Agency wise performance in SHG as on 31ST March'2023 (Amount in Lakh)

Agency	No. of SHGs	Savings Amount	Average saving / SHG
Commercial Bank	77,53,137	34,68,998	0.45
Regional Rural Bank	40,47,836	18,20,277	0.45
Cooperative Bank	16,02,110	5,99,993	0.37

¹ Regional Director, NCDC

(E) Agency wise NPA position in SHG as on 31ST March'2023 (Amount in Lakh)

Agency	Gross NPA against SHGs	NPA as % to Loan Outstanding	Credit Linkage Gap %
Commercial Bank	3,40,221	2.63	45.80
Regional Rural Bank	1,19,372	2.48	45.82
Cooperative Bank	65,341	6.15	64.93

Issues and suggestions

- 1) SHG Bank Linkage programme is supposed to fill the gap existing in the formal financial network and extending the outreach of banking to the poor. As on 31st March, 2023, the gap between numbers of savings linked SHGs to those credit linked in case of cooperative banks was 65% much higher than the national level of 48%.
- 2) Focus should be on scaling up of credit linkage – First Loan and repeat loans, scaling up of handholding of SHGs and follow up on livelihood activities.
- 3) Unlike the Commercial Banks who extends cash credit facilities, Cooperative Banks are mostly

extending Term loan facilities to the SHGs. Besides, Term Loan, Cash Credit to SHGs may also be considered by the Cooperative Banks.

- 4) Non-disbursement of repeat loans should also be examined thoroughly.
- 5) Capacity building of SHGs, preferably skill development training and training of Bank/ Branch staff may also be considered for a sustainable ecosystem of the SHGs.
- 6) Dedicated staff to be entrusted at Head Office level of Cooperative Banks to monitor progress of SHG and Credit Linkage thereof.

Conclusion

Co-operatives appear through their multi-dimensional activities to be the definite contributor for the sustainable socio-economic development of the community through formation, nurture, savings & credit linkage of the SHGs.

SPECIAL FEATURES

ACTIVITIES PROPOSED BY THE UNION MINISTRY OF COOPERATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF IYC DURING MINISTRY'S FORMATION DAY WEEK (1st TO 6th JULY 2025)

The Hon'ble Prime Minister officially announced the year 2025 as the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) on 25th November 2024 in New Delhi. The celebration is being observed to underscore the vital role of cooperatives in achieving inclusive socio-economic development. Further, 5th July, 2025 being first Saturday of July month will be celebrated as International Cooperative Day with the theme "Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World". This CoopsDay will serve as a flagship moment within the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives (IYC-2025)-a once-in-a-decade opportunity to spotlight the critical role of cooperatives in building more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable communities.

Additionally, 6th July 2025 will mark the 4th Foundation Day of the Ministry of Cooperation, which was established as a separate Ministry in 2021 to strengthen the cooperative movement through a dedicated and focused approach.

In light of these significant occasions, the Ministry planned to celebrate first week of July (1st to 6th July) through a series of diverse and impactful activities. In this week various activities like plantation drives, Model auditing, Model AGMs, State/National level conferences walkathon, lectures, Swachhta Campaigns etc. can be organized at national, state, district, and primary levels. An activity calendar for this week has been also prepared and presented as below:

Activities proposed by the Ministry of Cooperation for the celebration of IYC during Ministry's formation day Week (1st to 6th July)

Date	Proposed Activity	Stakeholder/Organizer	Event Venue
01.07.2025 - 06.07.2025	Mass Tree Plantation Drive	Cooperative Members, State/T. Ministry of Cooperation, National Cooperative Federations	Across the Country
01.07.2025	Model Auditing Exercise	Primary Cooperative Societies	Across the Country
	Model AGMs	Primary Cooperative Societies	Across the Country
	Model Board Meeting	Primary Cooperative Societies	Across the Country
	PACS and Emerging Technology Workshop	NABARD (300+ Participants)	New Delhi

02.07.2025	Loan Mela/ Membership Drive	DCCB/UCB/StCBs & Primary Cooperative Societies	Across the Country
	Workshops on various initiatives of Ministry of Cooperation	State Level	Across the Country
03.07.2025	Exhibition of Cooperative Products and Cooperative History at District/State Level (2-3 days)	State/District Level	Across the country
04.07.2025	2025 Kavi Sammelam (2-3 hours) 1. Anil Agrvanshi - Comic Pet & Host, Delhi 2. Shallendra Madhur - Lyricist, Prayagraj 3. Upendra Pandey - Patriotic Poet. Delhi	Ministry of Cooperation (Official Language Division)	New Delhi
	Cooperative Walkathon 2025: Celebrating Achievements of Ministry of Cooperation (3-5 km, 4000-5000 participants)	NCCT & Ministry of Cooperation	Ministry of Cooperation & 20 NCCT Institutes
	Coopraive Summit on "Steps towards Cooperatives", Empowering Cooperatives for Developed India	NCDC	NCDC Headquarters
	2 hours lectures in schools and colleges on cooperative sector	in all government schools	
05.07.2025	Cooperative Youth Dialogue on International Cooperative Day	State Level	
	Bhoomi Pujan of Tribhuvan Cooperative University on the occasion of International Cooperative Day	Tribhuvan Cooperative University	Anand, Gujarat
	One day youth awareness programmes on Cooperative Education and Training	NCCT	Universities, Colleges Coordinated by NCCT
	Swachhta me Sahakar Campaign	Cooperative Members, States/UTs, Ministry of Cooperation National Cooperative Federations	Across the Country
06.07.2025	Programmet State Headquarters, Raj Bhawans and Secretariats	Sate/UT	State Capitals
	National Level Programme under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Home & Cooperation Minister on Foundation Day of th Ministry	Ministry of Cooperation and Amul	Anand (Gujarat)
	Major Public Functions at State/National Level	States/UTs, National Federations, Ministry of Cooperation	Across the Country

Additional Activities:

- NCDC will conduct a mass tree plantarion drive, participation of headquarter and all regional offices,
- NCDC will deliver lectures in a total of 40 schools and college across the country focusing on the role and importance of the cooperative sector.
- Workshops on 'Initiatives of the Ministry of Cooperation' will be organized by all regional offices of NCDC.

SPECIAL FEATURES**MAHARASHTRA STATE PROPOSES BOLD REFORMS
TO BOOST MAHARASHTRA'S CO-OP SECTOR**

In a major initiative to revitalize Maharashtra's cooperative sector, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced on Monday 13-05-2025 that the state government would explore allowing high-performing cooperative banks to manage government accounts, a move expected to significantly expand the financial scope and credibility of the sector.

The announcement was made during a symposium hosted by the Maharashtra State Cooperative (MSC) Bank at the Yashwantrao Chavan Centre in Mumbai, as part of an event organized for the ongoing International Year of Cooperatives.

Fadnavis revealed that the government would set up two expert committees: one to propose amendments to the Cooperative Societies Act to align it with contemporary requirements, and the other to recommend strategies for strengthening cooperative institutions. Describing the move as a potential policy shift, the Chief Minister said this would empower cooperative banks that have demonstrated sound governance and operational efficiency. He highlighted that almost half of Maharashtra's cooperative societies are housing societies, and ongoing reforms are being introduced to streamline their functioning. The government has already implemented measures to support self-redevelopment projects by providing regulatory concessions and financial assistance.

Fadnavis noted that discussions are underway with Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah to allow the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), traditionally focused on rural development, to provide financial support for urban self-redevelopment initiatives. If approved, this would enable cooperative housing societies to access concessional financing for their projects. Emphasizing Maharashtra's leadership in cooperative innovation, Fadnavis shared that the World Bank had acknowledged the strong performance of the state's Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) in its recent review. This global recognition, he said, underscores the credibility of

Maharashtra's cooperative model and provides momentum for further policy reforms.

Supporting Fadnavis' vision, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari called for the formulation of a comprehensive law that merges elements of the Company Act and the Cooperative Act. Gadkari argued that legal reforms are essential to preserve the relevance of the cooperative movement in modern times. He warned that without timely amendments, the movement risks becoming outdated. He encouraged the Maharashtra government to enact legislation that retains the spirit of cooperation while incorporating modern governance principles. He urged the state to reward diligent contributors to the cooperative sector and penalize those who exploit its provisions. Gadkari noted that cooperatives have played a critical role in supporting small-scale entrepreneurs, farmers, and marginalized communities. Citing his own experience, Gadkari said he was able to establish a cooperative sugar factory thanks to initial funding from cooperative banks when public sector banks were hesitant. He suggested that MSC Bank conduct a socio-economic impact study of the cooperative movement in Maharashtra to guide future policies. Citing Shetkari Sanghatana founder Sharad Joshi, Gadkari emphasized that a cooperative's success depends on strong and ethical leadership. With political and institutional support, Maharashtra is set to lead a new chapter in the cooperative sector. In his welcome address, MSC Bank Administrative Board Chairman Vidyadhar Anaskar highlighted the rich history of the cooperative movement and emphasized its crucial role in strengthening the Indian economy. He noted that both the Central and State Governments are actively promoting and supporting the cooperative sector.

Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar praised Anaskar for his significant contributions to the cooperative sector, particularly in strengthening the State Cooperative Bank. He asserted that strict action must be taken against those involved in irregularities

in cooperative institutions, regardless of their political affiliations. He stressed the need for a proper evaluation of the cooperative movement's achievements, ensuring that set targets are achieved and past mistakes are not repeated. He also called for effective mechanisms to prevent the recurrence of such lapses.

Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde commended the State Cooperative Bank for its commendable work, especially in providing financial assistance to farming

activities. He urged the bank to further boost support for the agricultural sector by encouraging more farming initiatives and increasing financial outreach. The event was historic in many ways, sending a powerful message that the cooperative movement transcends party lines. It was a rare moment when top leaders from various major political parties came together on a single platform, united in their support for the cooperative sector.

Governing Board of Tribhuvan Sahkari University

The first Governing Board was officially formed and became effective from May 27, 2025.

Vice Chancellor: Dr. J. M. Vyas, Padma Shri awardee and eminent forensic scientist

- Ex officio members: from Ministry of Cooperation, Agriculture, NCDC, NDDB, NABARD, RBI, plus Registrar and Finance Officer
- Nominated members: include state-level officers from Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Assam, Gujarat
- Nominated Cooperative leaders: Shri Dileep Sanghani, President, NCUI and Shri Satish Marathe, Director, Central Board of Reserve Bank of India
- Rotational members: Chairpersons of major cooperatives like IFFCO, KRIBHCO, NAFED, and NCCF.

Women Members:

- Ms. Arti Patil, Managing Director and CEO of the Saraswat Cooperative Bank.
- Ms. Jeena Potsangbam, Vice-President of the Manipur State Cooperative Union.

SPECIAL FEATURES

LAUNCH OF CYBER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTRE (C-SOC) IN THE MAHARASHTRA STATE COOPERATIVE BANK LTD.

The Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSC Bank) has launched India's first Cyber Security Operations Centre (C-SOC), named "Sahakar Suraksha", in Vashi, Navi Mumbai. This centre aims to protect cooperative banks and their customers from increasing cyber threats by offering 24/7 monitoring, real-time threat detection, and rapid response capabilities. The C-SOC will monitor the IT systems of participating cooperative banks, detect threats using an AI-based platform, and issue real-time alerts. The centre will also evaluate each bank's cyber security posture and offer strategic guidance, with services offered free of charge to member banks.



In the journey of digital transformation in banking industry Cyber Security is the most important and complex aspect which is required to address at the topmost priority. Bank should be ready to fight new age Cyber threats and attacks. Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank has taken the lead to build top of the line "Sahakar Suraksha" Cyber Security Operation centre powered by aiSEIM platform by Seceon a leader in cyber security company. Fighting against modern cyber threats and cyber-attacks requires 24X7 monitoring, quick accurate threat analysis and identification, quick investigation and strong response methodology. For this trained and certified manpower is required and banks often struggle to get qualified cyber warriors to run their security operations. MSC Bank is now ready to provide these cost-effective services by "Sahakar Suraksha" initiative.

• Vision:

- On the backdrop of fast growing digital banking and cyber threats, it is necessity to

have continuous monitoring and immediate actions to be taken by the respective Banks.

- To achieve above goal, we have to build infrastructure and expert team to act as a extended arm of the bank and its IT team.
- This is an initiative in line with the Core Principle of Cooperation i.e. "Cooperation amongst Cooperatives".
- To provide C-SOC as Services to Members Banks without any cost from Apex Bank.
- **Mission:**
 - To secure bank's environment against cyber-attacks and cyber threats, mitigation of the threats and build intelligence to avoid upcoming threats.
 - Considering the NABARD/RBI Guidelines, capacity and capabilities of DCC Banks/ Urban Co-operative Banks in the State, MSC Bank has decided to set up and maintain its own SOC.
 - As a parental organisation of DCC & Urban banks, MSC Bank has decided to extend SOC as a service to the member banks.
- **What is Cyber Security operation Centre?**

A Cyber Security Operations Centre (C-SOC) is a centralised facility where information security professionals monitor, detect and respond to cyber threats in real-time. The primary goal of a C-SOC is to protect an organisation's information assets from cyber-attacks, data breaches and other security incidents.

• Features of ASOC:

- Proactive & Real time as compared to traditional Security Operation Centres
- Improved threat detection and response
- Integrates Threat Intelligence
- Centralized Monitoring Dashboard
- Cloud and hybrid environment Support

- Enhanced security posture
- Reduced risk of data breaches
- Compliance with regulatory requirements
- Better incident response and management
- State of art 24X7X365 monitoring by trained and certified security professionals.
- Highly skilled professional analyst & cyber security experts.
- **Technologies Adopted:**
 - Security Information & Event Management (SIEM) Tool (Seceon)**
 - With artificial intelligence
 - Machine learning
 - SOAR
 - **Network Access Control (NAC):**
 - Agentless
 - Policy based network access.
 - **Privileged Identity/Access Management (PIM/PAM):**
 - Real zero trust
 - To manage & monitor activities at CSOC
 - **Ticketing & Change management:**
 - Auto Ticket Generation of Alerts
 - Process Driven Alert Management
 - **On Boarding Process for Member Banks:**
 - Member Bank's request along with Board Resolution.
 - Member Bank to provide Sanity report with checklist along with infrastructure details for assessment.
 - Procurement of SIEM License (critical device) & Log Collector.
 - Establishment of connectivity (ILL) from Member Bank's DC/DR to MSCB's SOC DC/DR.
 - On boarding of critical device one by one.
 - Go live on SOC project.

INVITATION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

We invite articles and research papers on any of the issues pertaining to Agriculture, Cooperatives, Rural Cooperative Credit & Banking etc. for publication in 'NAFSCOB JOURNAL' and strengthen our hands to disseminate valuable information. Each of the selected articles and research papers are entitled to an honorarium up to ₹ 2000/- (Rupees Two thousand only). You may also consider to send important events with or without photographs for appropriate coverage through NAFSCOB Journal. Articles/ Research papers should be mailed to:

EDITOR
'NAFSCOB JOURNAL OF
RURAL COOPERATIVE CREDIT AND BANKING'
 National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Ltd.
 J.K. Chambers, Plot No.76, Fifth Floor, Sector - 17, Vashi, Navi Mumbai - 400 703.
 Phone: 2789 2741, 2789 2697, 2789 2738, Fax: (91)-022-2789 2604
 E-mail: nafscob@nafscob.org
 Website: www.nafscob.org

SPECIAL FEATURES

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COOPERATIVES (COOPSDAY)

The Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC) is pleased to announce the official theme for the 2025 International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay): “Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World.”

To be celebrated on Saturday, 5 July 2025, this year’s CoopsDay will serve as a flagship moment within the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives (IYC2025)—a once-in-a-decade opportunity to spotlight the critical role of cooperatives in building more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable communities.

A Timely and Transformative Theme

This year’s theme, “Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World”, highlights the cooperative movement’s capacity to respond to today’s most pressing challenges.

Rooted in shared ownership and democratic control, cooperatives deliver practical solutions that place people, planet, and purpose at the heart of development. CoopsDay 2025 is a moment to celebrate this impact—and call for greater support to scale it up.

CoopsDay 2025 aligns with two major global policy processes:

- The United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which will review progress on SDGs 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 5 (Gender Equality), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 14 (Life Below Water), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals); and.
- The Second World Summit for Social Development (WSSD2), which will focus on social inclusion, poverty eradication, and sustainable development.

Cooperatives operate in every sector of the economy worldwide—agriculture, finance, housing, health and care, education, energy, retail, industry and services—and have consistently demonstrated their ability to advance social justice, economic democracy, and ecological sustainability while offering efficient, innovative and inclusive solutions to community needs.

“This year’s theme speaks to both the identity and importance of the cooperative model. In a time of global uncertainty, cooperatives are proving that development can be democratic, inclusive, and grounded in solidarity. CoopsDay 2025, celebrated during the International Year of Cooperatives, is a powerful opportunity to amplify that message to the world.” (Wenyan Yang, COPAC Chair)

How to Get Involved

As part of IYC2025, CoopsDay offers a platform for cooperatives to increase visibility, forge partnerships, and engage new audiences. A refreshed CoopsDay logo—aligned with the IYC visual identity—has been released for use in promotional materials.

Cooperatives and partners are encouraged to:

- Visit the updated CoopsDay website: <https://www.coopsday.coop>
- Utilize the updated CoopsDay logo (EN / ES / FR) and Media Kit: <https://trello.com/b/BbuhjOge/international-day-of-cooperatives-2025>
- Submit or view events on the IYC events platform: <https://iyc.2025.coop>
- Share your cooperative story: <https://stories.coop/>

About The International Day of Cooperatives

The International Day of Cooperatives has been celebrated globally by the International Cooperative Alliance since 1923 and was officially recognized by the United Nations in 1995. It is held every year on the first Saturday of July to increase awareness of cooperatives’ contributions to development and peace.

In 2025, the celebration marks:

- The 103rd International Cooperative Day, and
- The 31st UN International Day of Cooperatives

The theme is selected jointly by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and COPAC, in consultation with UN partners and the cooperative movement.

About COPAC

The Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC) is a global multi-stakeholder partnership working to promote cooperatives as key contributors to sustainable development. COPAC members include the International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), International Trade Centre (ITC), and International Cooperative Alliance (ICA).

Objectives of this year's observance

- **Promote Growth and Development:** Strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem and establishments for cooperatives.
- **Advocate for Supportive Frameworks:** Encourage the creation of enabling legal and policy environments for cooperatives globally.
- **Inspire Leadership:** Foster purposeful leadership and engage youth in the cooperative movement.

Source: <https://www.copac.coop/theme-announced-for-coopday-2025-driving-inclusive-and-sustainable-solutions-for-a-better-world/>



SPECIAL FEATURES**CONCEPT PAPER****OPENING OF DEPOSIT COLLECTION CENTRES AND BRANCHES:
MAHARASHTRA STATE COOPERATIVE BANK****1. Introduction:**

The purpose of this paper is to propose a concrete strategy and initiatives for opening Deposit Collection Centres and Branches in the areas of operation of District Central Co-operative Banks (hereinafter referred as DCCBs).

2. Background:

- a) In today's competitive era, besides commercial banks and financial institutions, there are chit funds, Rotating Saving & Credit Associations, NBFCs etc. providing variety of banking facilities to the customers by opening branches as per their requirements.
- b) The Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank (hereinafter referred as MSC Bank) serves in a better manner as a balancing centre for the surplus resources of Co-operatives in the State and thereby ensures their multifaceted development and prosperity.
- c) Being an apex Co-operative Bank in the three-tier Co-operative Credit Structure, the Bank is truly promoting and propagating the creation of a Cooperative Common Wealth through socio-economic transformation of the community by following Co-operative Principles by adopting democratic means.
- d) Wardha District Central Co-operative Bank, being financially weak could not serve its customers, borrowers, as a result many agriculturists approached to Money lenders for fulfilling their financial needs. It is therefore essential to bring back these borrowers / agriculturists within the banking ambit.
- e) The MSC Bank understands local needs better and thus play a significant role in rural development by funding various agricultural and rural development activities.

3. Objectives:

- a) To reach out to the 'last mile' of financial inclusion by extending credit and banking services to undeserved populace in rural and

remote areas. The Bank achieves this by providing a local presence, fostering trust within communities, and offering accessible financial products.

- b) To empower rural communities to make informed financial decisions.
- c) To attract and engage new customers in a competitive financial landscape, in the areas having financially weak DCCBs and provide them all banking products and services.
- d) To inculcate saving habits amongst individuals by offering various deposit accounts tailored to rural needs in the areas having presence of strong and financially sound DCCBs.
- e) To reduce influence of money lenders and middlemen.

4. Strategic Initiatives:

- a) In today's highly competitive banking sector, all banks are strategically opening new branches to enhance their businesses. This approach allows for a more personalized customer experience, strengthens customer relationships, and provides opportunities for growth in areas where DCCBs may fall short.
- b) Recently the Reserve Bank has permitted eligible FSWM UCBs to open new branches upto 10% of the number of full-fledged branches (at the end of previous financial year) in a financial year, subject to a maximum of five branches without having the need to take permission from the Reserve Bank.
- c) In view of above, in order to enable MSC Bank also to expand its customer base in areas where DCCBs are financially weak, the Bank may be allowed to open full-fledged branches to offer a wide range of financial products and services, including credit, deposits and allied banking services to individuals and small businesses, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.
- d) The MSC Bank may also be allowed to lend

directly to PACS, where DCCBs are financially weak.

- e) The areas where DCCBs are financially strong, the MSC Bank may be permitted to open Deposit Collection Centres to reach out to the last mile of society to promote financial inclusion.

5. Convening a meeting / Involving the Group:

- A Group may be constituted in consultation with the NABARD and the Commissioner of Co-operation to study and examine the various aspects of Concept Paper.
- A special session will be created specifically for academic discussion on Research Proposal.
- A meeting of the experts will be convened where these initiatives will be discussed and presented.
- The forum will deliberate further on the above strategies as well as efforts made to date to address recommendations of the Paper/Proposal to the Administrator.

6. Financial Soundness of MSC Bank:

(Rs. in Crores)

S.N.	Parameters	31/03/2023 (Audited)	31/03/2024 (Audited)	31/03/2025 (Unaudited)
1	Share Capital	548.31	590.75	597.00
2	CRAR	18.04%	16.34%	17%
3	CRR/SLR	No default	No default	No default
4	Net Worth	3878.56	4617.64	5350.00
5	Net Profit	609.32	615.03	651.00
6	CD ratio	80%	81%	74%
7	No. of Branches (including Extension counters)	57	57	57
8	% of Gross NPAs	10.67%	9.15%	9.09%
9	% of Net NPAs	0.58%	1.66%	1.89%
10	Core Banking Solution	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented

- The Bank has sound internal control system with professional and experienced staff and Administrator who is expert in Cooperative Law and Banking.
- The Bank has track record of regulatory compliance and no monetary penalty has been imposed on the Bank on account of violation of RBI's directives/guidelines during the last two financial years.
- Thus it can be seen that the Bank is fulfilling all the

criteria for opening branches/deposit collection centres.

7. Headroom capital requirement in terms of ANW per branch for allotment of deposit collection centres/branches:

Category of Centre	Population (P)	Assessed Net Worth required per branch	Existing Branches	Extension Counters	ANW utilized
A	P > =10 lakh	400 lakh			
B	5 lakh <= P < 10 lakh	200 lakh			
C	1 lakh <= P < 5 lakh	100 lakh			
D	P < 1 lakh	25 lakh			

- The Reserve Bank has prescribed the criteria of Headroom Capital for eligible FSWM UCBs and as per the revised criteria the MSC Bank is fulfilling all the criteria for opening new deposit collection centres/branches in line with UCBs.
- MSC Bank's present Net Worth as on 31/03/2025 is Rs. 5350 crore.
- After utilizing the net worth as above for existing branches and extension counters, the Bank still has sufficient Net Worth for opening Deposit Collection Centre as well as new full-fledged branches.

8. Implement Roadmap

A roadmap has been created to undertake the above initiatives.

- A detailed search will be taken to collect data relating to financial positions of all DCCBs in the State.
- Financial positions of DCCBs will be analysed to segregate DCCBs into weak and strong banks.
- Inspection Reports of DCCBs from NABARD will be examined to achieve the objectives of Concept Paper.
- Market search will be carried out to tap the potentials of the areas where weak DCCBs are operating.

9. Conclusion:

In embarking on the above initiatives, we propose to strengthen the role of MSC bank in promoting financial inclusion and local/rural economic development. This concept paper will be an integral part of Policy on opening Deposit Collection Centre/Branches in the areas of weak and strong DCCBs as the case may be.



Shri. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB and President, ICBA felicitating Shri K. Murugan, Managing Director, The Andaman Nicobar StCB during the Orientation Programme to Secretarial Staff of StCBs & National Seminar on Strategies to celebrate UN declared IYC 2025 held on 23-24 April, 2025 in South Andaman, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.



Orientation Programme to Secretarial Staff of StCBs & National Seminar on Strategies to celebrate UN declared IYC 2025 was organized on 23-24 April, 2025 in South Andaman, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Shri. K. Murugan, Managing Director, The Andaman & Nicobar StCB, inaugurated the Orientation Programme and IYC-2025 Seminar on 23-04-2025. Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB and President, ICBA is also seen in the picture.



Shri. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA and Shri K. Murugan, Managing Director, The Andaman Nicobar StCB with participants of the Orientation Programme to Secretarial Staff of StCBs & National Seminar on Strategies to celebrate UN declared IYC 2025 held on 23-24 April, 2025 in South Andaman, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.



Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA interacting with paid Secretary, Baratang PACS, Andaman & Nicobar Islands on 24-04-2025



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, President, ICBA, & Managing Director, NAFSCOB, Mr. Pradip M Vora, CEO, Gujarat StCB and Mr. Manojbhai M Patel, G.M., Gujarat StCB during cleanliness drive in Ahmedabad on 01-05-2025.



Mr. Konduru Ravinder Rao, Chairman, NAFSCOB and Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB with members of Board of NAFSCOB and invitees on 01-05-2025 at Gujarat State Cooperative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad, Gujarat to celebrate IYC 2025.



Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, President, ICBA and Managing Director, NAFSCOB with other delegates during Regional Policy Forum and 78th Executive Committee of APRACA held on 26-05-2025, Bali, Indonesia.



Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, President, ICBA and Managing Director, NAFSCOB with Shri Goverdhan S. Rawat, Deputy Managing Director, NABARD, Dr. A.V. Bhavani Shankar, CGM, Farm Sector Development Dept., NABARD and Smt. Suseela Chintala, CGM, Dept. of Microfinance & Financial Inclusion, NABARD during Regional Policy Forum and 78th Executive Committee of APRACA held on 26-05-2025, Bali, Indonesia.



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, President, ICBA and Managing Director, NAFSCOB with Mr. QIAN Wenhui Chairman of APRACA & Chairman of Agricultural Development Bank of China, Mr. Julapun Amornivivat, Chairman, Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperative (BAAC) and Mr. Prasun Kumar Das, Secretary General, APRACA during Regional Policy Forum and 78th Executive Committee of APRACA held on 26-05-2025, Bali, Indonesia.



Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, President, ICBA and Managing Director, NAFSCOB celebrating United Nations declared International Year of Cooperative-2025 with other delegates during Regional Policy Forum and 78th Executive Committee of APRACA held on 26-05-2025, Bali, Indonesia.

NEWS FROM UNION MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

61 INITIATIVES OF MINISTRY OF COOPERATION, GOI AIMED UNDER THE OVERARCHING VISION OF “SAHAKAR SE SAMRIDDHI”

The Ministry of Cooperation is responsible for providing a distinct administrative, legal and policy framework structure to strengthen the cooperative movement in the country. It aims to make cooperatives a true people-based movement reaching the grassroots level and to develop a cooperative economic model where each member works with a sense of responsibility. The major activities of the Ministry include streamlining processes for ease of doing business for cooperatives and enabling the growth of multi-state cooperatives. To work continuously to meet the challenge of empowering cooperatives, bringing transparency in them, modernization, computerization, establishment of competitive cooperatives, making development accessible to the deprived in rural areas and to connect every village with cooperatives, the Ministry has taken several important initiatives in all the sectors such as:

(A) Economic strengthening of Primary Co-operative Societies

1. Model Bye-Laws for making PACS Multipurpose
2. Strengthening of PACS through Computerization
3. Establishment of Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat/Village
4. World's largest Decentralized Grain Storage Program in Cooperative sector to ensure food security
5. PACS as Common Service Centres (CSCs) for better access to e-Services
6. Formation of new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) by PACS

7. Eligibility of PACS for LPG Distributorship
8. Permission to convert Bulk Consumer Petrol Pump operated by PACS into retail outlets
9. Priority to PACS for new Petrol/Diesel Pump dealerships.
10. PACS as Jan Aushadhi Kendra for access to generic medicines at Rural level
11. PACS as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendra (PMKSK)
12. Micro-ATMs to Bank Mitra Cooperative Societies with the help of NABARD
13. Rupay Kisan Credit Card to Members of Cooperative Societies
14. PACS as Paani Samiti
15. Convergence of PM-KUSUM Scheme at PACS Level
16. Formation of Fish Farmer Producer Organization (FFPO)

(B) Three new Multi-State Cooperative Societies at the National Level

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and leadership of Hon'ble Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, the Ministry of Cooperation constituted three new Multi-State Cooperative Societies for Exports, Certified Seeds and Organic Products

17. New National Level Multi-State Cooperative Society for Exports
18. New National Level Multi-State Cooperative Society for Certified Seeds
19. New National Level Multi-State Cooperative Society for Organic Farming

(C) Relief in Income Tax Law for Co-operative Societies

20. Reduction in surcharge on Income Tax for Cooperative Societies
21. Reduction in Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) on Cooperative Societies
22. Increase in limit of Cash Deposits and Cash Loans by PACS and PCARDBs
23. Tax cut for new manufacturing Cooperative Societies
24. Increase in the limit of Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) in Cash Withdrawal
25. Relief in cash transactions under section 269ST of the Income Tax Act

(D) Strengthening of Office of Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies

26. Computerization of Central Registrar's Office
27. The Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2023

(E) Revival of Cooperative Sugar Mills

28. Relief from Income Tax to Cooperative Sugar Mills
29. Resolving decades old pending issues related to income tax of Cooperative Sugar Mills
30. Rs 10,000 crore loan scheme through NCDC for strengthening of Cooperative Sugar Mills
31. Preference in purchase of ethanol to Cooperative Sugar Mills
32. Reduction in GST on Molasses from 28% to 5% to help Cooperative Sugar Mills
33. Enhancing ethanol production of Cooperative Sugar Mills by converting their molasses-based ethanol plants into multi feed ethanol plants.

(F) Redressal of difficulties faced by Co-operative Banks

Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and untiring efforts of the Hon'ble Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, many important decisions have been taken to resolve the difficulties being faced by the Cooperative Banks in their business.

34. Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) will now be able to open new branches to expand their business.
35. Cooperative Banks will also be able to make one-time settlement of outstanding loans, like Commercial Banks.
36. Additional time limit has been given to achieve the Priority Sector Lending (PSL) targets given to UCBs.
37. A Nodal Officer has been designated in RBI for regular interaction with UCBs.
38. RBI has permitted UCBs to provide door-step banking services to their customers.
39. RBI has more than doubled the individual housing loan limit for Rural and Urban Co-operative Banks.
40. Rural Co-operative Banks will now be able to lend to commercial real estate - residential housing sector, thereby diversifying their business.
41. Co-operative Banks have been included as Member Lending Institutions [MLIs] of CGTMSE. With this, now the member Co-operative Banks will be able to take advantage of risk coverage up to 85 percent on the loans given. Along with this, the cooperative sector enterprises will also now be able to get collateral free loans from Co-operative Banks.
42. License fee for onboarding Co-operative Banks to the modern 'Aadhaar Enabled

Payment System' (AePS) has been reduced by linking it to the number of transactions. Apart from this, cooperative financial institutions will also be able to get the facility free of cost for the first three months of the pre-production phase. With this, farmers will now be able to get the facility of banking at their home with their fingerprints.

43. Notification of scheduling norms for urban co-operative banks is being published by the Government
44. RBI has doubled monetary ceiling for Gold Loan under Bullet Repayment Scheme from 2 Lakh to 4 Lakh for those UCBs who meet the Priority Sector Lending (PSL) targets.
45. Umbrella Organization for Urban Cooperative Banks

(G) Expansion of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)

46. New schemes for Cooperative Societies started by NCDC
47. Financial assistance by NCDC for Deep Sea Trawlers

(H) Inclusion of Cooperative Societies as 'Buyer' on GeM Portal

48. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Cabinet has approved Cooperative Societies to be registered as 'Buyer' on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) on 1st June, 2022. Hon'ble Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah e-launched the onboarding of Cooperative Societies on the GeM Portal on 09 August 2022 in New Delhi. Cooperative Societies will now be able to buy from around 67 lakh authentic sellers/service providers available across the country on the single platform of

GeM. So far, 667 Cooperative Societies have been onboarded as buyers on the GeM portal. Further, Cooperative Societies are also being motivated to register as sellers on GeM. So far, 2,986 transactions have taken place by these Cooperative Societies, amounting to Rs 319.02 crore.

(I) New National Cooperation Policy and New National Cooperative Database

49. Formulation of New National Cooperation Policy
50. New National Cooperative Database

(J) Education and Training in the Cooperative Sector

51. Establishment of Cooperative University
52. Promotion of training and awareness through NCCT

(K) Other Initiatives

53. Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs)
54. Scheme for computerization of office of Registrar of Cooperative Societies in States/Union Territories
55. White Revolution 2.0
56. Atmanirbharta Abhiyan
57. Refund to Investors of Sahara Group of Societies
58. Cooperative Ranking Framework
59. International Year of Cooperatives – 2025 in India
60. Cooperative Ombudsman
61. Cooperative Election Authority (CEA)

NEWS FROM UNION MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

UNION HOME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION SHRI AMIT SHAH ADDRESSES MEGA SAMMELAN ON “THE ROLE OF COOPERATION IN BUILDING VIKSIT BHARAT” IN GUJARAT

- The Mega Sammelan was organized by Gujarat State Cooperative Union in Ahmedabad.
- Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the concept of Sahkar se Samridhi and the Role of Cooperation in a Viksit Bharat were presented to the nation in 2021.
- During the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC 2025), it is essential to strengthen the cooperative framework by raising public awareness and establishing new dimensions of transparency.
- The cooperative sector cannot be strengthened until the benefits of recent reforms reach PACS and farmers.
- Government of India emphasizes upon the Science of Cooperation and Science in Cooperation during IYC 2025.
- There is a need to adopt the concept of Cooperation amongst Cooperatives at the primary level across the country, ensuring that cooperative institutions work in coordination with each other.
- The Modi government will establish a PACS in every panchayat across the country by 2029.
- A policy will soon be introduced for the settlement of “PACS under liquidation” and for the creation of new PACS.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah on 18-05-2025 addressed the Maha Sammelan on the “Role of Cooperatives in Building a Viksit Bharat” organized by Gujarat State Cooperative Federation in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Many dignitaries including Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel were present on the occasion.

In his address to the Maha Sammelan, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah

said that the United Nations has decided to celebrate 2025 as the International Year of Cooperatives. He said that the word cooperative is as relevant today for the whole world as it was in the year 1900. Shri Shah said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, a major effort to revive the cooperative movement in India began in 2021, and that is why the decision was made to launch the International Year of Cooperatives from India.

Shri Amit Shah said that under the initiative started in 2021 under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, two guiding principles — Sahkar se Samridhi and The Role of Cooperation in Viksit Bharat — were presented to the nation. As part of that initiative, this cooperative conference is being organized today in Gujarat. He stated that the cooperative sector cannot be strengthened unless the benefits of the changes in this sector reach the grassroots level — to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and farmers. Shri Shah emphasized that this is why it is essential to promote cooperative institutions. We must strive to bring awareness, training, and transparency to all types of cooperative institutions.

Shri Amit Shah said that this entire campaign is based on three pillars - integrating cooperation into the mainstream of governance, bringing transparency and authenticity to the cooperative movement through technology, and accelerating the process of connecting more and more citizens with the cooperative movement. He said that there is a need to work on these three pillars during the Cooperative Year and for this about 57 initiatives of various types have been taken so far by the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that we must implement the concept of Cooperation Amongst Cooperatives at the primary level across the entire country, including Gujarat, so

that the entire functioning of all cooperative institutions is carried out in coordination with other cooperatives. He emphasized that all primary cooperative societies, dairies, etc., should have their bank accounts in the district cooperative banks. He said that we must promote cooperation among all cooperative institutions and accelerate this effort.

Shri Amit Shah said that the Modi government has established Tribhuvan Sahakari University which will work at the national level. He stated that in every state of the country, education related to all areas of cooperation is now being structured around the concept of cooperatives. He emphasized that the cooperative framework cannot be strengthened unless we strengthen PACS (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies). That is why the Modi government has decided to establish a PACS in every panchayat of the country by 2029. Under this decision, 2 lakh new

PACS and dairies will be registered. He further said that the government has integrated around 22 different activities with PACS. Shri Shah also mentioned that the government will soon introduce a policy for the settlement of PACS that have gone into liquidation, as well as for the establishment of new PACS.

Union Minister of Cooperative said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, many new initiatives are going to be taken in the cooperative sector. He said that we need to strengthen the cooperative structure by using the International Cooperative Year 2025 to spread awareness among all the people, setting new dimensions of transparency and conducting recruitments.

(Source: MoC Press Release ID: 2129439)

NEWS FROM UNION MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

UNION HOME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION SHRI AMIT SHAH ADDRESSES THE STATE LEVEL COOPERATIVE CONFERENCE IN BHOPAL AS THE CHIEF GUEST

- Since the formation of the Ministry of Cooperation, there has been a significant change in the cooperative sector under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and now this sector is moving forward rapidly.
- MoU signed between NDDDB and MPCDF to increase the contribution of cooperative dairy societies in milk production in Madhya Pradesh.
- MOU will expand cooperative dairy to every village of Madhya Pradesh.
- Setting up of cooperative milk producing societies in villages will increase milk processing capacity manifold, this will also make farmers prosperous.
- The Modi government, in collaboration with the Madhya Pradesh government, is committed to take every possible step for the welfare of the farmers of the state.
- During the time of opposition government, the cooperative sector in MP had collapsed, now it is a golden opportunity to revive the cooperative sector.
- Three multi-state cooperatives created by the Modi government are providing farmers a fair price for their produce, a platform for export and profits are reaching directly to their bank accounts.
- PACS, which earlier used to provide only short-term agricultural loans, are now providing more than 20 types of services, which has increased their income

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah on 13-04-2025 addressed the State Level Cooperative Conference organized in Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh, as the Chief Guest. Many dignitaries including Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, State Cooperation Minister Shri Vishwas Sarang and Secretary of the Union Ministry of Cooperation Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani were present on the occasion.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah said that there are a lot of possibilities in the

three sectors of agriculture, animal husbandry and cooperatives in Madhya Pradesh and a lot of work is required to exploit them to the fullest. He said that for years the cooperative movement in the country was becoming moribund and was divided at different levels in the country. The reason for this was that the cooperative laws did not change as per the times.

Shri Amit Shah said that in our Constitution, except for multi-state cooperatives, all cooperatives are a state subject. He said that no initiative was ever taken to make laws according to the rapidly changing conditions in the country. Keeping in mind the geographical conditions, rainfall conditions, rural development, agricultural development and animal husbandry dimensions of each state, no thought was ever given at the national level. Shri Shah said that no thought was ever given, because there was no Cooperation ministry at the national level.

Shri Shah said 75 years after independence, the Prime Minister of the country, Shri Narendra Modi, established the Cooperation Ministry and he got the privilege of becoming the first Cooperation minister.

Union Minister of Cooperation said that Since the formation of the Ministry of Cooperation, there has been a significant change in the cooperative sector under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and now this sector is moving forward rapidly. He said that the limits that were in our Constitution are still there. Even today, cooperation is a state subject. Shri Shah said that the Government of India cannot make any legal changes in the field of cooperation. However, efforts have been made to revive the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), promote the dairy sector, cooperation in the field of production, smooth management of urban cooperative banks, district cooperative banks and rural banks. He said that the Ministry of Cooperation first worked on creating model by-laws for PACS and sent it to the state governments for approval. Today the whole of India has accepted these model by-laws. Expressing gratitude to the states for accepting the model by-laws, Shri Shah said that this step has brought new life to the cooperative sector. He said that unless PACS is strengthened, the

three-tier cooperative structure cannot be strengthened. He said that earlier PACS used to provide only short-term agricultural loans, in which they used to earn about half a percent income. But today PACS are providing more than 20 types of services and the new reforms will also increase the income of PACS.

Shri Amit Shah said that today PACS have been allowed to provide services like Jan Aushadhi Kendra, water distribution, common service centers. He said that today more than 300 schemes are available to the people on PACS computers. One does not need to go out of the village to get railway tickets, electricity bills, water bills, birth and death certificates, all these facilities are now available in PACS. Shri Shah said that many PACS have earned income from these services. PACS can now also become fertilizer dealers, start petrol pumps, distribute cooking gas and also manage the 'Har Ghar Nal' scheme.

Union Minister of Cooperation said that under the new bylaws, work was done to create Multi Purpose PACS (MPACS) by merging PACS, dairy cooperative societies and fishery cooperative societies. He said that the Government of India has computerized all the PACS in the country at a cost of Rs 2500 crore. Madhya Pradesh ranks first in the country in computerization of PACS. Now the District Cooperative Bank and State Cooperative Bank are connected to NABARD due to computer network. Along with this, transparency has also come in the field of cooperation due to the arrangement of online audit.

Shri Amit Shah said that the computerized PACS are working in 13 languages of India. The Government of India has developed such software for PACS that will work for farmer in his language to open a bank account, i.e. it will work in Hindi in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarati in Gujarat, Bengali in West Bengal and in Tamil in Tamil Nadu.

Union Minister of Cooperation said that three new national level cooperative societies have been formed. National Cooperative Export Limited (NCEL) was established to sell the farmers' produce in the global market and National Cooperative Organic Limited (NCOL) was established with the objective of getting farmers a higher price for their organic produce. He said that both these institutions will become bigger than Amul and other institutions in the next 20 years. Shri Shah said that a national cooperative institution named Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) has been formed for the conservation and

promotion of India's sweet seeds and non-hybrid seeds. He said that earlier only big farmers could do seed farming, but now even farmers with a landholding of 2.5 acres are being given an opportunity. He said that three multi-state cooperatives created by the Modi government - NCEL, NCOL and BBSSL - are providing farmers a fair price for their produce, a platform for export and profits are reaching directly to their bank accounts.

Shri Amit Shah said that we have established Tribhuvan Sahkari University for training in the cooperative sector, from where professionals working in the cooperative sector will receive training. These will include accountants, dairy engineers, veterinarians and agricultural scientists and their expertise will be cooperative-based.

Union Minister of Cooperation said that a MoU has been signed today between the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and Madhya Pradesh Cooperative Dairy Federation (MPCDF). He said that currently, five and a half crore liters of milk is produced in Madhya Pradesh, which is nine percent of the total milk production in the country. The share of cooperative dairies in this is less than one percent. This percentage will increase due to the contract between Madhya Pradesh and the National Dairy Development Board. He said that when a farmer goes to sell his milk in the open market, he is exploited. Our aim is to quickly connect every farmer of every village with the cooperative dairy, and also make such arrangements that cheese, curd, buttermilk, buttermilk etc. are made from milk and sold and the farmer gets the profit. He said that in the coming days, Madhya Pradesh has to expand the primary dairy, increase milk collection, provide good fodder to the animals, and improve their breed so that every animal gives more milk. A processing unit is also to be set up to process the milk and sell it with more profit.

Shri Amit Shah said that in Madhya Pradesh, the marketable milk i.e. the surplus milk after consumption is 3.5 crore liters, of which only 2.5 per cent goes to the cooperative dairy. Only 17 percent villages in Madhya Pradesh have a milk collection system. The MoU signed today has created the possibility of expanding the cooperative dairy to 83 percent villages. He said that the demand for milk in the city is 1 crore 20 lakh liters per day, but the farmer does not get proper profit. Shri Shah said that with this MoU, we should aim to establish cooperative primary milk producing committees in 50 per cent villages for the first five years. If cooperative milk producing committees are

established in 50 per cent villages, then the milk processing capacity in the cooperative sector will increase manifold and this will also make the farmers prosperous. He said that in this effort, the Modi government and the National Dairy Development Board are standing like a rock with the farmers of Madhya Pradesh.

Union Minister of Cooperation said that Madhya Pradesh Cooperative Dairy Federation (MPCDF) will have to work on policy making and branding to ensure quality check and weekly payment to farmers. He said that NDDDB and MPCDF should work aggressively so that dairy reaches at least 50 per cent villages and farmers benefit from it. For this, if finance is needed, National Cooperative Development Corporation of Government of India will definitely help. He said that

farmers should get 100 per cent benefit of their milk production, only then milk production will increase. He said that the Modi government, in collaboration with the Madhya Pradesh government, is committed to take every possible step for the welfare of the farmers of the state.

Shri Amit Shah said that now there is good governance in Madhya Pradesh. During the time of the opposition government, the cooperative sector had collapsed here. Now is the golden opportunity to revive the cooperative sector. The people of Madhya Pradesh should take advantage of this opportunity.

(Source: Ministry of Cooperation)

Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director and President, ICBA attended launch of India's first Cyber Security Operations Centre (C-SOC), named "Sahakar Suraksha" in the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSC Bank) in Vashi, Navi Mumbai on 13-06-2025.

IYC - 2025

UNION HOME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION SHRI AMIT SHAH ADDRESSES A NATIONAL SEMINAR HELD IN MUMBAI ON THE OCCASION OF 'INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE YEAR 2025'

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addressed a national seminar organized in Mumbai on 20-06-2025 on the occasion of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025. On this occasion, Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Union Minister of State for Cooperation Shri Murlidhar Mohol, and several other dignitaries were present.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah said that while cooperatives can be an economic system for the entire world, for India, cooperation is a traditional philosophy of life. Living together, thinking together, working together, moving toward a common goal, and standing by each other in joy and sorrow are part of the soul of Indian philosophy. He stated that the nearly 125-year-old cooperative movement has been a support for the country's poor, farmers, rural citizens, and especially women, through many ups and downs.

Shri Amit Shah said that under the cooperative movement, organizations like Amul, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) have created numerous success stories. Today, 36 lakh poor rural women are associated with Amul, who have invested no more than 100 rupees in capital, yet due to their hard work, Amul's turnover is 80,000 crore rupees, with profits directly deposited into these women's bank accounts. He added that whether it is IFFCO or KRIBHCO, small farmers toil in their fields and supply their produce to the Government of India at Minimum Support Price (MSP), and the same grain is distributed to the poor as 5 kilos of free ration every month. The backbone of this entire scheme is NCCF and, in particular, NAFED.

Union Minister of Cooperation stated that if farmers register on the NAFED App, NAFED will purchase 100 percent of their pulses and maize at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). He said that if the market price is higher, farmers can sell their produce in the market and earn greater profits.

Shri Shah added that, seeing the success of the model App, NAFED will soon start direct procurement from farmers. This system will enable farmers to effectively plan for all three of their crops.

Shri Amit Shah said that today's event formalized agreements for NAFED's new products, grants to Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and the construction of warehouses with new Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), reflecting NAFED's farmer-centric activities. He noted that Modi Ji established the Ministry of Cooperation at the center to empower our farmers and create an ecosystem for their prosperity. He added that the Ministry of Cooperation has undertaken several initiatives since its establishment.

Union Minister of Cooperation stated that the cooperative movement in our country has become uneven. In the western region, including Maharashtra, Gujarat, and even Goa, the cooperative movement has flourished, but it has weakened in the northern and eastern regions, leading to an uneven progress of the cooperative movement.

Shri Amit Shah said that today, the Ministry of Cooperation and every state's Cooperative Registrar have detailed data on cooperative institutions. This means the ministry is aware of where the shortcomings are and where the cooperative movement needs to be expanded. He stated that by identifying vacuum areas through the cooperative database, the government plans to establish two lakh Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) across the country. Once these two lakh PACS are established, there will not be a single panchayat in the country without a PACS or any other primary cooperative society. All these cooperative societies will be multifaceted.

Union Minister of Cooperation stated that nearly all Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) have been computerized, with approximately 52,000 PACS already live. Model bylaws for PACS have been prepared and sent to the states, which have also accepted them. Under these bylaws, PACS have been

permitted to undertake 24 different types of activities. Previously, PACS were limited to providing short-term agricultural loans, but now they function as Common Service Centers. Additionally, they can establish Jan Aushadhi Kendras, petrol pumps, undertake gas distribution, maintain water supply under the Har Ghar Nal Se Jal scheme, build warehouses, engage with cooperative taxi services, and even facilitate air and rail ticket bookings. He emphasized that by linking PACS with these 24 types of activities, they have been made more practical and viable. Post-computerization, the entire accounting system has been made available on their computers in the local language of the respective state. Today, PACS have become the hub for 300 types of schemes.

Shri Amit Shah said that the government has decided to establish the Tribhuvan Sahkari University, and its foundation stone laying ceremony will take place soon. A taxi service based on the cooperative model will also be launched, in which taxi drivers will not only be made members but will also act as the owners, with profits directly credited to their bank accounts. He added that by increasing the cooperative sector's share in insurance, a fully cooperative-owned insurance company will soon be established, opening up many new opportunities.

Union Minister of Cooperation stated that significant efforts have been made to improve technology, with a key focus on aligning corporate and cooperative sectors under income tax laws. The surcharge has been reduced from 12% to 7%, and the Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) has been lowered from 18.5% to 15%. PACS have also been exempted from income tax penalties on transactions below 2 lakh rupees, and tax disputes related to sugarcane mills have been resolved.

Shri Amit Shah announced that within three years, the government has established the National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL), National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL), and Bhartiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL). These national cooperatives will sell farmers' produce in global markets, with profits directly credited to farmers' accounts. He added that organic products, tested and

sold under the 'Bharat' brand as 'Bharat Organic' in domestic and international markets, will benefit farmers practicing organic, traditional, and bio-farming, while ensuring consumers receive reliable organic products. Efforts are also underway to conserve, promote, and enhance the productivity of seeds. He expressed confidence that in the next ten years, these three new national cooperatives will become major institutions for farmers, akin to Amul, NAFED, IFFCO, and KRIBHCO.

The Minister highlighted transformative changes in the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), through which financial assistance of approximately 1.38 lakh crore rupees has been provided. In fisheries, 44 deep-sea trawlers are being supported through cooperatives.

The dairy sector is being strengthened under White Revolution 2.0. Shri Shah noted that the Government of India has increased ethanol prices derived from maize to ensure fair prices for farmers. Currently, 20% ethanol blending has been achieved for use in vehicles, thereby significantly reducing the country's import bill. Efforts are also being made to promote a circular economy in the dairy sector in the coming days.

Shri Amit Shah emphasized that India cannot become strong solely based on GDP. In a country with a population of 140 crore, while GDP growth is essential, employment for all is equally critical. He stated that cooperatives are the only mechanism capable of providing employment to the rural poor, youth, and women by connecting large numbers of people to businesses with minimal capital, achieving the mantra of high profits with low investment. He noted that this is why the International Cooperative Alliance decided to celebrate the International Year of Cooperatives 2025, with its inauguration held in India by Prime Minister Modi Ji. The Cooperation Minister affirmed that the goal is to make this a landmark year by strengthening cooperatives in every village, state, district, and tehsil, and he is confident of achieving this target.

IYC - 2025

UNION HOME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION, SHRI AMIT SHAH, CHAIRS A "MANTHAN BAITHAK" WITH COOPERATION MINISTERS OF ALL STATES AND UTs TO COMMEMORATE THE 'INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF COOPERATIVES 2025' IN NEW DELHI

- The "Manthan Baithak" with Cooperation Ministers of States / UTs is a significant step towards strengthening the cooperative sector.
- The Modi government aims to have cooperatives in every village in the next 5 years, for this the national cooperative database should be used.
- The Modi government ensured changes in laws, expansion of activities in the cooperative sector.
- At least one cooperative training institute from each state should be affiliated with the Tribhuvan Sahkari University, and the entire cooperative training system of the state should be managed through it
- The National Cooperative Policy will be announced soon, under which each state's policy will be formulated according to local needs
- State Cooperation Ministers should work together with Agriculture Ministers to promote natural farming, so that both public health and the well-being of the Earth are ensured.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, on 30-06-2025 chaired a "Manthan Baithak" with the Ministers of Cooperation of all States and Union Territories in New Delhi. The event marks the celebration of International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) 2025. The meeting was organized by the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India. The successful organization of the "Manthan Baithak" is a significant step towards strengthening the cooperative sector. The Ministers of Cooperation, Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, and Secretaries of Cooperative Departments from across the country enthusiastically participated in the meeting. The

purpose of the Manthan Baithak is to review ongoing schemes to strengthen the cooperative movement in India, assess achievements, and provide a dynamic platform to promote collaboration.

In his address, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi established the Ministry of Cooperation with the objective of reviving the long-standing tradition of cooperation in the country while also keeping the present perspectives in mind. He said that social change and a new landscape of development have emerged in the country since the Narendra Modi government came into power. He mentioned that around 60 to 70 crore people in India lacked even the basic facilities and were living for generations in scarcity. He said that within the 10-year period from 2014 to 2024, the Modi government fulfilled the dreams of these crores of people by providing them with housing, toilets, drinking water, food grains, healthcare, gas cylinders, and other facilities. Shri Shah further said that these people now want to improve their lives further by becoming entrepreneurs, but they lack the initial capital, and the only way for them to do some significant work with their small amounts of capital is through cooperation. He emphasized that for a country like India with a population of 140 crore, two things are extremely important — the growth of GDP and GSDP, as well as the creation of jobs for all 140 crore people.

He said that cooperation is the only option for generating employment for every individual in the country, which is why the Ministry of Cooperation was established four years ago with great foresight. Shri Shah said that with sensitivity, cooperation must be revitalized for the welfare of millions of small farmers

and rural people in the country because there are immense opportunities in this sector.

Shri Amit Shah said that the purpose of this reflection and brainstorming can only be fulfilled if all 140 crore people of the country get employment and live their lives with hard work, and to make this successful, the Government of India has taken 60 initiatives. He said that one important initiative among these is the creation of the National Cooperative Database, which will help identify gaps. He explained that this National Cooperative Database has been created so that cooperative institutions at the national, state, district, and tehsil levels can collectively see which villages in which states do not have even a single cooperative institution. Shri Shah said that the Modi government's goal is that within the next five years, there should not be a single village in the country without a cooperative, and the cooperative database should be used to achieve this goal.

Union Minister of Cooperation said that there are three main reasons behind the weakening of the cooperative movement in India. He said that over time, the laws were not changed, which the Modi government has now amended. He added that the cooperative activities were neither expanded nor adapted with time. He mentioned that earlier, recruitments in cooperatives used to be based on nepotism, which is why the idea of the Tribhuvan Sahkari University (TSU) was conceived.

Union Minister of Cooperation urged that every state should have at least one cooperative training institution affiliated with the Tribhuvan Sahkari University, and that the entire holistic system of cooperative movement training in the state should be conducted through the Tribhuvan Sahkari University. Shri Shah said that very soon, the National Cooperative Policy will also be announced, which will be effective from 2025 to 2045, i.e., approximately until the centenary of India's independence. He said that under the National Cooperative Policy, each state's cooperative policy will be formulated according to the cooperative conditions of that state and specific goals will be set.

He said only then will we be able to become an ideal cooperative state by the centenary of independence. Shri Shah said that every state should announce its cooperative policy before January 31, 2026. He further said that bringing discipline, innovation, and transparency to the cooperative sector across the country will be achieved through the Model National Cooperative Policy Act. He added that regarding establishing 2 lakh Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), the target for the financial year 2025-26 should be completed by February next year itself, only then we can fulfil the ambitious goal on time.

Shri Amit Shah said that Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies need our special attention. He said that now we have brought cooperative banks under the Banking Act and the Reserve Bank of India has also taken a flexible approach and solved many of our problems. He said that the remaining problems can overcome only if we run the bank with transparency and recruit staff as per merit. He stressed the need for more transparency in the functioning of Credit Cooperative Societies and Urban Cooperative Banks.

Union Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah stressed on promoting natural farming and said that all State Cooperation Ministers should promote natural farming in coordination with Agriculture Ministers in their respective states so that the health of the common people as well as the mother earth is improved.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that 'Cooperation Amongst Cooperatives' has been a very good and successful experiment in Gujarat. He said that this is a very important initiative for the growth and development of our national capacity, increasing the strength of cooperatives at the national level and promoting the power of cooperatives.

The meeting focused on comprehensive evaluation of initiatives taken by the Ministry of Cooperation to facilitate meaningful exchange of best practices, policy suggestions and implementation strategies among the States and UTs. With a collective commitment to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's

vision of 'Sahkar Se Samridhhi' (Prosperity through Cooperation), the deliberations in the meeting underlined the importance of mutual cooperation and coordination in achieving inclusive growth.

The main points discussed in the meeting include progress on setting up of 2 lakh Multi-Purpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (M-PACS) across the country and promotion of dairy and fisheries cooperatives to enhance rural service delivery. The implementation of the world's largest grain storage scheme in the cooperative sector was also discussed in detail during the meeting. The delegates attending the meeting also put forth their contribution to the "International Year of Cooperatives 2025" under the 'Cooperation Amongst Cooperatives' approach.

A review of the role of the states in supporting the functioning of the three newly formed national multi-state cooperative societies - National

Cooperative Export Limited (NCEL), National Cooperative Organic Limited (NCOL) and Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) – was also discussed in the meeting. The White Revolution 2.0 initiative aimed at creating a sustainable and circular dairy economy was also discussed. Policy matters

related to procurement at support price for pulses and maize under Atmanirbhar Bharat were also prominently discussed.

The delegates reviewed key digital transformation initiatives such as computerization of PACS and Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCS) offices and implementation of the National Cooperative Database, which has been envisaged as a key planning tool. Other important topics discussed during the meeting included capacity building and training through Tribhuvan Sahkari University and financial reforms to strengthen cooperative banks. These include operation of Shared Services Entities (SSEs) for State

Cooperative Banks (StCBs) and District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) and setting up of an umbrella organisation for urban cooperative banks.

The successful conduct of the meeting has reaffirmed the shared resolve of the Centre and

the States to transform India's cooperative landscape into a strong pillar of economic growth driven by the spirit of cooperative federalism and collective development.



SPECIAL ADDRESS : Reproduced**MOVING THE BOUNDARIES OF FINANCIAL INCLUSION -
A REGULATORY PERSPECTIVE¹****Shri M Rajeshwar Rao***

Distinguished guests, participants, ladies and gentlemen, Good evening.

At the outset, let me thank the organisers for inviting me to share some of my thoughts on the theme of financial inclusion. Before that, let me take a moment to acknowledge that today i.e., June 05, 2025, is the World Environment Day, an UN-recognized day that brings together people across the globe in a shared mission to safeguard and restore our planet. This year's theme of ending plastic pollution is a call to all of us to make a behavioural shift in our daily life choices. In the spirit of preserving the purity of our environment and safeguarding our well-being, let us commit toward making more sustainable choices.

2. Coming back to our theme for the day, let me begin by stating the obvious that financial inclusion is not just a policy objective but a collective obligation and responsibility for all stakeholders in the financial ecosystem. The importance of the theme can be underscored by the fact that at least seven out of the seventeen United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of 2030 view financial inclusion as a key enabler for achieving sustainable development worldwide by improving the quality of lives of poor and marginalized sections of the society. It is seen as a way to bridge the gap between the privileged and the under-privileged and a way to bring people out of poverty. An inclusive financial system has the potential to reduce income inequality and poverty, promote social cohesion and enable shared economic development. It also can dissuade the disadvantaged and low-income segments of society from seeking out informal options that renders them vulnerable to financial distress, debt, and poverty.

History of Financial Inclusion in India

3. Given the theme for today's discourse, it would be worthwhile to set the historical context regarding financial inclusion in India. While the financial inclusion initiatives in our country can in many ways be traced back to the 1950s, with significant

developments ensuing in the subsequent decade, it was the National Credit Council meeting of July 1968 that paved the way for framing of Priority Sector Lending (PSL) guidelines, nationalisation of select private banks in July 1969 and launch of the Lead Bank Scheme in December 1969 that were the precursors of this journey. The branch expansion policy adopted by RBI during the 1970s, which required a specific number of branches to be opened in rural areas for every branch opened in urban areas, became the foundation for expanding the reach of banking services that we see today. Besides, the experiments with group-based lending towards the turn of the last century and proliferation of microfinance institutions have also helped link the unserved section of the population with the formal banking system.

4. Interestingly, the above initiatives were taken during a period when the term 'financial inclusion' was not prevalent in the country. The first reference to the term was made in RBI's Annual Policy Statement for the Year 2005-06 by Dr Y.V. Reddy², the then Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, who highlighted 'financial exclusion' that resulted due to certain banking practices. Banks were then urged to review their existing practices to align them with the objective of financial inclusion, leading to the genesis of 'no frills' account, which are now known as Basic Savings Bank Deposit Accounts.

Financial Inclusion in Indian Context

5. The first step in promoting financial inclusion is understanding its nuances, which are as dynamic and diverse as the Indian economy itself, and thereafter outline its ambit in the Indian context. Given its multi-faceted nature, various organisations and jurisdictions have defined financial inclusion in different ways. In India, the formal definition of financial inclusion³ was given in January 2008 by the Committee on Financial Inclusion chaired by Dr C Rangarajan as "the process of ensuring access to

¹ Address delivered by Shri M Rajeshwar Rao, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India on June 05, 2025, at HSBC's event for Financial Inclusion in Mumbai. Inputs provided by Jyoti Prakash Sharma, Jignasa Morthania and Yash Goel are gratefully acknowledged.

* Dy. Governor RBI

² Annual Policy Statement for the Year 2005-06 by Dr. Y. Venugopal Reddy, Governor, Reserve Bank of India

financial services and timely and adequate credit where needed by vulnerable groups such as weaker sections and low-income groups at an affordable cost". Reflecting the priorities of that time, the definition focused largely on the access to financial services. Currently we have a scenario, where more than 95% households have access to a bank account⁴, which reflects remarkable progress on one out of three parameters of Financial Inclusion Index developed by the Reserve Bank to measure the extent of financial inclusion in the country.

6. While there has been a significant progress in expanding the banking reach, it is also important to ensure that inherent barriers to a gamut of financial products and services are eliminated and usage of these services expands to various segments of yet underserved and un-served population in the country. Efforts towards making financial services accessible become futile if they are not used by the intended population or are used without appropriate awareness of its risks and benefits. Thus, the other two parameters of RBI's financial inclusion index, viz., usage and quality of the financial services cannot be overlooked while defining or measuring financial inclusion. Over the last few years this index has shown reasonable improvement, but there is a scope for improvement in some aspects.

Current Scenario

7. To get a perspective on the current scenario, it would be worthwhile to dwell a bit on some of the recent developments in the journey of financial inclusion in the country. Several policy measures towards furthering financial inclusion have been undertaken from time to time, but it was the launch of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) that became the watershed moment in this journey. The Jan Dhan Yojana – Aadhar – Mobile i.e., JAM trinity provided a quantum leap in our endeavour to ensure access to banking services for all adults, making it the world's largest financial inclusion program. As of May 21, 2025⁵, 55.44 crore Jan Dhan accounts, 56% of which belong to women, have over ₹2.5 lakh crore worth of deposits, which speaks volumes about the impact of the scheme. The provision of universal access to bank accounts has not only increased the potential reach of other financial services but has also

enabled frictionless delivery of welfare programs to the targeted segment through adoption of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Digital Payments

8. Access to a bank account is a prerequisite for availing other financial services, and a robust payments and settlements system is an indispensable enabler for proliferation of formal financial services. Over the past decade, the fundamentals of banking have changed with the advent of digital modes of banking like net banking and mobile banking as well as digital payments systems like Unified Payment Interface (UPI). In FY 2024-25, digital payments surged 35% Y-o-Y by volume to 60.81 crore transactions per day, with UPI accounting for 83.73% of such transactions⁶. The extraordinary uptake of UPI stands as a testament to the power of collaborative and use-case-driven innovation in driving financial inclusion. A particularly compelling example of this transformation can be seen in the informal sector—where today a street vendor or pop-up store owner nonchalantly places a QR code at the fore and receives payment for services without any hassle for cash and quietly integrating himself into the formal financial system with dignity and ease.

9. For further expanding and deepening the digital payments ecosystem in the country, a Payments Infrastructure and Development Fund has been constituted to encourage deployment of payment acceptance infrastructure. Further, all State and Union Territory Level Bankers' Committees have been advised to identify districts and assign them to designated banks, with an endeavour to make these districts 100 per cent digitally enabled. The objective is to provide every eligible individual in the identified district at least one mode of digital payments viz., cards, net banking, UPI, AEPS⁷, etc. It is understood that as on March 31, 2025, 514 districts across 15 states and 6 UTs are 100 percent digitally enabled. This marks a significant milestone in our journey towards a digitally inclusive economy.

RBI's financial inclusion index.

10. RBI's financial inclusion index, which captures the extent of financial inclusion across the country, with

⁴ National Family Health Survey (NFHS - 5), 2019-21

⁵ <https://pmjdy.gov.in/account>

⁶ As per Reserve Bank of India's Annual Report for 2024-25

⁷ Aadhaar Enabled Payment System

four iterations published till date, has increased from 60.1 in March 2023 to 64.2 in March 2024, showing a Y-o-Y increase of 6.82 per cent. While the progress is appreciable, credit gaps still exist in the system which may be attributed amongst others to a lack of documentation available with the individuals/ entities in the informal system and of awareness regarding the various government schemes. There is as such a need to make concerted efforts to fill them.

Recent regulatory initiatives

11. The RBI has been sensitive to need to bring about improvement in the financial inclusion in the country. Some of the measures taken recently in this regard include raising the limit for collateral-free agriculture loans to ₹2 lakh per borrower, enhancing various loan limits under PSL, expansion of the list of eligible borrowers under the category of 'Weaker Sections' alongwith removal of existing cap on loans by UCBs to women beneficiaries. The scope of co-lending is proposed to be broadened by expanding the list of permitted regulated entities (REs) that can enter a co-lending arrangement and extending the same beyond PSL loans. A comprehensive review of the Lead Bank Scheme is also underway with an objective to enhance the effectiveness and impact of the scheme.

12. With respect to digital payments, permissible transaction limit on UPI Lite has been revised in FY 2025 from ₹500 to ₹1000 and on UPI 123PAY from ₹5,000 to ₹10,000 to encourage their wider adoption. Further, with a view to promote digital payments among individuals without bank accounts, UPI Circle has been introduced which allows a secondary user to make UPI transactions up to a limit from the primary user's bank account in a secure manner. Besides, in an effort to enhance ease of access to digital infrastructure for persons with disabilities, payment system participants (PSPs) have been advised to review their payment systems and devices and carry out necessary modifications so that all such systems and devices can be easily accessed and used by persons with disabilities.

Financial Literacy

13. Meaningful financial inclusion also requires access and awareness in right proportions for ensuring responsible and equitable service delivery of financial services. Therefore, financial literacy and financial inclusion need to be considered as two sides

of the same coin – promoting financial inclusion without adequate financial literacy would lead to underutilization of financial services and increased chances of errors and frauds. Conversely, educating the consumers without facilitating their access to the formal financial system would result into unmet demand for financial services. The efforts towards augmenting financing literacy have been institutionalised by setting up of the National Centre of Financial Education (NCFE) jointly by the financial sector regulators. RBI as a regulator has been at the forefront of financial literacy with the launch of annual Financial Literacy Week campaigns targeted at specified sections of the population. Financial awareness empowers borrowers to assess and understand financial products, thereby supporting informed decision-making. To facilitate informed decision making by the customers and enhance transparency by the lenders, the RBI has mandated that all REs provide a standardised disclosure of key terms and conditions in the form of Key Fact Statement (KFS) to all retail and MSME borrowers.

Challenges

14. Even as all the stakeholders in the financial system, including the regulator and the REs, play their part in advancing financial inclusion, certain issues that act as impediments to the efforts made in this regard have come to the fore and will need to be addressed. Let me briefly highlight a few such issues.

Grievance Redressal

15. Having an effective grievance redressal mechanism is non-negotiable for financial sector enterprises as non-resolution of consumer's concerns not only leads to erosion of customer base but also results in loss of trust in the broader financial system and deters new consumers from entering the system. It is concerning that the complaints received at the Offices of RBI Ombudsmen as well as Centralized Receipt and Processing Centres (CRPCs) marked a sharp 33% year-on-year increase⁸ in FY2023-24. This raises questions on the products, practices, and handling of grievances at the level of the RE. REs, therefore, need to analyse the gaps and strengthen their processes to reverse the trend of increasing grievances.

Mis-selling

16. While financial inclusion entails a bouquet of

⁸ Table 1.1 of the Annual Report of Ombudsman Scheme, 2023-24

financial services, pushing the same indiscriminately to unaware consumers may be detrimental to their well-being and undermine its stated intent. There are reports of mis-selling of financial services such as insurance products. The concern is that such mis-selling without regard to suitability and appropriateness would beget distrust in schemes aimed at providing a safety net to the low-income households by creating artificial boundaries. We are examining whether it necessitates framing of guidelines to address mis-selling of financial products and services by REs.

Cyber Safety and Digital Literacy

17. As digitalization becomes more pervasive, the need for increasing digital literacy becomes even more pronounced. Empowering individuals to use digital devices and platforms with confidence and security is essential to ensuring inclusive participation in the digital economy. Often, apprehensions related to uncertainty, the possibility of errors, or financial loss create psychological barriers that hinder the adoption of technological solutions such as ATMs, mobile banking, and other digital services. The rising incidents of frauds through novel techniques makes it imperative that REs collaborate with other stakeholders like SROs, NGOs, etc. to generate awareness and promote safe digital practices among customers.

18. At the same time, it is critical for REs to implement effective measures to combat digital frauds. One such area warranting attention is the use of One-Time Passwords (OTPs) as a means of Additional Factor Authentication (AFA). While this method has served well in the past, the evolving threat landscape in the arena of cybersecurity now calls for the development and adoption of more secure and resilient alternatives. Further, REs must diligently adopt the designated 160 number series⁹ for all service and transactional voice calls as prescribed by the Government. This initiative is critical to maintaining the integrity of communication channels and protecting customers from phishing and other forms of cyber-attacks.

19. RBI has been running extensive multimedia awareness campaigns using audio-visual messages under the name 'RBI Kehta Hai' and text messages as 'RBI Says'. Further, RBI has introduced the bank.in and fin.in domains exclusively for banks and non-

bank entities to curb cyber security threats and malicious activities. Also, to aid the customers in verifying Digital Lending Apps' (DLAs) association with RE, the RBI has created a public repository of DLAs deployed by the REs which will soon be available on RBI's website.

Developments in Microfinance

20. Let me now focus on a few developments in Microfinance sector. Microfinance has placed itself as a promising avenue for providing formal financial services to the excluded sections of population. While microfinance has played an important role in financial inclusion, there are some issues which need attention. The sector continues to suffer from vicious cycle of over-indebtedness, high interest rates and harsh recovery practices. While some moderation in interest rates charged on microfinance loans has been observed in recent quarters, pockets of high interest rates and elevated margins continue to persist. Even lenders having access to low-cost funds have been found to be charging margins significantly higher than the rest of the industry and which in several instances appear to be excessive. The lenders should look beyond the conventional "high-yielding business" tag for the sector and approach it with an empathic and developmental perspective, recognising the socio-economic role that microfinance plays in empowering vulnerable communities.

21. The frequency of disruptions in the microfinance sector has increased of late. Incidents of high borrower indebtedness, coupled with coercive recovery practices, sometimes lead to tragic consequences. It is in the collective interest of all stakeholders that such disruptions are pre-emptively addressed and avoided. In this regard, REs must also enhance their credit appraisal frameworks to prevent over-leveraging of borrowers. Additionally, they must eschew any coercive or unethical recovery practices, ensuring that financial services are delivered in a manner that is both responsible and sustainable. While the business model may be sound, the organisational structure and the incentive schemes framed to deliver the services may be flawed resulting in perverse outcomes for customers. This calls for an introspection around the models.

Way Forward

22. Even as we reflect on some of these challenges,

⁹ To address the issue of unsolicited and spam calls from telemarketers, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has allocated the 160-numbering series for solely making service and transactional calls to be used by banks, financial institutions, and other service providers, to keep away from the use of the 140-numbering series that was allocated to telemarketers.

we need to be clear about the path that we must take to ensure greater financial inclusion. As we look to the future, the way forward for financial inclusion lies in the strategic deployment of emerging technologies to build a more accessible, equitable, and efficient financial ecosystem. Innovations such as AI, blockchain, and digital public infrastructure are revolutionizing how financial services are delivered, especially to the underserved and remote communities. One such innovation in this space is the Account Aggregator (AA) framework. By empowering individuals to securely share their financial data with consent, the AA system enables more accurate credit assessments and potentially facilitates the delivery of customized financial products. Building on this foundation, the Unified Lending Interface (ULI) standardizes and streamlines the digital lending process by providing lenders with a host of alternate data including digitised state land records, milk pouring data and satellite data. It's RBI's belief that the JAM trinity will be followed by the new trinity of JAM-UPI-ULI in revolutionizing digital infrastructure and credit delivery and provide necessary fillip to financial inclusion efforts, pushing it to new highs.

23. The development and implementation of India Stack has revolutionised the banking landscape in India and has been instrumental in furthering financial inclusion by reducing infrastructural, geographical, and linguistic frictions and plugging leakages. REs have been encouraged to innovate in product design, offering solutions that reflect the unique needs of their customer base; for instance, offering flexibility in repayment schedules, variable savings contributions, and locally tailored financial products shaped by seasonal income cycles, occupational patterns, or behavioural tendencies. Such customisation can go a long way in further improving access, usage, and

quality of financial services. REs can bring some of these innovations under the theme neutral 'On Tap' Regulatory Sandbox framework, which provides a structured environment for testing state-of-the-art solutions in the interest of consumers and financial stability. As connectivity can pose challenges in remote and rural areas, REs can explore the development of lightweight mobile applications and web interfaces optimised for low-bandwidth environments. These measures will go a long way in extending the reach of digital financial services to the last mile, thereby ensuring inclusive and accessible banking for all.

24. A lot has been achieved in the journey for achieving financial inclusion thus far, yet a lot more needs to be done. It cannot be merely achieved by standalone policy initiatives but by implementation of such initiatives both in letter and spirit by all stakeholders in the financial ecosystem. Also, those who remain outside the ambit of formal finance today represent untapped potential that can meaningfully contribute to economic growth in the future. The dividends of such inclusion will not only accrue to the institutions involved but will also strengthen the foundation of a more resilient, equitable, and prosperous society. Financial inclusion should not be viewed as an act of philanthropy, but rather as a strategic investment in the nation's economic and social development. With the right mix of well thought of and carefully crafted regulation, technological advancement, and institutional empathy, our collective efforts can dismantle longstanding barriers and usher in a new era of inclusive and sustainable financial growth – one that leaves no citizen behind and resonates far beyond set boundaries.

Thank you.

BOARD MEETING**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE COOPERATIVE BANKS LTD.****Vashi, Navi Mumbai****02 MAY 2025 AT AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT****ISSUES DELIBERATED**

- 1 Reply of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah to the discussion on Tribhuvan Sahkari University Bill, 2025 in the Lok Sabha.
 - 2 The First Anniversary celebration of the Cooperative Election Authority & to peruse the meeting held by Vice-Chairperson, the Cooperative Election Authority, Ministry of Cooperation, GoI on 08-04-2025 on matters related to NAFSCOB Bye Laws & Elections Rules etc.
 - 3 61 initiatives of MoC, GoI aimed under the overarching vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi'.
 - 4 Issues related to Consortium for Financing Food Procurement Operations: Revision on Membership and Share for the year 2025-26.
 - 5 RBI Circular on Revised norms for Government Guaranteed Security Receipts (SRs)
 - 6 Reserve Bank of India Clarifications on (Financial Statements - Presentation and Disclosures) Directions, 2021.
 - 7 The minutes of the RBI Monetary Policy Committee Meetings held on 7-9, April 2025.
 - 8 The notification by RBI regarding Penal Interest on Shortfall in CRR and SLR requirements as per change in Bank Rate.
 - 9 The draft Directions, 2025 regarding Lending Against Gold Collateral issued by the RBI.
 - 10 The draft Directions, 2025 regarding Co-Lending Arrangements issued by the RBI.
 - 11 RBI Circular on Standing Liquidity Facility for Primary Dealers.
 - 12 Operational Guidelines for Schematic Lending under Long Term Refinance for F.Y 2024-25 - State Cooperative Banks (StCBs), issued by NABARD.
 - 13 NABARD Circular on Special Refinance Facility - Transformation of PACS as Multi-Service Centre (MSC) for implementation of projects under World's Largest Grain Storage Plan (WLGSP) in Cooperative Sector.
 - 14 Operational Guidelines on Provision of Additional Short-Term (ST) refinance by NABARD to State Cooperative Banks for financing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO) @ Fixed rate- for F. Y. 2024-25.
 - 15 Guidelines for relief measures to farmers affected by natural calamities - Conversion of ST (SAO) loans into Medium Term loans – Operational guidelines for the year 2024-25, issued by NABARD.
 - 16 Operational Guidelines for the year 2024-25 on Provision of Short Term refinance by NABARD to State Cooperative Banks for financing various purposes under Short Term (Others) - Fixed rate.
 - 17 Operational Guidelines for F. Y. 2024-25 on Provision of Short-Term (ST) refinance by NABARD to State Cooperative Banks for financing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO).
 - 18 NABARD Circular regarding repealing of old Circulars pertaining to Know Your Customer (KYC)/Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Combating Financing of Terrorism (CFT).
 - 19 NABARD Circular regarding Phase IV of Amalgamation of RRBs – One State One RRB.
 - 20 Status of implementation of the Revised Revival Package of STCCS as recommended by the Task Force on Revitalization of Cooperative Credit Institutions.
 - 21 Status and issues related to lending short term credit @7 per cent including the interest subvention and related matters.
 - 22 Status of License & Scheduled status to State Cooperative Banks and District Central Cooperative Banks.
 - 23 Proceedings of National Seminar on "Strategies to Implement United Nations declared IYC 2025" organized by NAFSCOB on 18-03-2025, Vashi, Navi Mumbai.
- Addl. Item**
- Notification of the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act 2025

EXECUTIVE DIARY

MR. SANTOSH KENKRE, CHAIRMAN
THE GOA STATE COOPERATIVE BANK LTD.



PROFILE

1. Name	: Mr. Santosh R Kenkre
2. Father’s Name	: Mr. Ravindranath Kenkre
3. Date of Birth	: 20th August 1960
4. Educational Qualification	: B.Com., FCA
5. Languages Known	: English, Hindi, Marathi, Konkani
6. Current Position	: Chairman
7. Name of Organisation	: The Goa State Cooperative Bank Ltd.
8. Date of Assumption of Current Position	: 08th May 2025
9. Past Experience/ Position held etc.	: Chairman EDC Ltd.
10. Areas of Special Interest	: Management, Finance and Banking

Cooperative - Identity

A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

CIRCULARS**RBI CIRCULARS**

RBI/2025-26/42 June 06, 2025
FMOD.MAOG.No.152/01.01.001/2025-26

All Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) participants

Madam/Sir,

Liquidity Adjustment Facility - Change in rates

As announced in the Monetary Policy Statement dated June 06, 2025, it has been decided by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to reduce the policy repo rate under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) by 50 basis points from 6.00 per cent to 5.50 per cent with immediate effect.

2. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate and marginal standing facility (MSF) rate stand adjusted to 5.25 per cent and 5.75 per cent respectively, with immediate effect.

3. All other terms and conditions of the extant LAF Scheme will remain unchanged.

Yours sincerely,
(G. Seshsayee)
Chief General Manager

RBI/2025-26/52 June 12, 2025
DOR.SOG(LEG).REC/32/09.08.024/2025-26

All Commercial Banks (including RRBs) and all Co-operative Banks

Madam/ Dear Sir

Inoperative Accounts/ Unclaimed Deposits in Banks - Revised Instructions (Amendment) 2025

As per instructions, issued vide circular DOR.SOG(LEG).REC/64/ 09.08.024/2023-24 dated January 1, 2024 (hereinafter called the extant instructions), the credit balance in any deposit account maintained with banks, which have not been operated upon for ten years or more, or any amount remaining unclaimed for ten years or more, as

mentioned in paragraph 3(iii) of the "Depositor Education and Awareness" (DEA) Fund Scheme, 2014, are required to be transferred by banks to DEA Fund maintained by the Reserve Bank of India. There is a need to enable Business Correspondents to facilitate updation of KYC.

2. Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 read with sections 26A, 51 and 56 of the Act *ibid* and all other provisions of this Act or any other laws enabling Reserve Bank to issue instructions in this regard, these instructions are being issued to amend the extant instructions as given hereunder.

3. (i) These instructions shall be called the Inoperative Accounts/ Unclaimed Deposits in Banks – Revised Instructions (Amendment), 2025.

(ii) The amended instructions shall come into force with immediate effect.

4. In the extant instructions, the paragraph 6.1 is hereby substituted by the following, namely:

"6.1 A bank shall make available the facility of updation of KYC for activation of inoperative accounts and unclaimed deposits at all branches (including non-home branches). Further, a bank shall endeavour to provide the facility of updation of KYC in such accounts and deposits through Video-Customer Identification Process (V-CIP). The V-CIP related instructions under Master Direction - Know Your Customer (KYC) Direction, 2016 dated February 25, 2016 (as updated from time to time) shall be adhered to by the bank. Additionally, the services of an authorised Business Correspondent of the bank may be utilized for activation of inoperative accounts as prescribed in paragraph 38(a) (iia) of the above Master Direction."

Yours faithfully

(Usha Janakiraman)
Chief General Manager-in-Charge

RBI/2025-26/53 June 12, 2025
DOR.AML.REC.31/14.01.001/2025-26

The Chairpersons/ CEOs of all the Regulated Entities

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Updation/Periodic Updation of KYC - Revised Instructions

Please refer to instructions on updation/ periodic updation of KYC as contained in paragraph 38 of Master Direction - Know Your Customer (KYC) Direction, 2016 dated February 25, 2016 (as amended from time to time).

2. The Reserve Bank has observed a large pendency in periodic updation of KYC including in the accounts opened for credit of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)/ Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) under Government schemes to facilitate credit of DBTs and/ or scholarship amount (DBT/ EBT/ scholarship beneficiaries) and accounts opened under PMJDY.

3. In order to further ease the process for the convenience of customers, the instructions regarding updation/ periodic updation of KYC have been amended with the intent, inter alia, to allow BCs to facilitate in the process of KYC updation vide Reserve

Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC)) (Amendment) Directions, 2025. Similar amendments related to inoperative accounts and unclaimed deposits have been made vide circular DOR.SOG(LEG).REC/32/09.08.024/2025-26 dated June 12, 2025.

4. Further, the banks are advised to organize camps and launch intensive campaigns including special camps, focusing on periodic updation of KYC, especially in rural and semi urban branches and the branches having large pendency in periodic updation of KYC. The banks may also facilitate the process of activation of such accounts by taking an empathetic view as indicated in the circular DoS.CO.PPG.SEC.12/11.01.005/2024-25 dated December 2, 2024.

5. It is mentioned that over the last few years, the instructions on customer onboarding and updation/ periodic updation of customers' KYC have been simplified and detailed in the Master Direction *ibid*. A brief compilation of such instructions is enclosed in the Annexure for ready reference.

Yours faithfully,

(Usha Janakiraman)

NABARD CIRCULARS

Ref. No. NB.HO.IDD/RRB Operations
/5230/2025-26 08 April 2025

CGM/OIC, NABARD ROs/GMs of Sponsor Banks/Chairman, RRBs

Madam/Dear Sir,

Phase IV of Amalgamation of RRBs-One State One RRB

As you are aware, Government of India (GoI) has issued notification dated 07th April 2025 for amalgamation of RRBs in 11 states (copy enclosed). The amalgamation of the RRBs is to be carried out based on the audited financials as on 30th April 2025

and effective date of amalgamation will be **01st May 2025**.

2. To oversee and monitor implementation of amalgamation of RRBs, DFS, GoI has constituted the following two committees:

- i. State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC)
- ii. National Level Project Monitoring Unit (NLPMU)

3. Details of the composition and terms of reference of both the committees are placed at Annexure-1.

4. The timelines for implementation of amalgamation of RRBs, as directed by DFS, GoI is given below:

- i. Amalgamation of RRBs to be carried out based on audited financials as on **30.04.2025.**
- ii. Amalgamation shall be effective from **01.05.2025**
- iii. CBS and other technological integration - **30.09.2025**
- iv. Is Audit post IT integration - **31.12.2025**

5. Further, DFS has also advised that the Sponsor Banks of new amalgamated RRBs may set up Amalgamation Resource Office (ARO) / Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) to draw up Action plan specific to Sponsor Banks and their respective RRBs, which are subject to amalgamation. External consultant may be hired/empanelled to be part of ARO/PMU by sponsor banks of new amalgamated RRBs.

6. To ensure the timely completion of the amalgamation process, all stakeholders are requested to promptly commence their designated responsibilities.

7. The SLMCs are advised to initiate the development of a comprehensive state action plan and finalise it before **18th April 2025** and to convene fortnightly meetings to monitor the process of amalgamation and address/resolve issues, if any.

Yours faithfully

(Subrat Kumar Nanda)
Chief General Manager

Encl : As above

OBITUARY



NAFSCOB EVENTS

- Shri Konduru Ravinder Rao, Chairman, NAFSCOB attended ICA Board Meeting during 1-3 April 2025, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA attended ICA Board Meeting during 1-3 April 2025, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA attended Conference by Rabo Partnerships, Rabobank, Utrecht on 07-08 April 2025.
- NAFSCOB prepared Power Point Presentation in the meeting convened by with Cooperative Election Authority on 29-04-2025.
- NAFSCOB organised orientation Programme to Secretarial Staff of StCBs & National Seminar on Strategies to celebrate UN declared International Year of Cooperatives 2025 during 23-24 April, 2025 in South Andaman, Andaman and Nicobar Island.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam attended the meeting with Cooperative Election Authority on 29-04-2025 at New Delhi.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA participated in celebration of Gujarat Stapana Din on 01-05-2025 at Ahmedabad, as part of IYC 2025 celebration.
- IYC 2025 celebration was organised by NAFSCOB & Gujarat StCB at Ahmedabad on 01-05-2025
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA participated in Cleanliness Drive as part of IYC 2025 celebration at Sri Jagannatha Mandir and Sri Bhadrakali Mandir in Ahmedabad on 01-05-2025.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA made presentation on coverage of IYC 2025 on 01-05-2025 at Conference Hall of the Gujarat State Cooperative Banks Ltd. At Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- NAFSCOB Executive Committee Meeting was held on 02-05-2025 at Board Room, Gujarat State Cooperative Banks Ltd. At Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- NAFSCOB Board Meeting held was on 02-05-2025 at Board Room, Gujarat State Cooperative Banks Ltd. At Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA participated and made presentation during IYC 2025 celebration at LEGACOOOP, Lombardia, Milan, Italy during 5- 7, May 2025.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director/CEO & President, ICBA is one of the very few ICA Board members invited as special invitees to the IYC 2025 event by LEGACOOOP, Lombardia, Milan, Italy. on 07-05-2025.
- Shri Konduru Ravinder Rao, Chairman, NAFSCOB attended the National level conference on "Shared Services Entity and Cooperation among Cooperatives" for Chairpersons and MDs of StCBs organised by NABARD at NBSC, Lucknow on 8 May 2025.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA has been invited by APRACA to participate and make presentation during Regional Policy Forum and 78th Executive Committee of APRACA held on 26 May 2025 at Bali, Indonesia. Theme of Regional Policy Forum was "The strategic Role of Agricultural Finance in Advancing the Circular Economy".
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director and President, ICBA attended launch of India's first Cyber Security Operations Centre (C-SOC), named "Sahakar Suraksha" in the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSC Bank) in Vashi, Navi Mumbai on 13-06-2025.
- Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA held meeting with Shri Ajaybhai H Patel, Chairman, Gujarat StCB on 20-06-2025 at Mumbai to discuss strategies to celebrate United Nations declared IYC 2025.

प्रेस प्रकाशनी PRESS RELEASE


भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
वेबसाइट : www.rbi.org.in/hindiWebsite : www.rbi.org.inई-मेल/email : helpdoc@rbi.org.in

संचार विभाग, बैंदीय कार्यालय, शहीद भगत सिंह मार्ग, फोर्ट, मुंबई - 400 001

Department of Communication. Central Office, Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg, Fort,
 Mumbai - 400 001 फोन/Phone: 022 - 2286 0502


May 02, 2025

Dr. Poonam Gupta takes over as RBI Deputy Governor

Dr. Poonam Gupta took over as the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India today. The Government of India on April 02, 2025, appointed her to the post of Deputy Governor for a period of three years from the date of joining the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

As Deputy Governor, Dr. Gupta will look after Monetary Policy Department, Financial Markets Operations Department, Department of Economic and Policy Research, Financial Stability Department, International Department, Department of Statistics and Information Management, Corporate Strategy and Budget Department and Department of Communication.

Immediately prior to this appointment, Dr. Gupta was the Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), leading the works on issues related to Economic Growth, International Financial Architecture, Central Banking, Macro Economic Stability, Public Debt, and State Finances. She also served as member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and as Convener of the Advisory Council to the 16th Finance Commission.

Before joining NCAER, Dr. Gupta had worked at senior positions for nearly two decades at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. Dr. Gupta also taught at the Delhi School of Economics, University of Maryland (USA) and as a visiting faculty at the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Delhi. She has been the RBI Chair Professor at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) and a Professor at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

Dr. Gupta has various research papers published and an edited book "Emerging Giants: China and India in the World Economy" to her credit.

Dr. Gupta holds a Master's degree and PhD in Economics from University of Maryland, USA, and a Master's degree in Economics from Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

Press Release: 2025-2026/235
(Puneet Pancholy)
 Chief General Manager

ICBA EVENTS

- (i) **Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director & President, ICBA during ICA Meeting in Punta Cana which was graced by HE President of Dominican Republic on 02-04-2025**



- (ii) **Shri Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA during Conference by Rabo Partnerships, Rabobank, Utrecht on 07-08 April 2025.**



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA during Conference by Rabo Partnerships, Rabobank, Utrecht on 07-08 April 2025.



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA with Mr. Sean Turnell, former Economic Policy Advisor to Aung San Suu Kyi in Myanmar, during Conference by Rabo Partnerships, Rabobank, Utrecht on 07-08 April 2025.



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA with Mr. Rudi Kleijwegt, Director Corporate Secretary & Cooperative Governance and Mr. Stefaan Decraene, Chairman, Managing Board, Utrecht, Netherland Rabobank on 08 April 2025.



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA with Mr. Deribie Asfaw Hurissa CEO, Coop Bank, Ethiopia & also Member of ICA/ICBA on 07 April 2025 in Utrecht, Netherland



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA with Mr. Stefaan Decraene, Chairman, Rabobank Managing Board, Utrecht, Netherland Rabobank on 08 April 2025



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA with Mr. BGM (Bjorn) Schrijver: Project Director, Rabo Partnerships and Mr. David Gerbrands, CEO, Rabo Partnerships & Global Head of Advisory Services and Ventures on 07 April 2025 in Utrecht, Netherland



Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director, NAFSCOB & President, ICBA with Mr. BGM (Bjorn) Schrijver: Project Director Rabo Partnerships, Ms. Els Kamphof, Managing Board Member Wholesale & Rural, Rabobank Group and Mr. David Gerbrands, CEO, Rabo Partnerships & Global Head of Advisory Services and Ventures, on 07 April 2025 in Utrecht, Netherland

CURRENT NEWS**NEWS FROM MEMBER BANKS**

- 1) Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma has assumed the charge of the Chairman of The Andaman and Nicobar State Cooperative Bank Ltd.
- 2) Shri Ganni Veeranjanyulu, Ex. MLA has assumed the charge of the Person-In-Charge of The Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank Ltd. on 06th June, 2025.
- 3) Shri Kedar Nath Gupta has assumed the charge of the Officer-in-charge of the Chhattisgarh Rajya Sahakari Bank Maryadit on 23 rd May, 2025.
- 4) Shri R. K. Kadyan has assumed the charge of the Managing Director of The Delhi State Cooperative Bank Ltd.
- 5) CA Shri Santosh Kenkre has assumed the charge of the Chairman of The Goa State Cooperative Bank Ltd. on 08 th May, 2025.
- 6) Shri Nagadhiraj Datta has assumed the charge of the Chairman of The Tripura State Cooperative Bank Ltd.



Shri Ganni Veeranjanyulu, Ex. MLA assumed the charge of Person-in-charge of Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank Ltd., Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh on 06-06-2025.

TABLE - I **STATISTICS**
STATE COOPERATIVE BANKS (StCBs) AT A GLANCE
(2018-19 TO 2022-23)

(As on 31st March)

(Amount In Lakhs)

S.No.	Main Items	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	NO. OF STATE COOP. BANKS	33	33	33	33	33
2.	NO. OF OFFICES INCL. H.O.	1340	2014	2000	2143	2210
3.	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP (NO.)	675909	687984	1122077	2413081	2652769
	a. COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES	18164	23919	66994	68885	75442
	b. INDIVIDUALS	657745	664065	1055083	2344196	2577327
4.	PAID UP CAPITAL	581441	716137	823433	904567	967702
	a. OF WHICH GOVT.	119582	137830	184652	203870	204269
5.	TOTAL RESERVES	1427118	1721687	1924248	2179237	2302705
	a. STATUTORY	384515	464856	521945	584017	670985
	b. A.C.S. FUND	259092	301070	325717	364205	407979
	c. OTHERS	783511	955761	1076586	1231015	1223741
6.	TOTAL DEPOSITS	12654282	19814258	21758537	24484655	25217222
	a. COOPERATIVES	6304083	10891987	11344913	13407940	14073239
	b. INDIVIDUALS	4304059	6281795	6870471	7150298	7910632
	c. LOCAL BODIES & OTHERS	2046140	2640476	3543153	3926417	3233351
7.	TOTAL BORROWINGS	7791997	7920905	10048224	11977377	14978114
8.	WORKING CAPITAL(WC)	23031042	31566482	34429399	40086264	43455049
9.	INVESTMENTS	5954736	8372088	9116293	10347168	11458216
10.	COST OF MANAGEMENT (CM)	340570	361546	340514	406749	563413
11.	TOTAL LOANS ISSUED	14837629	18912438	18645148	21239261	21548931
	a. SHORT TERM	13180219	15778581	16318473	17316569	17144233
	b. MEDIUM TERM&OTHERS	1657410	3133857	2326675	3922692	4404698
12.	TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING	14242222	19682609	16632805	22867859	24914129
	a. SHORT TERM	10341753	12614160	11392314	14120836	14988837
	b. MEDIUM TERM&OTHERS	3900469	7068449	5240491	8747023	9925292
13.	TOTAL DEMAND	7485652	10248107	9155225	12030236	13191626
14.	TOTAL COLLECTION	7133074	9498062	8714894	10620567	11904768
15.	BALANCES (OVERDUES)	352578	750045	440331	1409669	1286858
16.	% OF OVERDUES TO DEMAND	4.71	7.32	4.81	11.72	9.76
17.	% OF CM TO WC	1.48	1.15	0.99	1.01	1.3
18.	TOTAL NO. OF EMPLOYEES	12378	17060	16764	16653	16102

TABLE - II **STATISTICS**
DISTRICT CENTRAL COOPERATIVE BANKS AT A GLANCE
(2018-19 TO 2022-23)

(As on 31st March)

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Main Items	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	NO. OF D.C.C. BANKS	363	351	351	351	351
2.	NO. OF OFFICES INCL. H.O.	14647	14012	13992	14058	14120
3.	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP (NO.)	4401390	5082082	5479395	5863822	6459688
a.	COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES	504032	474525	499209	750829	768511
	b. INDIVIDUALS	3897358	4607557	4980186	5112993	5691177
4.	PAID UP CAPITAL	1759718	1722632	1896955	2135819	2333083
	a. OF WHICH GOVT.	279798	294683	327278	379107	449197
5.	TOTAL RESERVES	3689524	3672367	3899954	4391366	4540579
	a. STATUTORY	612123	642325	717266	787454	831272
	b. A.C.S. FUND	282532	290996	319129	338412	363973
	c. OTHERS	2794869	2739046	2863559	3265500	3345334
6.	TOTAL DEPOSITS	36696045	32589529	35974491	38942404	41112723
	a. COOPERATIVES	11798979	8754377	9770889	10609165	10928163
	b. INDIVIDUALS	20317861	20513478	21858701	23837026	24841670
	c. LOCAL BODIES & OTHERS	4579205	3321674	4344901	4496213	5342890
7.	TOTAL BORROWINGS	9287326	9240680	10075544	12131575	13668126
8.	WORKING CAPITAL	51715807	48546782	53012638	58964889	62950116
9.	INVESTMENTS	18035586	16915767	18932518	21327296	22622069
10.	TOTAL LOANS ISSUED	26532444	24051636	27631055	29753769	33535511
	a. SHORT TERM	20806608	19128180	22320243	24230337	27006852
	b. MEDIUM TERM	3403822	2872903	2927933	3082740	3677145
11.	TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING	28085412	26070848	28281169	31681393	34769089
	a. SHORT TERM	18182705	17801194	18929025	21498398	23683008
	b. MEDIUM TERM	7157401	5983716	6248257	6979897	7627951
12.	TOTAL DEMAND	24792887	22797578	25818962	26271923	29053955
13.	TOTAL COLLECTION	18602783	17102496	19727872	20366914	22971333
14.	BALANCES (OVERDUES)	6190104	5695082	6091090	5905009	6082622
15.	% OF OVERDUES TO DEMAND	24.97	24.98	23.59	22.48	20.94
16.	COST OF MANAGEMENT (CM)	1127676	1038650	1105684	1146993	1213579
17.	% OF CM TO WC	2.18	2.14	2.09	1.95	1.93
18.	TOTAL NO. OF EMPLOYEES	83449	78297	77667	76566	75887

TABLE - III **STATISTICS**
PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETIES AT A GLANCE
(2018-19 TO 2022-23)

(As on 31st March)

(Amount In Lakhs)

(Membership & Borrowers in 000)

S.No.	Main Items(All India Position)	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Number of Societies	95995	95509	102559	104266	106955
2.	Total Membership	132029	138158	137169	169170	160379
	a. S. C. Membership	14732	15886	14183	17919	17759
	b. S. T. Membership	9080	9087	8482	19527	19254
3.	Paid up Capital	2281655	2299417	1911500	1979163	2219053
	a. Govt. Contribution	132331	64926	89971	86598	88851
4.	Total Reserves	1937850	2074693	2319569	2296225	2637482
5.	Owned Funds (3+4)	4219506	4374110	4231069	4275388	4856535
6.	Total Deposits	13301036	16547604	17092217	17638959	19723884
7.	Total Borrowings	13892245	13857109	14304401	17237363	20132856
8.	Total Resources (5+6+7)	31412787	34778824	35627687	39151709	44713275
9.	Total Working Capital	29655362	32532183	33471841	36989568	40937731
10.	Total No. of Borrowers	51058	52554	53653	48348	49228
	a. S.C.	4255	4044	4390	5856	5420
	b. S.T.	2958	2572	2666	3745	3209
11.	Total Loans Issued	20589484	21455318	22944341	15313692	20049091
	a. Short Term	17023835	17235411	18552817	13437081	18277941
	b. Medium Term	3565649	4219907	4391524	1876611	1771149
12.	Total Loans Outstanding	11504806	21236021	21686159	15970024	18884183
	a. Short Term	9391899	18624909	19011061	12917080	15464957
	b. Medium Term	2112907	2611112	2675099	3052944	3419226
13.	Total Demand	20390339	22814067	25107670	17836855	20846069
	a. Short Term	19407986	21526657	23524915	16086087	18882652
	b. Medium Term	982353	1287410	1582754	1750768	1963417
14.	Total Collection	15195052	15798051	17852691	12700564	16441897
	a. Short Term	14475486	14963940	16730228	11546704	15169674
	b. Medium Term	719567	834111	1122462	1153860	1272222
15.	Total Overdues	5195286	7016016	7254979	5136291	4404172
	a. Short Term	4932500	6562717	6794687	4539383	3712978
	b. Medium Term	262786	453299	460292	596908	691195
16.	Total Percentages	25.48	30.75	28.9	28.8	21.13
17.	Number of Staff	150963	160891	160947	176814	194815



“અદના આદમીની અડીખમ બેંક”

SHRI RAJKOT DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

H.O. : "Vithalbhai Radadiya Jilla Bank Bhavan", Kasturba Road, Rajkot-360 001 (GUJ.-INDIA)

Phone : 0281-2231650-51-52-53, 0281-2226660-70, (Accts) 0281-2224865

Fax : 0281-2223457. E-mail ID : admin@rdcbank.org • Web : www.rdcbank.org



HIGHLIGHTS

- => The bank has been awarded **Five Times** in a row "**NABARD BEST PERFORMANCE AWARD**" by Prime Minister and Finance Minister (GOI) and **Five Time** Awarded by "**NAFSCOB**" for Overall best performance.
- => All branches are on **CBS** platform.
- => NEFT-RTGS-IMPS, Mobile Banking, MICRO ATM, SMS Alerts & Aadhaar Linkage Facility.
- => Since last **32** years Bank is receiving **First Prize** from the GSCB for the best recovery performance.
- => Bank obtain 99% Recovery and "**0"% Net NPA** Bank as per NABARD Guideline.
- => Total deposit is ₹ **9,770** crores, deposit (Up to ₹ 5.00 Lakhs) covered under insurance.
- => **Gold ornament finance** facilities in H.O. from **2.00 pm** to **9.00 pm** & **24 hour & 365 days Lockers** facility available at H.O.
- => Bank is providing accidental insurance at ₹ **20/-** premium under **PMSBY**, Life insurance at ₹ **436/-** premium under **PMJJBY** of **GOI** scheme. Bank also register under **APY** and issuing **PAN card** service to customer.
- => The bank is making profit since beginning the business.
- => Last **53** years bank is being get audit class "**A**" by Auditor & Bank is paying dividend since starting.
- => Bank provide Loan and Best service to Agri., Agri. base industry and customer through **883** affiliated societies, **199** Branches and **1055** Employees.
- => This Bank is consider as training center by NABARD for exposure tour for BOARD of All State's Co-Op. Bank.

FINANCIAL POSITION

As on Dt. 31-03-2025

₹ in Crore

Share Capital	154	Investments	4,498
Reserve & Other Funds	1,047	Advances	6,875
Deposits	9,770	Net Profit	125
Recovery (30-06-2025)	99.45%	Business	16,645



V. M. Sakhiya
General Manager / CEO



Ghanshyambhai Khatariya
Managing Director



Maganbhai Vadaviya
Vice Chairman



Jayeshbhai Radadiya
Chairman

THE MEGHALAYA CO-OPERATIVE APEX BANK LTD.



(A SCHEDULED BANK)

Proudly Brings you Mobile Banking



Check your Balance



Transfer Money
anywhere in India
- IMPS, etc.



Get a Mini Statement



Mobile/DTH/ Data Card
Bill Payments and Recharge

Banking at your Fingertips

Visit www.megcab.com for details

Other Digital Services: 1. Shop Online using our ATM 2. RTGS/NEFT/IMPS 3. DBT 4. PFMS 5. NACH

*Terms and Conditions Apply





સુ. ડિ. ઓ. બેંક
સ્થાપના - ૧૯૦૯

The Surat District Co. Op. Bank Ltd.

Regd. Office : "Shree Pramodbhai Desai Sahakar Sadan", J. P. Road, Athwagate, Surat.
Phone : 0261-2466001, 2466002, 2466003, FAX : 0261-2466000



‘સહકારથી સમૃદ્ધિ’



A glimpse of the bank's historic achievement as on 31-03-2025

Detail	Amount in Crore		
	31-03-2020	31-03-2025 (Unaudited)	Growth (%)
Number of Branches	106	116	9
Share Capital	6.85	7.94	16
Reserve Funds and Other Reserves	468.95	777.73	66
Total Deposits	5929	10089	70
Total Advances	2723	4157	53
Total Business	8652	14247	65
Per Branch Business	82	123	50
Net Profit	16	45	181



(Bank on Wheels)
Mobile bank
facility in remote
villages of
four Talukas

Cyber Security :
There is no provision in the law
for digital arrest.

Facilities provided by the Bank :

- ☛ Kisan Credit Card, Tractor - Agriculture related Loan (Tools and other agricultural equipment etc.)
Sudico Gramya Laxmi Kisan Yojana, Sudico Bhumi Putra Yojana, Irrigation Loan,
Land Development Loan, Godown Loan, Cash Credit Loan for Businessmen
- ☛ Sudico Gold Loan and O.D., Sudico Mortgage Loan and O.D., Sudico (Personal) Samruddha
Karmachari Loan, Sudico Sumul Agent Clean O.D. Yojana, Loan Scheme for Animal Husbandry and
Animal Breeding at 0% interest rate to Sumul affiliated Animal Husbandry
- ☛ Housing Loan, Education Loan, Car and Two Wheeler Loan, Doctors Project Loan, Sudico Doctors
Mitra O.D. Yojana, Instant Loan and Over Draft against FD / NSC / KVP and Life Insurance Policies
- ☛ NEFT / RTGS / IMPS / POS / ECOM / Micro ATM / ATM RuPay Debit Card / RuPay KCC Card / UPI / E-statment /
Mobile Banking / Internet Banking / POS/QR CODE / NACH / ABPS / E-Stamping / CTS/POSITIVE PAY /
PM Schemes and Lockers / PMSBY, PMJJBY, APY / Life Insurance & General Insurance

Total Deposits

Rs.10089
CRORE

Total Advances

Rs. 4157
CRORE

Total Business

Rs.14247
CRORE

**Your Security is in
Your Hand**



**Stay Safe,
Stay Secure**

Balvantbhai Patel
Chairman

Mahavirsinh Chauhan
Managing Director

Sunilbhai Patel
Vice Chairman

And All Board of Directors & SUDICO Bank Family



Telangana State Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd.

(State Govt. Partnered Scheduled Bank)



FINANCIAL PARTICULARS AS ON 31.03.2025

Rs. in crores

Sl. No.	PARTICULARS	PREVIOUS YEAR (as on 31.03.2024)	CURRENT YEAR (as on 31.03.2025)	Percent Increase/Decrease
1	Capital	379.72	412.1	8.53
2	Reserves and Surplus	883.7	1211.93	37.14
3	Own Funds	1263.42	1624.04	28.54
4	Deposits	7980.73	7996.26	0.19
5	Borrowings	8888.34	12289.46	38.26
6	Business Turnover	20955.51	24971.95	19.17
7	Loans and advances	12974.77	16975.69	30.84
8	Call Money & ST deposits with other banks	3228.67	2775.72	-14.03
9	Investments	1842.28	1601.49	-13.07
10	Net Profit (Profit Before Tax)	70.95	115.36	62.59
11	Gross NPAs	9.9	10.75	8.59
12	% of Net NPAs	0	0	-
13	CRAR %	10.18	10.15	-0.29
14	CD Ratio (%)	162.58	212.3	30.58
15	Return on Assets (%)	0.39	0.46	17.95
16	CASA (%)	14.88	13.64	-8.33
17	Gross NPAs (%)	0.08	0.06	-25.00
18	Net Worth	1243.37	1358.26	9.24
19	Gold Loans	1070.43	1498.76	40.01
20	Per Branch Business	403.06	531.32	31.82

OUR LOAN PRODUCTS



HOME LOAN



APEX VAHAN MITRA



EDUCATION LOAN



APEX VIDYA VIKAS



APEX ROOF TOP SOLAR UNITS



GOLD LOANS



PERSONAL LOANS



APEX SME FINANCE



APEX OWN YOUR SHOP



CASH CREDIT TO SMALL BUSINESSES



THE KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT COOPERATIVE CENTRAL BANK LTD., KARIMNAGAR

OUR VISION: RURAL PROSPERITY



International Year
of Cooperatives



Bank was established in 1921. Its **Centenary celebrations** were conducted in the year 2021 and **104 years of ahead in the Service of Rural People**. Present membership: 410 societies including 131 PACS.

Financial Position of the Bank as on 31.03.2025

(Rs. in Crores)

Share Capital	⇒	216.12	Gross NPA	⇒	24.59
Reserves & Provisions	⇒	253.47	Gross NPA%		0.55%
Deposits	⇒	2848.92	Net NPA	⇒	0.00
Borrowings	⇒	1888.71	CD Ratio		156.48%
Loans issued	⇒	3921.41	CRAR	⇒	12.54%
Loans Outstanding	⇒	4457.97	Total Branches		71
Working Capital	⇒	4952.24	Per Branch Business	⇒	102.91
Investments	⇒	863.77	Audit Class		"A"
Net profit	⇒	51.60		⇒	

Awards Received:

- All India level best DCCB performance award from NAFSCOB for the Yr. 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2021-2022 and 2023-24.
- Iconic Leadership Award 2024 and Best Chairman-2024 from BANCO
- Best Credit Initiative Award from FCBA 2024.
- Banco Blue Ribbon Award for FY-2024 under the Best "Turn Around Bank".
- Best SHG BPL linkage award from NABARD for 2013-14 to 2016-17 & 2023-24.
- Best DCCB in Last decade Award from NAFSCOB in 2022.
- Best DCCB in the South India Award from NABARD in 2022.
- State level Best Co-operative Bank for 5 years in a row 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 & 2016-17.
- Best DCCB award from FCBA for NPA Manager in 2023.



Main Features:

- All 71 Branches are under CBS Platform.
- UPI, IMPS, Mobile Banking and NACH Services
- 20 Branches housed in own buildings.
- Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and Public Financial Management System (PFMS)
- P2F Clearing House service in association with NPCI.
- Bank is continuing the (5) FLCs, despite stoppage of grant from NABARD.
- 39 ATMs, 1 Mobile ATM, 193 Micro ATMs and 318 PoS Machines installed and working.
- Services of mobile ATM provided to remote villages.
- RuPAY Debit Cards 2,96,224 & RuPAY Kisan Cards 1,05,426 issued to members
- Crop loans to the farmers up to Rs.3.00 lakhs. All the farmers are covered under KCC Scheme.
- Payment of 8% Dividend to members for the Financial Year 2023-24.
- Accident Insurance Coverage to Crop Loan Borrowers.
- 45638 members covered under PMJJBY & 82233 members covered under PMSBY as on 31.03.2025.
- 48167 accounts are opened during "Young champion" campaign – Highest in India.
- All 129 out of 131 PACS affiliated to the Bank are in profit.
- Computerization of all 131 PACS.
- Best performing Society in India award from NAFSCOB for 2020-21 to 2022-23 and Best Society in Last Two Decade Award from NAFSCOB in 2022 to our **PACS Choppadandi**.
- Diesel/Petrol Pumps at 36-PACS.
- Storage & Rice Mill was established under the World's Largest Grain Storage Plan (WLGSP) as a pilot project at PACS Gambhiraopet.
- PACS Development Cell (PDC) established with assistance of NABARD. 82 PACS have undertaken various credit & non-credit business activities and another 66 added under AIF scheme.
- UPNRM project implemented by our bank with financial outlay of Rs. 2.00 crore.
- 3 Watershed development projects are being implemented by bank as Project Facilitating Agency (PFA). Project cost (Grant) Rs.3.55 crores.



N. Satyanarayana Rao
Chief Executive Officer



Pingili Ramesh
PIC-Member



Konduru Ravinder Rao
Chairman
KDCCB & NAFSCOB

Address: Sikhwadi, OPP: I-Town Police Station, Karimnagar-505001, Telangana State

Our website: www.karimnagardccb.org & Email: kardccb@gmail.com

Phone No.: 0878-2262156, TOLL FREE NO: 1800-425-2023



THE KARNATAKA STATE COOPERATIVE APEX BANK LIMITED

"Uthunga", No.1, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 18.

e-mail: admin@karnatakaapex.com

The Karnataka State Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd., is a Scheduled Bank, established in the year 1915, has completed 107 years of useful services by extending Agricultural Credit to the farmers of the State and also by providing various retail Banking services through its 52 branches in Bengaluru City. Bank is also extending working capital and term loans to agro based co-operative and private sugar factories through consortium arrangements.

The Financial Parameters of the Bank for the previous 5 years is as under (Rs.in Crores)

Particulars	2019 -20	2020.21	2021 -22	2022 -23	2023 -24
Free Reserves	931.00	1051.53	1223.19	1436.69	1575.06
Own Funds	1458.77	1957.42	1945.20	2203.35	2337.75
Deposits	10892.76	11868.73	12195.34	12654.12	13347.90
Borrowings	9043.79	10543.04	12459.55	14805.97	16271.73
Investments	5169.94	5491.20	5937.71	5561.41	6828.62
Advances	14806.66	17838.42	20554.38	24443.45	24720.43
Working Capital	21916.10	24755.95	27367.04	30517.38	33167.20
Profit	181.04	300.41	448.94	522.89	376.38

Present Term Deposit Rate of Interest is as below :

15 to 30 days	4.50%	The higher rate of interest of 0.50% offered to Senior Citizens, on all Term Deposits irrespective of period of Deposits, further 0.50% additional interest is allowed to Individual Deposits of Rs.15.00 lakhs and above for a period of 1 year and above.
31 to 45 days	4.75%	
46 to 90 days	5.25%	
91 to 179 days	6.00%	
180 days to upto 1 year	6.50%	
1 year and above	7.50%	

Bank is working under CBS (Core Banking System) with ABB (Any Branch Banking), Centralized Clearing System (ECS / CTS) and providing the facilities of RTGS, NEFT, ATM/ POS/ E-commerce, UPI (Google Pay, Phonepe, Paytm), SMS, Mobile Banking, IMPS, e-stamp and Safe Deposit locker through all its Branches to the customers.

As on 31.03.2023 Bank has performed well in all Financial Parameters and the total deposit stood at Rs.12654.12 crore and Working Capital of the Bank has increased to Rs.30517.16crore.

Various loan schemes such as Home Loan, Vehicle Loan, House/Site Mortgage Loan, , Education Loan, Professional Loan, Project Loan, Overdraft facilities etc., are available in the Bank at competitive Rate of Interest. Further, Bank is advancing various types of loans to Sugar Factories under consortium arrangements.

During 2021-22 Bank has advanced Agricultural Loan of Rs.19780.60 crore to 27.79 lakh farmers through 21 District Central Co-operative Banks and 5651 Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies, out of which Rs.16366.70 crore of Agricultural Loan was issued to 27.52 lakh farmers at 0% interest. Under the leadership of Apex Bank has issued Rs.1970.68 crore to Self Help Groups through DCC Banks and PACS.

Bank has tie up under Corporate Agency with IFFCO-TOKIO General Insurance Company for its General Insurance business, like Vehicle Insurance, Property Insurance etc., and also tie up with Exide Life Insurance for Life Insurance business. Bank has Introduced Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyothi Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana to the customers.



SRI BELLI PRAKASH, M.L.A
President



SHRI. C. N. DEVARAJ, k.c.s
Chief Executive Officer



SRI. G.D HARISH
Vice President