

International Day of Cooperatives



International Cooperative Alliance

// PRESS RELEASE //  
12 April 2023

**COOPERATIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: 2023 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COOPERATIVES ANNOUNCED**

**Cooperatives help to move forward the UN 2030 Agenda and make SDGs a reality.**

On 1 July, the cooperative movement will celebrate the 2023 International Day of Cooperatives. United by the slogan **Cooperatives for sustainable development**, we will show how the cooperative way of working, inspired by the cooperative values and principles, has the accomplishment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of its DNA.

In September 2023, the international community will mark the **mid-point in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and seek ways to accelerate progress in the SDGs. It is thus a real key

moment to demonstrate the contribution of cooperatives in advancing the achievement of the SDGs.

Being one of the world's oldest and largest business networks, the cooperative movement was the first group of enterprises worldwide to endorse the SDGs and be recognised as a partner in achieving these goals.

**As natural vehicles of collaborative partnership and prosperity for all, cooperatives contribute to economic, social, and environmental sustainability** across regions and economic sectors. It is inherent among them to safeguard community relations, enhance local resources, advocate social responsibility, and adopt sustainable and long-term business practices.

“At the mid-point of the 2030 Agenda, efforts need to be deepened, and this can only be done with more cooperation. Enterprises, which are responsible for organising the production and distribution of goods and services, must focus on people and the planet. Cooperatives have a model for doing this, and have been demonstrating it for almost 200 years”, says the President of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), Ariel Guarco.”

The ICA invites cooperators across the globe to celebrate the International Day of Cooperatives and show the world can be achieved through the power of cooperation.

The 2023 #CoopsDay action pack including the logo, key messages and other digital resources will be available soon on the CoopsDay website. Join the **#coops4sdgs** campaign!

### **About the International Day of Cooperatives**

Celebrated worldwide for more than a century and officially proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on the centenary of the ICA in 1995, the International Day of Cooperatives is annually commemorated on the first Saturday of July.

The aim of #CoopsDay is to increase awareness of cooperatives. The event underscores the contributions of the cooperative movement to resolving the major problems addressed by the United Nations and to strengthening and extending the partnership between the international cooperative movement and other actors. Since 1995, the ICA and the United Nations, through the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), have jointly set the theme for the celebration of #CoopsDay.

**This year’s theme is “Cooperatives: partners for accelerated sustainable development”** and the celebration will mark the 29th International Day of

Cooperatives recognized by the United Nations and the 101<sup>st</sup> International Cooperative Day.

Through #CoopsDay, local, national, and international policymakers, civil society organisations and the public in general can learn about the contribution of cooperatives to a just and sustainable future for all.

### **About COPAC**

The Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC) is a multi-stakeholder partnership of global public and private institutions that champions and supports people-centred and self-sustaining cooperative enterprises as leaders in sustainable development.

It consists of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Trade Center (ITC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). Learn more about COPAC on its website.

### **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth - all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.



# भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

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सहकारिता मंत्रालय

अधिसूचना

नई दिल्ली, 21 मार्च, 2023

का.आ. 1396(अ).—केन्द्रीय सरकार बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 (2002 का 39) की धारा 116 की उपधारा (1) द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 (2002 का 39) की दूसरी अनुसूची में निम्नलिखित संशोधन करती है।

बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 की दूसरी अनुसूची में,-

- (i) क्रम सं. 21 और उससे संबंधित प्रविष्टियों के पश्चात्, क्रमशः निम्नलिखित क्रम संख्या और प्रविष्टियां अंतःस्थापित की जाएंगी, अर्थात्:-
- "22. राष्ट्रीय सहकारी ऑर्गेनिक्स लिमिटेड, आनंद, गुजरात।
23. भारतीय बीज सहकारी समिति लिमिटेड, नई दिल्ली।
24. राष्ट्रीय सहकारी निर्यात लिमिटेड, नई दिल्ली।";
- (ii) क्रम संख्या 7, क्रम संख्या 11, क्रम संख्या 13, क्रम संख्या 14 और क्रम संख्या 20 तथा उनसे संबंधित प्रविष्टियों का लोप किया जाएगा।

[फा. सं. एल-11012/01/2023- एल एंड एम]

विजय कुमार, केन्द्रीय पंजीयक, सहकारी समितियाँ एवं अपर सचिव

**MINISTRY OF COOPERATION  
NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 21st March, 2023

**S.O. 1396(E)**, In exercise of the powers conferred by-section (1) section 116 of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 (39 of 2002), the Central Government hereby makes the following amendments in the Second Schedule of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 (39 of 2002).

In Second Schedule to the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002,

- (i) after serial number 21 and the entries relating thereto, the following serial numbers and entries shall respectively be inserted, namely:-

“22. National Cooperative Organics Limited, Anand, Gujarat,  
23. National Cooperative Exports Limited, New Delhi.”  
24. National Cooperative Exports Limited, New Delhi.”

- (ii) the serial numbers, 7,11,13, 14 and 20 and the entries relating thereto, shall be omitted.

[F. No. L-11012/01/2023-L&M]

VIJAY KUMAR, Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies and Addl. Secy.



संचार विभाग, केंद्रीय कार्यालय, शहीद भगत सिंह मार्ग, फोर्ट, मुंबई - 400001

**Department of Communication**, Central Office, Shahind Bhagat Singh Marg, Fort, Mumbai - 400001

April 03, 2023

**RBI appoints Shri Neeraj Nigam as new Executive Director**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Shri Neeraj Nigam as Executive Director (ED) with effect from April 03, 2023.

Prior to being promoted as ED, Shri Neeraj Nigam was heading the Bhopal Regional Office of the Bank as Regional Director.

Shri Nigam has, over a span of more than three decades, served in Regulation and Supervision, Human Resource Management, Premises, Currency Management, Bank Accounts and other areas in the Reserve Bank, in its Central Office as well as Regional Offices.

As Executive Director, Shri Nigam will look after:

- i) Consumer Education and Protection on Department
- ii) Financial Inclusion and Development Department
- III) Legal Department
- iv) Secretary's Department

Shri Nigam holds a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Barkatullah University, Bhopal besides having earning the professional qualification of Certified Associate of Indian Institute of Banking and Finance (CAIB).

Press Release : 2023-2024/2

**(Yogesh Dayal)**  
Chief General Manager



Shri Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Home and Cooperation Minister and Shri Hardip S Puri, Hon'ble Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs.

Ministry of Cooperation



**To fulfill the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahkar Se Samridhi', Under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, M/o Cooperation is making all out efforts for the welfare of the people associated with this sector**

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah held an important meeting with Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Shri Hardeep Singh Puri and took several important decisions for the cooperative sector

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas approves conversion of existing Wholesale Petrol/Diesel Dealership Licensed PACS into retail outlets, which will strengthen the PACS and increase the income of the people associated with them.

A decision has been taken to give priority to PACS in allotment of new petrol / diesel dealership, now PACS have been made eligible to be able to get LPG distributorship

Under the Ethanol Blending Program, it was agreed that co-operative sugar mills would be given priority for the purchase of ethanol at par with other private companies

Shri Amit Shah expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his continuous support in expanding the coverage of cooperative sector and strengthening it

Posted On : 12 APR 2023 8:39PM by PIB Delhi

To fulfill the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahkar Se Samridhi', the Ministry of Cooperation, Under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperaton, Shri Amit Shah, is making every possible effort for the welfare of the stakeholders associated with cooperative sector. In this regard, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah held a meeting with Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri in New Delhi. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas agreed to convert existing Wholesale Consumer Licensed Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) into retail outlets. Under this, the existing PACS will be given a one-time option to convert their outlets in rural area, including statutory approvals and other permissions.

On the initiative of the Ministry of Cooperation, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has taken several steps to strengthen PACS and cooperative sugar mills in the country, such as-

- PACS will be given priority in allotment of new petrol/diesel dealerships - this will strengthen cooperative movement
- Eligibility of PACS approved for LPG distributorship - PACS will become the economic hub of rural development
- Option to convert existing Wholesale Consumer Licensed PACS into Retail Outlet - PACS will become a strong empowered entity
- Priority will be given for the purchase of ethanol produced by cooperative sugar mills
- New PACS will also be able to set up and operate retail outlets

In addition to the above, rules will also be changed by the Ministry of Petroleum to make PACS eligible for LPG distributorship. It has also been decided that PACS will be considered under the Combined Category -2(CC 2) along with the freedom fighter and sports quota in allotment of new petrol/diesel dealerships. Under the Ethanol Blending Program, the Ministry of Petroleum will ensure that cooperative sugar mills are given priority for ethanol procurement at par with other private companies.

To strengthen the cooperative movement in the country, the Ministry of Cooperation, under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, has also taken several other important steps to strengthen the Primary Agricultural Credit Credit Societies (PACS), such as Model Bylaws for PACS. By accepting these Model Bylaws, around 1 lakh PACS across the country will become the pivot of rural economic development and will be able to function as multi-dimensional units. They will help in increasing the income of more than 13 crore farmers of the country through more than 25 activities.

Further in the direction of empowerment of PACS, under the Centrally Sponsored Project of Ministry of Cooperation, the Computerization of PACS is currently going on, which will enable PACS to be linked with NABARD through national software. Along with this, Ministry of Cooperation has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, NABARD and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, under which more than 300 e-services of CSCs will be made available to the people in rural areas through PACS. Apart from this, the Ministry of Cooperation has also set a target of setting up 2 lakh Multipurpose PACS and Primary Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies covering all Panchayats/Villages in the next five years. The cooperative societies have also been included as 'buyers' and various schemes of Government of India are also being decentralized at the level of PACS.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the steps being taken by the Ministry of Cooperation will help in strengthening the PACS as well as converting them into multipurpose economic units, which will provide regular sources of income to crores of farmers of the country. Shri Amit Shah expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his continuous support in expanding the coverage of cooperative sector and strengthening it.

**RK/AY/AKS/AS**

(Release ID : 1916029) Visitor Counter : 1201

## NAFSCOB EVENTS

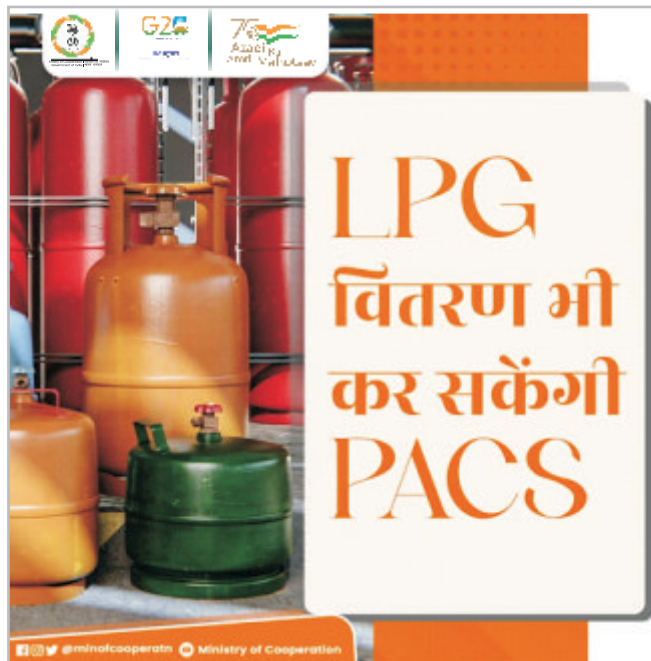
- A one day National Seminar on VISION for AMRIT KAL (2022-2047) by and For Rural STCCS organised on 28-04-2023 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

The National seminar facilitated a wide range of consultations on very important issues listed as follows:

1. Union Budget 2023-24
  2. Initiatives /Events by MOC/NAFSCOB
  3. Data Entry Issues : National Cooperative Database
  4. Issues related to Governance and management in SCBs & DCCBs.
  5. Adoption of Technology
  6. Prepare a Vision Paper for Amrit Kal (2022-2047)
- NAFSCOB Board meeting held on 28-04-2023 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
  - NAFSCOB Executive Committee meeting held on 28-04-2023 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.



Smt. T. Lalmuanpuii , Chairperson, Mizoram SCB & Vice chairperson, NAFSCOB with Hon'ble Union Minister of Home and Cooperation Shri Amit Shah on 01-04-2023 in Aizwal, Mizoram



## **A historic moment as the UN General Assembly adopts the first resolution on the social and solidarity economy\***

Following the events organised in July and December 2022 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, the United Nations has adopted the first Resolution on promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development during the General Assembly held on 18th April 2023. As an observer of the UN Task Force on the Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE), the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) has been part of the discussion over the last few years and welcomes this important step in mainstreaming and enhancing the international dimension and profile of the SSE.

The resolution includes a definition of the SSE as “enterprises, organisations and other entities engaged in economic, social and environmental activities which serve the collective and/or general interest, based on the principles of voluntary cooperation and mutual aid, democratic and/or participatory governance, autonomy and independence and the primacy of people and social purpose over capital in the distribution and use of surpluses and/or profits”. Recognising cooperatives as part of the SSE (together with associations, mutual societies, foundations, social enterprises, self-help groups and “other entities operating in accordance with the values and principles of the social and solidarity economy”), the resolution will coexist with existing UN resolutions on cooperatives in social development, adopted since the 1950s.

“This is a historic moment for the SSE family. The cooperative movement has been one of the main institutional pillars constituting the SSE ever since its origins in the 1830s, and has been actively engaged in the modern revival of the SSE concept. We believe the resolution will be a key instrument in increasing the visibility of the SSE and providing the opportunity for a focused exchange of knowledge and learning by member states, guiding UN agencies on SSE priority areas of work and documenting our contributions to sustainable development”, said Ariel Guarco, President of the ICA.

The document recognises how the social and solidarity economy can contribute “to the achievement and localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in terms of employment and decent work, the provision of social services, the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women, access to affordable finance, and local economic development (...), as well as inclusive and sustainable growth”, among others.

The resolution encourages the UN Member States to promote and implement national, local and regional strategies, policies and programmes for supporting and enhancing the SSE through dedicated legal frameworks, national statistics, fiscal and public procurement incentives, education curricula and capacity-building and research initiatives and reinforcing entrepreneurship and business support. The text also calls multilateral, international and regional financial institutions and development banks to support the social and solidarity economy, including through existing and new financial instruments and mechanisms adapted to all stages of development.

The document also requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report in collaboration with the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy, on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into consideration the contribution of the social and solidarity economy to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and an inclusive, job-rich, resilient and sustainable recovery, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, a sub-item entitled “Promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development”.



In 2020, the ICA published its position paper "Cooperatives as a key constituent of the social and solidarity economy", supporting the UN resolution on the SSE. Additionally, in line with the ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan, the paper reaffirms ICA's commitment to establishing strong partnerships with other global bodies in the social and solidarity economy and promoting the SSE at an international level.

The Resolution Promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy for Sustainable Development (A/77/L.60) is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

#### **UN resolutions on cooperatives in social development**

The United Nations General Assembly has been adopting resolutions concerning cooperatives in social development since the 1950s. We acknowledge the support of the Mongolian government to the cooperative movement, as it has been spearheading the systematic tabling of the resolution on cooperatives to the UN General Assembly every two years since 1992.

The UN resolution on cooperatives in social development recognises that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of local communities and all people including women, young people, older people, people with disabilities and indigenous peoples, whose inclusion strengthens economic and social development, contributing to the eradication of poverty and hunger. The resolution also states that, as cooperative enterprises often serve the socially excluded and vulnerable sectors of the population that traditional profit-driven businesses may not be best placed to tackle, they therefore play an important role in supporting socially inclusive policies that drive inclusive development, particularly in developing countries.

As a follow-up to the resolutions on cooperatives in social development, the UN Secretary General writes a report to examine their implementation. In his recent report, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres recognised the importance of cooperatives as key economic and social actors in the global recovery strategy. The report examined the implementation of Resolution 74/119 of December 2019 at both national and international levels, as well as the contributions cooperatives can make, in the context of building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic in particular.

\*NAFSCOB as a member of ICA endorsed the resolution

### **EVENTS**

- Final meeting of Expert Committee of "Relevance, applicability and retention of three-tier Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCS)" held on 12-04-2023 at NABARD Head Office, Mumbai to finalise the Report.
- Review Meeting with State Cooperative Banks (StCB) on progress of Data entry under Phase-II of National Cooperative Database was held virtually under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation, GoI on 18-04-2023.
- NAFSCOB played an active role in follow up Phase-II.

#### **Editorial Board:**

**Bhima Subrahmanyam, Managing Director**

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