

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1602

TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/03/2023

Cooperative societies operational in the agricultural sector

1602. **Shri Deepender Singh Hooda:**

Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar:

Will the Minister of **Cooperation** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cooperative societies operational in the agricultural sector across the country, State-wise/UT-wise;
- (b) out of the total procurement of fruits and vegetables by cooperative societies, what percentage is procured directly from the farmers, State-wise/UT-wise details including that of Haryana;
- (c) whether Government proposes to formulate a policy for the agriculture based cooperative societies;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) by what time final decision in the regard is likely to be taken?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COOPERATION
सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) to (e): There are 1,00,428 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)/ Large Area Multi-Purpose Societies (LAMPS)/Farmers Services Societies (FSS) and 619 State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (SCARDB) and Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) in the agriculture sector. State-wise list of cooperative societies is annexed at **Annexure**.

Ministry has taken up formulation of New National Cooperation Policy to help in realising the vision of 'Sahakar se Samridhi', promoting the cooperative based economic development model, strengthening the cooperative movement in the country and deepening its reach up to the grassroots. In this regard, consultations were earlier held with stakeholders and suggestions for formulating the new Policy were invited from the Central Ministries/ Departments, States/UTs, National Cooperative Federations, Institutions and also from the general public. A National level committee has been constituted on 2nd September 2022 under the chairmanship of Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, consisting of experts of the cooperative sector, representatives from National/ State/ District/ Primary level cooperative societies, Secretaries (Cooperation) and RCSs from States/UTs, officers from Central Ministries/ Departments to analyse the collated feedback, policy suggestions & recommendations to formulate the draft of the new Policy.

In order to strengthen and promote cooperative ecological system in various sectors including the agriculture based cooperative societies, the Ministry of Cooperation since its formation in July, 2021 has taken various initiatives such as: -

1. Computerization of PACS: Process to onboard 63,000 functional PACS on an ERP based common national software with an outlay of ₹2,516 Crore started.
2. Model byelaws for PACS: Model byelaws prepared and circulated for their adoption as per the respective State Cooperatives Act to enable PACS to undertake more than 25 business activities like dairy, fishery, setting up of godowns, LPG/ Petrol/ Green energy distribution agency, banking correspondents, CSC, etc.
3. PACS as Common Service Centres (CSC): MoU signed between Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, NABARD and CSC - SPV to facilitate functioning of PACS as CSCs to improve their viability, provide e-services at village level and generate employment.
4. National Cooperative Database: Preparation of an authentic and updated data repository of cooperatives in the country started to facilitate stakeholders in policy making and implementation.
5. Establishment of Multi-Purpose PACS, Dairy and Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat/Village: A plan has been approved by the Government to set up 2 lakh new multi-purpose PACS, dairy and fisheries cooperatives covering every Panchayat/Village in the next five years by taking advantage of various existing schemes.
6. National Cooperative Policy: A National level committee comprising of experts and stakeholders drawn from all over the Country constituted to formulate the New Cooperation Policy to create an enabling ecosystem to realize the vision of 'Sahakar-se-Samriddhi'.
7. Amendment of MSCS Act, 2002: Bill introduced in the Parliament to amend the centrally administered MSCS Act, 2002 to incorporate provisions of 97th Constitutional Amendment, strengthen governance, enhance transparency, increase accountability and reform electoral process in the Multi State Cooperative Societies.
8. National Cooperative Development Corporation: New schemes for cooperatives launched by NCDC in various sectors such as 'Swayamshakti Sahkar' for SHG; 'Deerghavadhi Krishak Sahkar' for long term agricultural credit; 'Dairy Sahkar' for dairy and 'Neel Sahkar' for fisheries. Total financial assistance of Rs. 34,221 Crores disbursed in FY 2021-22.
9. Member Lending Institutions in Credit Guarantee Fund Trust: Non-scheduled UCBs, StCBs and DCCBs notified as MLIs in CGTMSE Scheme to increase share of cooperatives in lending.
10. Cooperatives as 'buyers' on GeM portal: Cooperatives permitted to register as 'buyer' on GeM, enabling them to procure goods and services from nearly 40 lakh vendors to facilitate economical purchases and greater transparency.

11. Reduction in surcharge on cooperative societies: Surcharge reduced from 12 % to 7% for co-operative societies having income between Rs. 1 to 10 Cr.
12. Reduction in Minimum Alternate Tax: MAT reduced for cooperatives from 18.5% to 15%.
13. Relief under Section 269ST of IT Act: A clarification has been issued to remove difficulties in cash transactions by cooperatives under Section 269ST of IT Act.
14. Lowering tax rate for new cooperatives: Announcement made in the Union Budget 2023-24 to charge flat lower tax rate of 15%, compared with current rate of upto 30% plus surcharge, for new cooperatives commencing manufacturing activities till March 31, 2024.
15. Increase in limit of deposits and loans in cash by PACS and PCARDBs: Announcement made in the Union Budget 2023-24 to increase limit from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 2 lakh per member for deposits and loans in cash by PACS and PCARDBs.
16. Increase in limit for TDS: Announcement made in the Union Budget 2023-24 to increase cash withdrawal limit for cooperatives from Rs. 1 Crore to Rs. 3 Crore, per annum, without being subjected to TDS.
17. Relief to Sugar Cooperative Mills: Sugar cooperative mills not to be subjected to additional income tax for paying higher sugarcane prices to farmers upto Fair and Remunerative or State Advised Price.
18. Resolution of chronic pending issues of Sugar Cooperative Mills: Announcement made in the Union Budget 2023-24 to allow sugar cooperatives to claim as expenditure their payments to sugarcane farmers for the period prior to assessment year 2016-17, giving a relief of nearly Rs. 10,000 crores.
19. New National Multi-State Cooperative Seed Society: New apex national multi-state cooperative seed society being established under the MSCS Act, 2002 as umbrella organization for quality seed cultivation, production and distribution under a single brand.
20. New National Multi-State Cooperative Organic Society: New apex national multi-state cooperative organic society being established under the MSCS Act, 2002 as umbrella organization to produce, distribute and market certified and authentic organic products.
21. New National Multi-State Cooperative Export Society: New apex national multi-state cooperative export society being established under the MSCS Act, 2002 as umbrella organization to give thrust to exports from cooperative sector.

The Ministry of Cooperation is responsible for providing administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country. However, information related to procurement of vegetable or fruits or any kind of agricultural produce by the cooperative societies is not available with this Ministry.

Annexure

S.No.	State / UT	No. of PACS/LAMPS/FSS	SCARDBs and PCARDB
	States		
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	2,042	-
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	34	-
3	ASSAM	809	-
4	BIHAR	8,481	-
5	CHHATTISGARH	2,058	-
6	GOA	93	-
7	GUJARAT	10,263	1
8	HARYANA	772	20
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	2,198	2
10	JHARKHAND	4,293	-
11	KARNATAKA	6,040	182
12	KERALA	1,682	77
13	MADHYA PRADESH	4,541	-
14	MAHARASHTRA	20,962	-
15	MANIPUR	250	-
16	MEGHALAYA	516	-
17	MIZORAM	84	-
18	NAGALAND	1,166	-
19	ODISHA	2,709	-
20	PUNJAB	3,951	90
21	RAJASTHAN	7,442	37
22	SIKKIM	178	-
23	TAMIL NADU	4,489	181
24	TELANGANA	909	-
25	TRIPURA	292	1
26	UTTAR PRADESH	7,478	1
27	UTTARAKHAND	671	-
28	WEST BENGAL	5,144	25
	Union Territories		
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	46	-
2	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	597	1
3	LADAKH	158	-
4	PUDUCHERRY	56	1
5	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	7	-
6	CHANDIGARH	17	-
7	DELHI	-	-
8	LAKSHADWEEP	-	-
	Total	1,00,428	619