

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1133
ANSWERED ON 13/12/2023

PACS for rural water supply related works

1133 # Dr. Anil Jain:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any step has been taken by the Ministry to involve Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) for rural water supply related works;
- (b) if so, the role of the States in successfully implementing the said initiative; and
- (c) the manner in which citizens of the villages would benefit through the said initiative?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) to (c): In order to utilize the reach of PACS in rural areas, on the initiative of the Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has made PACS as eligible agencies to carry out the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) of Piped Water Supply (PWS) in rural areas. States/ UTs have been requested to incorporate suitable provisions in their O&M Policy to engage PACS as O&M agencies for the rural PWS. Also, the willing PACS are encouraged and provided support including their capacity building and skilling by the States/ Union Territories (UTs). As per information received from States/ UTs, 1,381 PACS have been identified by 12 States/ UTs to provide O&M services at Panchayat/ Village level. This initiative will not only enhance the income of PACS and create employment opportunities in rural areas, but will also provide a robust mechanism for operation of water supply in rural areas.
