

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 336
ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023**

Setting up of Farmer Producer Organisations

336 Shri Sanjay Raut:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to strengthen the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) by setting up 1100 new additional Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in various parts of the country for the benefit of small and marginal farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof,
- (c) whether Government is pushing for integration of the PACS in the FPO scheme to enable the farmers to expand their business range of activities such as supply of production inputs and agricultural equipment, and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the details of FPOs proposed in the state of Maharashtra?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b) to (d): The Government of India is implementing Central Sector Scheme for “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs” to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs across the country to enable farmers to enhance their bargaining power, leverage economies of scale, reduction in cost of production and enhancing farmers’ incomes through aggregation of their agricultural produce, thus playing a major role towards sustainable incomes.

The scheme was launched in February 2019-20 for a period of 5 years i.e till 2023-24 with further commitment till 2027-28. Scheme is being implemented through 14 Implementing agencies such as National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC), including National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

Further, to strengthen the Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies (PACS) a target of additional 1,100 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) has been allocated to NCDC by the Government of India for formation and promotion of FPOs in cooperative sector under the Central Sector Scheme named “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs”.

The integration of PACS with FPOs would strengthen the existing PACS through remunerative prices for their produce by providing them necessary market linkages through District, State and National level federations. It would also lead to diversification in the economic activities of PACS, thus enabling them to generate new and stable sources of income.

Further, under the Central Sector Scheme “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs”, total 7476 FPOs have been registered across the country, out of which 516 are from the State of Maharashtra.
