GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.964 ANSWERED ON 04/12/2024

Computerisation of Co-operative Societies

964 # Smt. Sangeeta Yadav: Shri Baburam Nishad:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any step has been taken by Government to computerize Primary Co-operative Societies;

(b) if so, the amount allocated by Government for this purpose and the time-frame set to complete the work; and

(c) the manner in which farmers are likely to be benefited through computerization of cooperative societies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) and (b) In order to strengthen PACS, project for Computerization of functional PACS with a total financial outlay of ₹2,516 Crore has been approved by the Government of India, which entails bringing all functional PACS in the Country onto a common ERP based national software, linking them with NABARD through StCBs and DCCBs. Out of the total budget of Rs. 2,516 crore for the project, the shares of Government of India (GoI), State Governments and NABARD are Rs. 1528 crore, Rs. 736 crore and Rs. 252 crore, respectively. So far, proposals for computerization of 67,930 PACS from 30 States/ UTs have been sanctioned, for which Rs. 699.89 Cr. has been released as GoI share to the States/UTs concerned and Rs. 165.92 Crore to NABARD as implementing agency. The Government of India has initiated this project for over a five-year period from 2022-23 to 2026-27. Thus, the sunset date of the project is 31.03.2027

(c) Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) constitute the lowest tier of the Short-Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS) in the country, primarily providing short-term and medium-term credit facility and other input services, like seed, fertilizer, pesticide distribution, etc. to member farmers. Presently, around 13 crore farmers are linked with PACS. Being the grassroots level cooperative institutions, PACS play a crucial role in sustaining the rural economy of the country by purveying institutional credit to small and marginal farmers. Computerization of PACS project has the potential to improve governance and transparency in PACS, leading to speedy disbursal of loans, lowering of transaction cost, reduction in imbalances in payments, seamless accounting with DCCBs and StCBs. It enhances trustworthiness in the working of PACS among farmers, thus contributing towards realizing the vision of "Sahakar se Samridhi"