GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 201

TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th MARCH, 2025

Integration of Al and other technologies in Cooperative sector

201 Shri Kartikeya Sharma:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has explored or implemented the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to strengthen cooperative societies in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the specific areas within the cooperative sector where Al is being utilized, such as governance, financial management, supply chain optimization, or member engagement;
- (c) the initiatives, if any, to promote Al-driven solutions for cooperatives, particularly in agriculture, dairy, and rural credit sectors; and
- (d) the steps being taken to ensure accessibility and capacity-building for cooperative societies to effectively leverage Al technologies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 201 FOR REPLY ON 19TH MARCH, 2025 ASKED BY SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA REGARDING INTEGRATION OF AL AND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES IN COOPERATIVE SECTOR.

(a) & (b) A comprehensive National Cooperative Database (NCD) has been developed in three phases by Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India, with the support of States / UTs. The data of the Cooperative Societies is collected, entered, and updated in the database by nodal officers appointed by all the States/ UTs for this purpose. This database provides a single-point access to authentic and updated information on over 8.25 lakh cooperatives across the country. The NCD is openly accessible at URL: https://cooperatives.gov.in.

In the NCD, while AI-specific implementations are currently limited, the Ministry of Cooperation has adopted advanced analytical tools to enhance data management and decision-making processes. This centralized database offers several key features:

- **Geographical Mapping:** The NCD includes mapping functionalities that display the distribution of cooperative societies across different states and union territories, aiding in the visualization of regional cooperative landscapes to identify gaps in the geographical spread of cooperatives, including both covered and uncovered gram panchayats.
- **User-Friendly Dashboards:** The platform provides intuitive dashboards that present data analytics, facilitating informed policy planning and decision-making.
- **Sector-Wise Reports:** Users can access analytical reports categorized by sectors, including PACS, Dairy, Fisheries, and more, enabling targeted insights into each cooperative domain.
- **Business Intelligence (BI) tool**: To enhance the analytical capabilities, the BI tool has been integrated with NCD that allows for interalia monitoring Computerization of PACS project, enable the evaluation of PACS that offer multiple services, identifying patterns and opportunities for improvement in service diversification etc.
- (c) To promote Al-driven solutions for cooperatives, the Ministry has started the process of integrating the NCD with the PM GatiShakti-National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) portal of DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been finalized, and mobile app development is proposed for capturing the latitude and longitude mapping of cooperative societies. Further, to improve cooperative governance and transparency, following major initiatives have been taken:

- Cooperative Ranking Framework has been introduced to evaluate and compare cooperative societies sector-wise and state-wise. The framework helps in gap identification, decision-making, and transparency in cooperative governance.
- NCD is integrated with various government portals to enhance interlinking of cooperative data. It is linked with Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJK) of Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Common Service Centres (CSC) of MeitY, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PMKSK), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, and the Udyam Portal of the MSME Ministry, with data integration successfully completed. Additionally, API integration with e-PACS and NABARD has been completed, enabling tracking of computerized PACS' financial and operational details.
- (d) Training is being provided to State Nodal Officers and District Nodal Officers of all States/UTs to ensure accurate data updation on the NCD portal. User manuals and training modules are being facilitated to help officials learn data entry protocols, understand analytical tools, Business Intelligence tool and interpret data effectively for decision-making. This initiative aims to enhance digital literacy among cooperative officials, ensuring better governance and utilization of NCD data.
