

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1445
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th March, 2025

10,000 newly established M-PACS along with Dairy and Fisheries Cooperatives

1445. Shri Banshilal Gurjar:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan to expand M-PACS model further;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of farmers, dairy producers and fisherman expected to directly benefit from these newly established cooperative societies; and
- (d) the manner in which this initiative would be linked to the broader goals of rural development?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) and (b): The Government on 15.2.2023, has approved the Plan for strengthening cooperative movement in the country and deepening its reach up to the grassroots. The Plan entails establishment of 2 lakh new multipurpose PACS (M-PACS), Dairy, Fishery Cooperative Societies covering all the Panchayats/ villages in the country in five years, through convergence of various existing GOI schemes, including Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), etc, with the support of National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and State Governments.

As per National Cooperative Database, a total of 12,957 new PACS, Dairy and Fishery Cooperative Societies have been registered as on 27.1.2025 across the country since the approval of the plan on 15.2.2023.

(c) and (d): By leveraging the 'whole-of-Government' approach, these primary level cooperative societies can set up and modernize necessary infrastructure for diversifying their business activities, such as setting up milk testing laboratories, bulk milk coolers, milk processing units, construction of biofloc ponds, fish kiosks, development of hatcheries, etc.

As per National Cooperative Database, around 13 lakh farmers are associated with newly formed PACS, around 3 lakh and 33,000 farmers are associated with newly formed Dairy & Fishery Cooperative Societies respectively.

These farmer members are provided requisite forward and backward linkages to market their produce, expand the size of their markets, enhance their incomes, obtain credit facilities, and other services at the village level itself, thus leading to balanced regional growth. Establishing new viable multipurpose PACS or primary dairy/fishery cooperatives creates employment opportunities in rural areas, leading to multiplier effects in the rural economy and thus contributing towards the rural development.
