

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1928
ANSWERED ON 17th DECEMBER, 2025

The National Cooperation Policy, 2025 and Education

1928# Shri Mokariya Rambhai:

Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

Shri Narhari Amin:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the specific mechanisms that the National Cooperative Policy, 2025 propose to maintain democracy and trust in cooperatives;
- (b) how the Ministry will standardise curriculum and pedagogy for cooperative education under the new Policy;
- (c) whether the Tribhuvan Sahkari University (TSU) has begun the process of recruiting its first Vice-Chancellor post-August 2025; and
- (d) the outcome assessment of the adoption of Model Bye-Laws for PACS across all States except the State of West Bengal?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) The details of the specific mechanisms proposed in the National Cooperative Policy (NCP), 2025 to maintain democracy and trust in cooperatives are reproduce below as given in following sub-sections of NCP-

3.1.1 Encourage States/UTs to suitably amend their respective Cooperative Societies Acts and Rules to provide autonomy, enhance the ease of doing business and good governance in order to:

3.1.1.1 ensure autonomous functioning and democratic member control,

3.1.1.3 ensure free and fair elections of Board of Directors and office bearers,

3.1.1.4 ensure transparent recruitment processes,

3.1.4. Encourage States/UTs to completely digitalize all processes of States' Registrar offices (as provisioned in their respective Acts) to make them paperless to:

3.1.4.1. Facilitate all types of communications and interactions with cooperative societies with the Registrar offices through online digital means, such as web portals, e-mail messaging, mobile phone-based messaging, etc.,

6.1.4. Facilitate the development and adoption of model bye-laws for cooperatives across different tiers and sectors with a focus on strengthening members to:

6.1.4.1. ensure the active participation of members,

6.1.4.2. make provision for a mechanism that collects member-centric feedback and promote the activation of dormant members,

6.1.4.3. promote membership among women and weaker sections of the community

6.1.4.4. ensure centrality of members in decision-making,

6.1.4.5. ensure transparent and corruption-free organizational governance,

6.1.4.6. promote the induction of young and qualified manpower for various positions.

(b) The University will serve as the apex institution for cooperative education and training. It will strive to implement standardized curricula and teaching methodologies through its affiliated institutions, Centres of Excellence, and outlying campuses across the country.

(c) The appointment process for the first Vice-Chancellor (VC) of the Tribhuvan Sahkari University (TSU) was initiated in the first week of July 2025 itself. Advertisement for inviting applications for the post of the Vice-Chancellor issued in National Dailies from 12th July 2025 to 11th August 2025, through the e-Samarth portal of the Ministry of Education.

Search-cum-Selection Committee has been constituted as per the Statutes of the University.

(d) In order to link PACSs with central schemes like PM-KISAN, PMKSK, and PMBJK, Government, in consultation with all the stakeholders, including States/ UTs, National Level Federations, State Cooperative Banks (StCBs), District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs), etc., has prepared and circulated Model Byelaws for PACS to all the States/ UTs, which enable PACS to undertake more than 25 business activities, improve governance, transparency and

accountability in their operations. Ministry of Cooperation has taken multiple measures to integrate Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) with PM-KISAN and other Central schemes like PMKSK, and PMBJK; with a view to making PACS local-level service delivery hubs for farmers. These include:

1. **ERP-enabled Convergence with Farmer Databases:** The Centrally Sponsored Project on Computerization of PACS provides a uniform ERP-based platform by integrating national portals such as PM-KISAN, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Kendra(PMKSK), interest subvention, fertiliser and seed distribution, PDS outlets, LPG/Petrol/Diesel dealerships, custom hiring, PM Jan Aushadhi Kendras, Common Service Centres, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), etc.
2. **Multi-Sectoral Scheme Linkages:** PACS have also been enabled to participate in a range of Central schemes, including:
 - i. PACS as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Kendras (PMKSK) providing fertilizers, pesticides and various other agri inputs to farmers under one roof. So far, 38,330 PACS have been upgraded into PMKSKs.
 - ii. PACS as Common Service Centers (CSCs) to deliver more than 300 e-services such as banking, insurance, electricity bill payments, health services, legal services, etc. to rural citizens; etc. So far, 51,183 PACS have started functioning as CSC.
 - iii. PACS as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJK) to ensure availability of quality generic medicines to rural citizens at affordable prices. So far, 799 PACS have got Store Codes from PMBI and are ready to function as PMBJK.
 - iv. PACS made eligible for Retail Petrol/ Diesel outlets: Government has allowed PACS to be included in the Combined Category 2 (CC2) for allotment of retail petrol/ diesel outlets.
 - v. PACS given permission to convert bulk consumer petrol pumps into retail outlets: The existing bulk consumer licensee PACS have been given a one-time option by Oil Marketing Companies to convert into retail outlets. As per information shared by OMCs, 117 wholesale consumer pump licensee PACS from 5 States have given consent for conversion into Retail Outlets, out of which 59 PACS have been commissioned by the OMCs.

- vi. PACS made eligible for LPG Distributorship for diversifying its activities: Government has now allowed PACS to apply for LPG Distributorships. This will give PACS an option to increase their economic activities and diversify their income stream.
- vii. PACS have been made eligible to carry out Operations & Maintenance (O&M) of piped water supply schemes in rural areas. As per information received from States/ UTs, 763 PACS have been identified/ selected by 11 States/ UTs to provide O&M services at Panchayat/ Village level.
