

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 321
ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025**

Regulatory mechanisms of National Cooperative Policy, 2025

321 Dr. Kalpana Saini:
Shri Madan Rathore:

Will the Minister of Cooperation be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the regulatory mechanisms proposed in the National Cooperative Policy, 2025 to strengthen democratic integrity, transparent governance and institutional accountability of cooperative institutions;
- (b) the framework that the Ministry has adopted to standardize cooperative education curricula, training systems and skill development structures;
- (c) whether the implementation of the policy has resulted in measurable improvements in efficiency, financial discipline and service delivery of PACS; and
- (d) the result evaluation of adopting model by-laws for PACS in all States?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

- (a) The details of the regulatory mechanisms proposed in the National Cooperative Policy (NCP), 2025 to strengthen democratic integrity, transparent governance and institutional accountability of cooperative institutions are reproduce below as given in sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.4 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 control by members,

3.1.1.2. ensure a time-bound and transparent system for the delivery of services to cooperative societies,

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

- 3.1.1.4 ensure transparent recruitment processes,
- 3.1.1.5 infuse democratic, transparent, and data-driven decision-making.

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 throughout their life cycle with the Registrar offices through online digital means, such as web portals, e-mail messaging, mobile phone-based messaging, etc. ”

(b) A Central University “Tribhuvan” Sahkari University (TSU) has been established in Anand, Gujarat by converting the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) through an Act of Parliament, namely, “Tribhuvan Sahkari University” Act, 2025.

As per the Act, the TSU has been mandated to standardize the course design and content, pedagogy, course delivery in co-operative education and training in the country, through following means:

1. Granting affiliation to cooperative education and training institutions;
2. Developing curricula and course materials tailored to the needs of the cooperative sector;
3. Delivering both online and in-person courses;
4. Awarding course-completion certificates and diplomas aligned with the National Credit Framework; and
5. Implementing training-of-trainers (ToT) programmes.

(c) The Policy has been unveiled on 24.07.2025 and only 4 months have passed by. Impact assessment of any policy is done after certain time interval.

(d) 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. Provisions have also been made to make the membership of PACS more inclusive and broad-based, giving adequate representation to women and Scheduled Castes/Schedules Tribes. So far, 32 States/ UTs have adopted Model Byelaws or their existing byelaws are in line with Model Byelaws. This has encouraged PACS to undertake more than three business activities. As on 15.11.2025, PACS have also been enabled to participate in a range of Central schemes, including:-

- i. PACS as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi 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.
