

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3695
ANSWERED ON 25.03.2026

Exclusion of West Bengal from new national cooperative initiative

3695 Shri Samik Bhattacharya:

Will the Minister of Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the low participation of cooperative societies from West Bengal in new national initiatives such as Primary Agricultural Credit Society (PACS) expansion into 30+ business activities, Multi-State Cooperative Societies and cooperative startups;

(b) the number of PACS and other cooperatives in West Bengal that have been onboarded for these new activities compared to other States; and

(c) whether specific bottlenecks at the State level have been identified that are preventing West Bengal cooperatives from accessing these national programmes?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Cooperation has undertaken several initiatives aimed at strengthening and expanding the cooperative sector across the country, including diversification of activities of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) such as operation of CSCs, PMKSKs, Jan Aushadhi Kendras, etc thereby creating additional income streams. Further, the Government of India has approved the plan to establish new multipurpose PACS/dairy/fisheries cooperatives, aiming to cover all panchayats and villages in the country over the next five years. To strengthen PACS, a project for the Computerization of functional PACS with a total financial outlay of ₹2925.39 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 National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) through StCBs and DCCBs.

An assessment of the status of West Bengal in respect of some of the major initiatives has been compiled and placed at **Annexure**.

(c) As per the available data reflected in the Annexure, the participation of cooperative societies from West Bengal in some major initiatives is comparatively lower than other States, indicating significant scope for further expansion.

The schemes and initiatives of the Ministry of Cooperation are uniformly applicable to all States/UTs. In the case of West Bengal, decisions are awaited in respect of initiatives such as PM Jan Aushadhi Kendras, Common Service Centres (CSCs), PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSK), Paani Samitis, petrol/diesel outlets, and participation in national cooperative institutions such as NCOL, NCEL and BBSSL, as well as registrations on NCCF and NAFED portals, thereby limiting West Bengal cooperatives from benefits of these national programmes. The Ministry continues to engage with the State Government to facilitate wider participation and effective implementation of these initiatives.

Annexure

S.No.	STATE	2 Lakh MPACS/DCS/ FCS Formation + Strengthening- % Achievement vis-a-vis- targets			% PACS digitised vis-à- vis sanctioned PACS under PACS computerizatio n	% of PACS as CSC	% of PACS as PMKSK
		MPACS	DCS	FCS			
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	1%	19%	52%	99%	91%	66%
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	6%	0%	200%	9%	5%	0%
3	ASSAM	45%	71%	138%	68%	47%	4%
4	BIHAR	32%	61%	5%	100%	62%	20%
5	CHHATTISGARH	75%	25%	202%	100%	78%	82%
6	GOA	123%	10%	150%	59%	27%	4%
7	GUJARAT	29%	156%	38%	92%	23%	31%
8	HARYANA	6%	19%	28%	88%	59%	92%
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	51%	371%	167%	73%	41%	34%
10	JHARKHAND	12700%	109%	113%	53%	46%	10%
11	KARNATAKA	111%	41%	130%	74%	37%	28%
12	KERALA*	0%	125%	47%	-	1%	64%
13	MADHYA PRADESH	51%	21%	76%	83%	81%	87%
14	MAHARASHTRA	36%	47%	132%	99%	40%	3%
15	MANIPUR	7%	16%	198%	65%	34%	12%
16	MEGHALAYA	5%	65%	39%	3%	14%	0%
17	MIZORAM	13%	3%	10%	25%	15%	0%
18	NAGALAND	1%	13%	60%	44%	1%	0%
19	ODISHA	1696%	17%	35%	0%	35%	59%
20	PUNJAB	0%	56%	93%	91%	73%	71%
21	RAJASTHAN	438%	65%	51%	72%	59%	46%
22	SIKKIM	77%	600%	67%	82%	49%	0%
23	TAMIL NADU	1%	532%	16%	99%	100%	71%
24	TELANGANA*	0%	28%	56%	-	62%	86%
25	TRIPURA	39%	3%	100%	56%	34%	0%
26	UTTARAKHAND	83%	43%	245%	55%	63%	48%
27	UTTAR PRADESH	36%	102%	94%	49%	66%	83%
28	WEST BENGAL	2%	9%	13%	79%	1%	0%
29	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	0%	0%	63%	100%	11%	2%
30	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	26%	657%	195%	76%	69%	22%
31	LADAKH	3%	0%	25%	100%	5%	0%
32	PUDUCHERRY	44%	7%	43%	100%	51%	11%
33	DAMAN AND DIU & DNH	21%	0%	100%	44%	44%	0%

*Kerala and Telangana are not part of PACS Computerisation Project