

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4166
ANSWERED ON 01.04.2026

Computerization and prosperity

4166 # Dr. Dinesh Sharma:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) steps taken by Government for economic prosperity of rural farmers, their access to credit through computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS);
- (b) whether Government has assessed increase in number of beneficiaries availing loans and services through PACS digitalization;
- (c) whether there is improvement in income of farmers due to PACS computerization, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra;
- (d) whether special funding or scheme has been implemented for PACS computerization at State level, if so, details of States benefiting; and
- (e) following PACS computerization, new financial or technical opportunities available to small farmers within PACS jurisdiction, particularly in Punjab and Puducherry?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

- (a) For economic prosperity of rural farmers and their access to credit through computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Government of India is implementing this Project of Computerization of functional PACS with a total financial outlay of ₹2,516 Crore which has now been increased upto 2925.39 Crore which entails bringing all the functional PACS onto an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) based common national software, linking them with NABARD through State Cooperative Banks (StCBs) and District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs). This common ERP software is provided to all PACS in the project, across the country, to capture data on all functionalities of PACS, both credit and non-credit. This software is customizable for state-specific needs.

The ERP-based common national software enhances the efficiency of PACS operations through a Common Accounting System (CAS) and Management Information System (MIS). It strengthens governance and transparency, resulting in faster loan disbursal, reduced transaction costs, minimized payment imbalances, and seamless accounting with DCCBs and StCBs. Training and necessary handholding support

provided by NABARD ensures that small and marginal farmers, including those who may not be digitally literate, benefit equally from digitalization.

A comprehensive ERP solution integrates multiple functionalities, including membership management, financial services such as deposits and lending (short-term, medium-term, and long-term), procurement, processing units, Public Distribution System (PDS), business planning, warehousing, merchandising, borrowings, asset management, and human resource management with the aim of enhancing economic prosperity of member farmers.

- (b) The details of loans disbursed and beneficiaries through ERP software are at **Annexure-‘A’**. The computerization of PACS is at varying stages of implementation across States, and digital operations have commenced only recently in most of the PACS. As on date, about 50,000 PACS are disbursing loans using upgraded technology through ePACS.
- (c) Yes, there is improvement in income of farmers due to PACS computerization, including Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra by enhancing rural co-operative service delivery with more than 300 services made available. Ministry of Cooperation has taken multiple measures to integrate Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) with PM-KISAN and other Central schemes, with a view to making PACS local-level service delivery hubs for farmers. These includes:-

1. **ERP-enabled Convergence with Farmer Databases like PM-KISAN, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi 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:-

- **PACS as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSK)** providing fertilizers, pesticides and various other agri inputs to farmers under one roof. So far, 38,587 PACS have been upgraded into
- PMKSKs.
- **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, 52,018 PACS have started functioning as CSC.
- **PACS as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJK)** to ensure availability of quality generic medicines to rural citizens at affordable prices. So far, 817 PACS have got Store Codes from PMBI and are ready to function as PMBJK.
- **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.

- **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, 45 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.
- **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.
- 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, 762 PACS have been identified/ selected by 10 States/ UTs to provide O&M services at Panchayat/ Village level.
- **Formation of new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) by PACS:** Against the additional target of 1,100 FPOs allocated to NCDC by Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GoI, it has registered 1,117 FPOs in Cooperative Sector through PACS. This enables cooperative sector in general, and PACS in particular, to generate alternative sources of revenues for their members, thus transforming themselves into viable, dynamic and financially sustainable economic entities.

(d) Under PACS computerization at State level, funds are disbursed to States/UTs for procurement of hardware and System Integrator, the details of which are at **Annexure-‘B’**

(e) The digitization of PACS plays a critical role in enhancing access to credit and allied services for small and marginal farmers, as well as Self Help Groups (SHGs), providing new financial and technical opportunities to these farmers including farmers of Punjab and Puducherry. It is envisaged that PACS when transitioned to ePACS may be more efficient due to convenience in accounting, MIS and operations, which will enable them to service their members, be these Self Help Group(SHG) and Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs) or individuals, in a better way. This support may enable PACS to take up additional activities; viz CSC, Fertiliser Units, Soil Health Testing, etc., which helps them in dispensing better services. Digitized cooperatives play a vital role in enhancing access to credit and services for small farmers and Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

Annexure-‘A’**Loan disbursed from 1 April 2025 to 10’ Mar 2026 and recorded on the ERP software**

S.No	State	Total Membership	Loanee members	Loan from 1st April 2025 to 10th Mar 2026 (In Cr)
1.	Andaman& Nicobar Islands	17,201	374	9.5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	25,94,806	6,08,299	27038.89
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	15,926	45	0
4.	Assam	33,51,828	255	9.3
5.	Bihar	1,49,53,215	197	4.91
6.	Chhattisgarh	43,75,436	13,82,156	6458.38
7.	DNH&DD	6,016	13	0.36
8.	Goa	1,41,222	246	15.42
9.	Gujarat	24,39,907	6,80,473	24956.02
10.	Haryana	50,11,947	3,31,840	15494.85
11.	Himachal Pradesh	18,45,377	6,954	529.86
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,82,186	220	1.15
13.	Jharkhand	16,30,122	101	9.66
14.	Karnataka	72,33,105	8,94,568	31911.12
15.	Madhya Pradesh	73,62,930	18,27,796	32123.07
16.	Maharashtra	93,18,665	13,85,639	21177.29
17.	Manipur	61,498	257	2.3
18.	Meghalaya	33,500	27	1.48
19.	Mizoram	21,611	539	22.12
20.	Nagaland	9,845	23	0.24
21.	Puducherry	3,07,061	11,098	678.42
22.	Punjab	47,05,561	1,37,950	33389.5
23.	Rajasthan	1,10,98,200	20,99,819	17743.18
24.	Sikkim	24,450	61	0.84
25.	Tamil Nadu	2,97,60,581	27,12,992	79691.8
26.	Tripura	8,05,962	295	9.16
27.	Uttar Pradesh	72,33,963	1,47,774	6082.15
28.	Uttarakhand	18,54,020	1,07,440	1505.83
29.	West Bengal	1,90,63,136	23,076	488.35
	Total	13,54,59,277	1,23,60,527	2,99,355.15

PACS Computerisation project Status as on 10th March 2026

S. No	States	Total Fund Released by GoI (INR Crore)
1.	ANI	0.69
2.	Andhra Pradesh	37.41
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.22
4.	Assam	17.02
5.	Bihar	51.76
6.	Chhattisgarh	28.35
7.	DNH&DD	0.12
8.	Goa	1.19
9.	Gujarat	93.97
10.	Haryana	8.79
11.	Himachal Pradesh	28.25
12.	J&K	10.37
13.	Jharkhand	34.30
14.	Karnataka	67.83
15.	Ladakh	0.16
16.	Madhya Pradesh	66.43
17.	Maharashtra	130.73
18.	Manipur	3.14
19.	Meghalaya	2.34
20.	Mizoram	1.27
21.	Nagaland	4.43
22.	Odisha	18.07
23.	Puducherry	0.67
24.	Punjab	32.94
25.	Rajasthan	84.83
26.	Sikkim	3.28
27.	Tamil Nadu	51.73
28.	Tripura	8.21
29.	Uttar Pradesh	67.10
30.	Uttarakhand	5.69
31.	West Bengal	45.79
	Total	908.10
	NABARD	165.92
	Total	1074.02