

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1138
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2026

MSCS IN WEST BENGAL

1138 DR. MENAKA GURUSWAMY:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) functioning in the country and the number of such societies operating in the State of West Bengal;
- (b) the funds sanctioned and released to the State of West Bengal for the computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS); and
- (c) whether Government proposes to introduce any new policy, in consultation with the States, to further strengthen the cooperative sector?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) As per the National Cooperative Database (NCD), as on 15.07.2026, there are **1840** Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) across the country. Out of these, **73** MSCS are in the State of West Bengal.

(b) The Government launched the Central Sector Project for Computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) in 2022 to bring all functional PACS onto a common ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) based national software. Initially, 63,000 PACS were approved under the project with a financial outlay of ₹2,516 crore, which has since been enhanced to cover 79,630 PACS with a revised outlay of ₹2,925.39 crore. Under the project, 4,187 PACS have been sanctioned in the State of West Bengal. Financial assistance of ₹50.79 crore has been provided to the State of West Bengal. This includes ₹30.54 crore during FY 2022–23, nil in FY 2023–24 and FY 2024–25, ₹15.25 crore during FY 2025–26, and ₹5.00 crore during FY 2026–27.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government has formulated the National Cooperation Policy, 2025 to provide a roadmap for the systematic and holistic development of the cooperative sector. The National

Cooperation Policy was unveiled on 24.07.2025 by the Home & Cooperation Minister. It comprises 6 strategic pillars, 16 objectives and 83 recommendations. To ensure its effective implementation, a National Steering Committee on Cooperation Policy under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation and a National-level Policy Implementation and Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation have been constituted.
