

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2711
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/12/2023**

Onboarding of PACS as Common Service Centres

2711. SHRIMATI SUNITA DUGGAL

Will the Minister of COOPERATION (सहकारिता मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether onboarding of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) as Common Service Centres (CSCs) has started as per recent MoU between CSC SPV and Ministry & National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has approved a decentralised grain storage programme involving PACS and if so, the details thereof including Parliamentary Constituency of Sirsa?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)**

(a) to (b): Yes, Sir. In order to enable Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to function as Common Service Centres (CSC), a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, NABARD and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, which will enable PACS to deliver more than 300 e-services, including banking, insurance, Aadhar enrolment/ updation, health services, agricultural services, etc. to rural citizens of the country. Onboarding of PACS as CSCs has already been started and till 30th November, 2023, total 24,470 PACS have started providing CSC services in the country.

(c): In order to address the shortage of food grain storage capacity in the country, the Government on 31.05.2023, has approved the Plan for the “World’s Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector”, which is being rolled out as a Pilot Project. The Plan entails creation of various agri infrastructure at PACS level, including warehouses, custom hiring center, processing units, setting up decentralized godowns, Fair Price Shops, etc. through convergence of various existing schemes of the Government of India (GoI), such as, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure Scheme (AMI), Sub Mission on Agricultural

Mechanization (SMAM) Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME), etc. Further, an MoU has also been signed between Ministry of Cooperation (GoI), Department of Food and Public Distribution (GoI), Food Corporation of India (FCI) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to ensure full capacity utilization of the storage capacity being created at PACS level under the Project.

States/ UTs and National level Cooperative Federations, like National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF) and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), have identified 1,711 PACS for creation of storage capacity under the Pilot Project in the country, including 138 PACS in the State of Haryana out of which 15 PACS have been identified by NAFED in the Sirsa District. Presently, construction is going on in 13 PACS of 13 States/ UTs under the Pilot Project, including Madha PACS of Hisar District of the State of Haryana.
