

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1297
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11th FEBRUARY, 2025**

PACS with Gram Panchayats

1297. Smt. Kamlesh Jangde:

Shri Dilip Saikia:

Shri Lumba Ram:

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

- (a) whether the Government has approved the setting up of 2 lakhs PACS or Dairies/fisheries Cooperative Societies in all the Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the names of the agencies contributing to the implementation of the said scheme;
- (c) the manner in which States can play a significant role in the implementation of the said scheme;
- (d) the mechanism for implementation of the said scheme;
- (e) whether any special committee has been constituted at the district level, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether all the States are participating in the implementation of the said scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government has taken any initiative to make Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) function as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samriddhi Kendras (PMKSK);
- (h) if so, the details thereof; and
- (i) the manner in which the said initiative is likely to help in strengthening PACS particularly in Chhattisgarh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION

सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government on 15.02.2023, has approved the Plan for strengthening cooperative movement in the country and deepening its reach up to the grassroots. The Plan entails establishment of new multipurpose PACS, Dairy, Fishery Cooperative Societies covering all the Panchayats/ villages in the country through convergence of various existing GOI schemes, including Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), etc.

(b): The plan is being implemented with the support of National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), National Level Cooperative Federations and State Governments.

(c) to (f): In order to ensure effective and timely implementation of the plan, States/ UTs play a significant role as the committees such as State Cooperative Development Committee (SCDC) constituted at State level and District Cooperative Development Committee (DCDC) constituted in each District of the State/UT can perform efficiently with the support being provided by these States/ UTs. Further, a Standard Operating Procedure (Margdarshika) has also been launched indicating the targets and timelines for stakeholders concerned. As per the Margdarshika, a Joint Working Committee (JWC): sub-committee of DCDC is constituted by States/ UTs which shall be responsible for identifying uncovered/ underserved Gram Panchayats, taking necessary steps for liquidation of dormant/ defunct cooperative societies, etc. So far, JWC has been constituted in 717 districts of 31 States/ UTs.

(g) to (i): Yes, Sir. The Government has taken an initiative to allow PACS to operate Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSKs) for ensuring easy accessibility of fertilizers, pesticides and related services to farmers in the country. PACS functioning as PMKSK helps in streamlining the procurement process for farmers by offering quality agri-inputs, like fertilizers; seeds; farm implements, pesticides; soil, seed testing, etc. under one roof, at competitive prices. As per the information shared by Department of Fertilizers (GOI) and States/ UTs, a total of 36,193 PACS are functioning as PMKSK including 2,058 PACS of the State of Chhattisgarh.

Through this initiative, PACS can diversify their offerings to include a wide range of agricultural inputs and services in addition to the traditional short-term credit services, leading to increased sales/ revenues and thus helps in strengthening PACS across the country including in the State of Chhattisgarh.
