

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 291  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

**PACS in Retail Dealership**

†291. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh:

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

- (a) whether the Government has permitted Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to take up retail dealership of petrol/diesel pumps;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any MoU has been signed by the Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and NABARD for ensuring better functioning of PACS as General Service Centres;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the manner in which PACS are likely to get help in their strengthening and creating employment opportunities?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b): Yes Sir. Government has permitted Primary Agricultural Credit Societies to take up retail dealership of petrol/diesel pumps. In this regard, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has revised its guidelines to prioritize PACS under the Combined Category-2 (CC-2) for selection of dealers for regular & rural retail Petrol/ Diesel outlets, for which PACS can apply online as per the advertisements issued by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). Further, PACS have also been given one-time option to convert their wholesale consumer pumps into Retail Outlets for which Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has released detailed guidelines.

As informed by OMCs, 286 PACS from 25 States/UTs have submitted online applications to establish retail petrol/diesel outlets, out of which 26 PACS have been selected by OMCs. Under conversion of PACS Wholesale Consumer Pumps into Retail Outlets, OMC reports indicate that 116 PACS from 5 States have agreed to this conversion, and 56 PACS have been commissioned.

(c) to (e): A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, NABARD and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, to enable Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to provide more than 300 e-services being delivered by Common Service Centres (CSCs),

including banking, insurance, Aadhar enrolment/ updation, health services, agricultural services, etc. in the rural areas of the country. As on 27.1.2025, a total of 42,080 PACS in 33 States/ UTs have started functioning as CSCs.

Through this initiative, farmer members and other people, especially in rural areas of the country, can access various e-services, including the services mentioned above, nearest to their place of residence thereby improving their ease of living and doing business. Furthermore, it provides additional sources of income to PACS, ultimately benefitting crores of small and marginal farmers associated with them. This aims at transforming PACS into nodal centers for providing various citizen-centric services and helping them in becoming self-sustainable economic entities thereby bringing strengthening the rural economy.

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