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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING
(2025-26)**

(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2026-27)**

DEMAND No. 16

THIRTY-SECOND REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

16th March, 2026 / Phalgun 25, 1947(Saka)

THIRTY-SECOND REPORT

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HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PREPROCESSING
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(2026-27)

DEMAND No. 16

Presented to Lok Sabha on	16.03.2026
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on	16.03.2026



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

16th March, 2026 / Phalgun 25, 1947(Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING
18th Lok Sabha (2025-26)**

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI – CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal
4. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
5. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
6. Shri Kuldeep Indora
7. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
8. Md. Abu Taher Khan
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12. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
13. Shri Narayan Tatu Rane
14. Shri Murasoli S.
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18. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh
19. Shri Tejasvi Surya
20. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
21. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
23. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
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27. Shri Madan Rathore
28. Shri S.R. Sivalingam
29. Shri Ramji Lal Suman
30. Shri P. P. Suneer
31. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri Dhiraj Kumar | — | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri Maheshwar | — | Director |
| 3. Shri Fauzi Badruddin | — | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Shri Ujjwal Yadav | — | Assistant Security Officer |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty-Second Report on the Demands for Grants (2026-27) of the Ministry of Cooperation.

2. The Committee under Rule 331E(1)(a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha considered the Demands for Grants (2026-27) of the Ministry of Cooperation, which were laid on the table of the House on 10th February, 2026. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Cooperation at their sitting held on 20th February, 2026. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 13.03.2026.

3. For facility of reference and convenience, the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in Part-II of the Report.

4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officers of the Ministry of Cooperation for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the information that they desired in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants of the Ministry.

5. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;
16th March, 2026

25 Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

REPORT
PART – I
CHAPTER – I

OVERVIEW

A Cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

1.2 The Cooperative Movement in India, deeply rooted in the principles of cooperation and reflective of the ancient philosophy of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*', has undergone a transformative journey. From its humble beginnings marked by voluntary efforts, it received legal recognition in 1904 with the Cooperative Credit Societies Act. Post-independence, cooperatives were strategically integrated into national development plans, with an emphasis on collaboration with village *Panchayats*. India's cooperative movement, deeply rooted in its cultural and socio-economic landscape, has evolved into a powerful vehicle for inclusive growth, community empowerment, and rural development. The Cooperative movement was introduced in India as a State policy and owes its origin to the enactment of the Cooperative Societies Act, 1904. Article 43(B) was added to the constitution in 2011 which, provide that “The State shall endeavour to promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of Co-operative Societies”.

1.3 The Ministry of Cooperation was created by transferring the existing entries related to cooperation and cooperative in the business of the erstwhile Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare vide Cabinet Secretariat’s [Gazette Notification](#) dated 6th July, 2021.

1.4 Through the establishment of the Ministry of Cooperation and its recent initiatives, the government has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering a cooperative-driven model that reaches every corner of the country, facilitating sustainable livelihoods and financial inclusion for marginalized communities.

Focus area of Cooperation

1.5 Government of India Budget (2025-26) spans following 10 broad areas focusing on Garib, Youth, Annadata and Nari: -

- i. Spurring Agriculture Growth and productivity
- ii. Building Rural prosperity and resilience.
- iii. Taking Everyone Together on an Inclusive Growth path;
- iv. Boosting Manufacturing and Furthering Make in India;
- v. Supporting MSMEs;
- vi. Enabling Employment-led Development;
- vii. Investing in people, economy and innovation;
- viii. Securing Energy Supplies;
- ix. Promoting Exports; and
- x. Nurturing Innovation.

1.6 The inclusive growth and development of Cooperative Sector is covered under each broad areas mentioned above. A national Cooperative Policy has been rolled out for systematic, orderly and all-round development of the cooperative sector. Fast-tracking growth of rural economy and generation of employment opportunities on a large scale is the goal of the Policy. Further, Ministry of Cooperation is a nascent Ministry which came into existence on 6th July 2021 wherein budget allocation for the F.Y. 2022-23 was its 1st Budget allocation. Being a growing Ministry, considerable effort had to be put in to conceptualize new initiatives and secure requisite approvals to spend funds.

Initiatives of Ministry of Cooperation

1.7 The Ministry has formulated the following initiatives to be undertaken during 2026-27:-

- a. Strengthening PACS and Grassroot Cooperatives
- b. Financial Inclusion and Banking Reforms
- c. Relief in Income Tax Act
- d. Dairy and Fisheries Sector Reforms
- e. Sugar Cooperative Sector Reforms
- f. 3 New Apex Multi-State Cooperative Societies
- g. Digitization and Capacity Building

- h. Governance Reforms and Cooperative Strengthening
- i. Increasing Footprint of NCDC
- j. IYC 2025 AND Other Initiatives

An instrument of Economic Development

1.8 The Cooperative model offers a good basis for the developing countries for over-all and inclusive economic development. There is no denying that Cooperatives have a constructive role to play in economic life and civil society by promoting entrepreneurship and wealth generation. The governance is the cornerstone of the cooperative movement and is always considered as the most important key to the success of cooperatives, and thus, investing in producing good quality manpower through continuous and specialized training is also important for the Cooperatives. Cooperatives can provide a new direction for savings and investment, contribute to sustainable development, help create synergies for programmes that are beneficial to social development and provide an alternative to an absolute market economy.

CATEGORY-WISE CONTRIBUTION OF COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

- i. Total Agricultural Credit: 13.4%
- ii. Total Kisan Credit Card (KCC): 41%
- iii. Storage Capacity: 14.79%
- iv. Public Distribution System (PDS): 20.3%
- v. Purchase of wheat: 13.3%
- vi. Paddy purchase: 20.4%
- vii. Sugar production: 30.60%,
- viii. Fertilizer production: 30%

1.9 The Sector-Wise Primary Cooperatives as available in National Cooperative Database is given below: -

S. No.	Sector Name	Total no. of Cooperative Societies
1	Agriculture & Allied Cooperative	27,898
2	Agro Processing / Industrial Cooperative	20,817
3	Bee Farming Cooperative	347
4	Consumer Cooperative	22,825
5	Credit & Thrift Society	83,754
6	Dairy Cooperative	1,55,848
7	Educational & Training Cooperatives	1,602
8	Farmers Services Society	592
9	Fishery Cooperative	27,441
10	Handicraft Cooperative	5,196
11	Handloom Textile & Weavers Cooperative	19,449
12	Housing Cooperative Society	1,94,592
13	Jute and Coir Cooperative	66
14	Khadi Gramodyog	248
15	Large Area Multipurpose Society	6,017
16	Labour Cooperative	47,020
17	Livestock & Poultry Cooperative	16,920
18	Marketing Cooperative Society	10,173
19	Miscellaneous Credit Cooperative Society	7,581
20	Miscellaneous Non-Credit	35,040
21	Multipurpose Cooperative	21,916
22	Primary Agricultural Credit Society (PACS)	1,04,930
23	Sericulture Cooperative	638
24	Social Welfare & Cultural Cooperative	2,532
25	Sugar Mills Cooperative	282
26	Tourism Cooperative	622
27	Transport Cooperative	4,192
28	Tribal-SC/ST Cooperative	2,073
29	Urban Cooperative Bank (UCB)	1,472
30	Women Welfare Cooperative Society	26,054
	Total	8,48,137

VISION AND MANDATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COOEPRATION

1.10 The Ministry is responsible for providing a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in country. It aims to deepen co-operatives as a true people-based movement reaching up to the grassroots and develop a cooperative based economic model where each member works with a spirit of responsibility. The principal activities of the Ministry include streamlining processes for 'Ease of doing businesses for co-operatives and enabling development of Multi-State Co-operative

Societies. It lays emphasis on strengthening, bringing transparency, modernization, computerization, creating competitive cooperatives, working constantly to meet the challenge of accessibility to development for every underprivileged in rural areas and on connecting every village with cooperatives, making every village prosperous with the mantra of “*Sahakar se Samridhi*” and through this making the country prosperous.

1.11 The **Mandate** of the Ministry as contained in the Gazette Notification dated 6th July, 2021 issued for creation of this Ministry are as follows:

- i. General Policy in the field of Co-operation and Co-ordination of co-operation activities in all sectors,
- ii. Realization of vision “from cooperation to prosperity”,
- iii. Strengthening of cooperative movement in the country and deepening its reach up to the grassroots,
- iv. Promotion of cooperative-based economic development model, including the spirit of responsibility among its members to develop the country,
- v. Creation of appropriate policy, legal and institutional framework to help cooperatives realize their potential,
- vi. Matters relating to National Co-operative Organization,
- vii. National Co-operative Development Corporation,
- viii. Incorporation, regulation and winding up of Co-operative societies with objects not confined to one State including administration of ‘the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 (39 of 2002)’,
- ix. Training of personnel of co-operative departments and co-operative institutions (including education of members, office bearers and non-officials).

A. Summary of Demands for Grants

1.12 Ministry of Cooperation has been allocated Rs. 1744.74 Crore for Financial Year 2026-27 under Demand No. 16 presented to Lok Sabha on 10th February, 2026. The Committee have examined, in-depth, the Demands for Grants of the Ministry for the year 2026-27. The Observations / Recommendations of the Committee are presented at the end of the Report. The Committee expect the Ministry of Cooperation to take the Committee’s Observations/ Recommendations seriously and act on them expeditiously and furnish Action Taken Replies in respect of the Observations/ Recommendations made in the Report within three months from the date of presentation of this Report.

1.13 Allocation of Funds to the Ministry under different Heads of Account along with Actuals for 2024-25, Budget Estimate and Revised Estimate for 2025-26 and Budget Estimate for 2026-27 are as follows: -

		Revenue	Capital	Total		(In Rs. Thousand)
Charged		--	--	--		--
Voted		17428400	19000	17447400		
	Major Head	Actuals 2024-25	Budget Estimate 2025-26	Revised Estimate 2025-26	Budget Estimate 2026-27	
REVENUE SECTION						
	Co-operation	2425	5952708	6870100	7765300	14197600
	Secretariat Economic Services	3451	268760	308500	409800	355900
	Grants -in-aid to State Governments	3601	1114990	4620800	1587400	2814300
	Grants -in-aid to Union Territory Governments with Legislature	3602	21077	47400	29300	60600
Total Revenue Section			7357535	11846800	9791800	17428400
CAPITAL SECTION						
	Capital Outlay on the other General Economic Services	5475	22558	16100	21300	19000
Total Capital Section			22558	16100	21300	19000
GRAND TOTAL			7380093	11862900	9813100	17447400

1.14 When the Committee asked about the Schemes-Wise details thereof including the percentage utilization as against this Budgetary Allocation along with the reasons for surrendering the funds, during Financial Year 2024-25, the Ministry stated: -

“During the Financial Year 2024-25, Ministry of Cooperation was running following schemes: -

(A) Central Sector Scheme

(i) Grant in aid to NCDC for Strengthening of Cooperative Sugar Mills.

(B) Centrally Sponsored Schemes: -

(i) Computerization of PACS

(ii) Strengthening of Cooperatives Through IT intervention

- The utilization under the schemes for the FY 2024-25 is as follows: -

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	BE 2024-25	RE 2024-25	Actual Expenditure & % utilization
1	Grant in aid to NCDC for Strengthening of Cooperative Sugar Mills	500	500	500 (100%)
2	Computerization of PACS	500	131	130.54 (26.11%)
3	Strengthening of Cooperatives Through IT interventions	88.96	25	21.16 (23.79%)

- In respect of Centrally sponsored schemes, funds were surrendered due to factors such as the non-receipt of proposals from States/UTs for releasing funds, underutilization of funds, and non-compliance with Department of Expenditure (DoE) guidelines for subsequent installment releases.”

1.15 When the Committee asked whether the funds proposed in BE 2026-27 are sufficient to meet the requirement of the Ministry for Fiscal Year 2026-27, and how the Ministry will manage/carry out its work/assigned responsibilities properly, the Ministry stated: -

“Yes, the funds proposed in BE 2026-27 are sufficient to meet the requirement of the Ministry for Fiscal Year 2026-27. Based on the pace of expenditure in Financial Year 2026-27, if required, additional funds would be sought at Revised Estimates stage.”

1.16 When the Committee asked about the reason of the Budget Estimate (approved) for the Financial Year 2025-26 of Rs 1186.29 crore, being reduced to Rs 981.31 crore during the Revised Estimate (2025-26), the Ministry stated: -

“The reduction of funds was made in Centrally Sponsored Scheme Computerization of PACS. As the Scheme was onboarded on SNA SPARSH model in the 2nd Quarter of Financial Year 2025-26, the onboarding of States/UTs on the new system and familiarization of the States/UTs with the new method of release of funds took some time due to which States could not raise its requirement and further significant proposals for issue of mother sanctions under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes could only be processed in 3rd Quarter of the Current Financial Year. By that time, Revised Estimates are already prepared by Ministry of Finance based on the

expenses already incurred. Since, funds could not be released on account of onboarding on new system of assignment of funds, allocation was reduced at RE Stage.”

1.17 On being asked how the reduced Revised Estimates for the Financial Year 2025-26 have impacted the Ministry's ability to achieve its goals, the Ministry in its reply submitted the following: -

“It is humbly stated that the reduced Revised Estimates have been provided in Centrally Sponsored Scheme Computerization of PACS. The reasons due to which expenditure could not be done and reduction happened have been explained in para 1.16 above. The said reduction does not in any way impact the Ministry's ability to achieve its goals as the scheme is ongoing till Financial Year 2026-27 and Rs. 364 Crore have been allocated under the scheme in the Next Financial Year. These funds are sufficient to cater to the financial requirements of the States/UTs which have been moved forward a bit due to onboarding of the Scheme on new system of assignment of funds i.e. SNA-SPARSH.”

B. ANALYSIS OF BUDGET PERCENTAGE

Financial Year	Union Budget of India	Ministry of Cooperation		Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying		Department of Fisheries		Ministry of Food Processing Industries	
		BE	%age	BE	%age	BE	%age	BE	%age
F.Y 2022-23	3944909.00	900.00	0.02%	4288.84	0.10%	2118.47	0.05%	2941.99	0.07%
F.Y 2023-24	4503097.00	1150.38	0.02%	2248.77	0.04%	2248.77	0.04%	3287.65	0.07%
F.Y 2024-25	4820512.00	1183.39	0.02%	2584.50	0.05%	2584.50	0.05%	3290.00	0.06%
F.Y.2025-26	5065345.00	1186.29	0.02%	2703.67	0.05%	2703.67	0.05%	4364.22	0.08%

1.18 When the Committee asked about the budget percentage of the Ministry being quite low compared to other Ministries/Departments, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The Ministry of Cooperation is a nascent Ministry. Budget for the FY 2022-23 was its 1st Budget. It may be seen from the above table, that the Budget Estimates in respect of Ministry of Cooperation have increased steadily. In the BE 2026-27, Rs. 1744.74 Crore have been allocated. This shows a significant year on year growth of 47.07% compared to BE 2025-26. Further, Ministry of Cooperation is taking all efforts to formulate more schemes for overall growth of Cooperatives which would eventually lead to increase in the Budget percentage of the Ministry in the upcoming years.”

1.19 Further on being asked how the Ministry is able to achieve their goals with such a low budget % compared to the budget % of the Government of India, the Ministry submitted: -

“Ministry of Cooperation is a nascent and growing Ministry. The budget allocated to the Ministry does not reflect those works being done by the Ministry wherein funds earmarked to other Ministries are being utilized by following whole of Government approach and initiatives are being implemented by utilizing the approved outlays of schemes being converged such as plan of Strengthening Cooperative Movement in the Country and deepening its reach up to the grassroots wherein convergence of various existing GOI schemes, including Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), etc., with the support of National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and State Governments. In addition, Ministry is taking initiatives to improve the ecosystem of the Cooperatives wherein no funds are required and policy level changes are being brought to accelerate the growth of Cooperatives in the Country. Few notable initiatives are Cooperative Banking reforms, income tax reforms, Launch of National Cooperation Policy, Amendment to MSCS Act etc. Therefore, Ministry of Cooperation is taking all efforts to achieve its goals and is taking all efforts to formulate more schemes for overall growth of Cooperatives which would eventually lead to increase in the Budget of the Ministry in the upcoming years.”

C. AN ANALYSIS OF CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEMES/ CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES

Segment	BE 2023-24	BE 2024-25	%age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2023-24 to F.Y 2024-25	BE 2024-25	BE 2025-26	age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2024-25 to F.Y 2025-26	BE 2025-26	BE 2026-27	age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2025-26 to F.Y 2026-27
A. Establishment Expenditure									
i) Cooperative Election Authority	-	-	-	-	2.66	-	2.66		
ii) Cooperative Ombudsman	-	-	-	-	1.89	-	1.89		
TOTAL - ESTABLISHMENT EXPENDITURE OF THE CENTRE	75.00	38.39	(-)48.81%	38.39	46.67	+21.56			
A. Central Sector Scheme/Project									
i) Co-operative Education	30.00	0.01	(-)99.96	0.01	0.00		0.00		
ii) Cooperative Training	25.00	0.01	(-)99.96	0.01	0.00		0.00		
iii) Grant-in-aid to National Cooperative Development Corporation	-	-	-	-	500.00	-	500.00		
TOTAL - OTHER CENTRAL SECTOR EXPENDITURE	55.01	500.02	+808.96%	500.02	500.00	(-) 0.004%			
B. Centrally Sponsored Scheme									
i) Computerization of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies	968.24	500.00	(-) 48.36	500.00	560.00	(+)12	560.00		
ii) Centrally Sponsored Project for Strengthening of Cooperatives	-	88.96		88.96	25.00	(-) 71.90	25.00		

Segment	BE 2023-24	BE 2024-25	%age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2023-24 to F.Y 2024-25	BE 2024-25	BE 2025-26	age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2024-25 to F.Y 2025-26	BE 2025-26	BE 2026-27	age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2025-26 to F.Y 2026-27
through IT interventions									
TOTAL - CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES	968.25	588.97	-39.17%	588.97	585.00	(-)0.67			

1.20 When the Committee asked about the percentage difference in budget allocation for all the schemes mentioned above between the Financial Years 2025-26 and 2026-27, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The tabular percentage difference in budget allocation for all the schemes between the Financial Years 2025-26 and 2026-27 is as follows: -

(Rs. in crores)

Segment	BE 2025-26	BE 2026-27	age (+) increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2025-26 to F.Y 2026-27
A. Central Sector Scheme/ Project			
i) Cooperative Training	-	0.01	-
ii) Grant-in-aid to National Cooperative Development Corporation	500.00	500.00	0%
iii) Grant-in-Aid to National Cooperative Exports Limited	-	450.00	-
B. Centrally Sponsored Scheme			
i) Computerization of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies	560.00	364.00	(-)35%
ii) Centrally Sponsored Project for Strengthening of Cooperatives through IT interventions	25.00	26.00	(+)4%

D. Salient Features of the Demands for Grants (2026-27)

1.21 When the Committee asked about the salient features of the Demands for Grants (2026-27) of the Ministry, highlighting new initiatives, significant enhancement or reduction in the budgetary allocation to all Schemes being implemented, plans for creation of new institutions/assets, the Ministry stated: -

“In the Demands for Grants (2026-27), an allocation of Rs. 1744.74 Crore has been made. Salient features of the said allocation are as follows: -

- (a) Rs. 364 Crore have been allocated under Centrally Sponsored Scheme computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies scheme in BE 2026-27.
- (b) Rs. 500 Crore have been allocated under Central Sector Scheme Grant in aid to NCDG in BE 2026-27.
- (c) A new Central Sector Scheme is being introduced in BE 2026-27 namely Grant in aid to National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL). The scheme is being formulated to Strengthen the National Cooperative Export Ecosystem. An amount of Rs 450 crore has been allocated for the scheme in the financial year 2026-27, which will be given to NCEL as grant in aid for implementation of the scheme.
- (d) Rs. 26 Crore have been allocated under Centrally Sponsored Scheme Strengthening of Cooperatives through IT interventions in BE 2026-27. Although the sunset date of the scheme was 31.03.2026 but due to remaining committed liabilities, a proposal for continuation of the scheme as a case of time over run without cost over-run has been sent to Ministry of Finance to allow continuation of the scheme till Financial Year 2027-28.
- (e) Out of a grant in aid of Rs. 500 Crore (in total) to Tribhuvan Sahkari University which was approved in the year 2025, Rs. 200 Crore were released in Financial Year 2025-26. Remaining amount of Rs 300 Crore has been allocated in BE 2026-27 for release to the University.
- (f) In BE 2025-26 there was an allocation of Rs. 1186.29 Crore which has increased by 47.07% in BE 2026-27 wherein an allocation of Rs. 1744.74 Crore has been made. This shows that there has been a significant enhancement in the overall budget allocation of the Ministry.”

CHAPTER – II

SCHEME-WISE ANALYSIS

Major reforms in monitoring and eventuation of schemes have been undertaken by the Government over the last few years, including bringing the public funded schemes and projects under a monitorable Output-Outcome framework. Since 2017-18, in addition to the financial outlays of schemes of the Ministries being indicated in the Budget document, the expected outputs and outcomes of the schemes are also being presented in a consolidated Output Outcome Monitoring Framework, along with the Budget.

2.2 Outlay is the amount that is provided for a given scheme or project in the Budget; while Output refers to the direct and measurable product of program activities, often expressed in physical terms or units. Outcomes are the collective results or qualitative improvements brought about in the delivery of these services. This will significantly enhance transparency, predictability and ease of understanding of the Government's development agenda.

I. CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEMES

A. Cooperative Training

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2023-24	25.00	-	-
2024-25	0.01	-	0.00
2025-26	0.00	0.00	0.00
2026-27	100		

2.3 When the Committee asked about the reason for Budget Estimate of Cooperative Training for the Financial Year 2025-26 being ₹ 0.00 crore. Whereas, the Budget Estimate for FY 2022-23 and 2023-24 was ₹ 25 crores, and the Budget Estimate for FY 2024-25 was ₹ 0.01 crore, the Ministry stated: -

“During the F.Y. 2024-25 and 2025-26, the scheme for Cooperative Training could not be formulated. However, Ministry of Cooperation is taking necessary action for formulation of the Central Sector Scheme “Cooperative training” to address a critical gap in India's cooperative architecture by forming, strengthening, and training

90,000 new Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (M-PACS) across uncovered and underserved Gram Panchayats over a four-year period (2026–27 to 2029–30). While the Government has already approved a national plan to establish 2 lakh new multipurpose cooperatives (PACS, dairy, and fishery societies), progress in forming M-PACS has been slow due to the absence of dedicated funding for social mobilisation, registration, manpower, and early-stage handholding. The proposed scheme directly remedies this bottleneck by providing structured institutional and financial support to ensure that cooperatives are not merely registered, but become viable, democratically governed, and economically active village-level institutions. Accordingly, a token allocation of Rs 1 Lakh has been taken in BE 2026-27.”

2.4 Further on being asked does the Ministry not have sufficient funds for allocating to the Cooperative Training Scheme, the Ministry replied the following: -

“Ministry of Cooperation is taking necessary action for formulation of the Central Sector Scheme “Cooperative training” to address a critical gap in India’s cooperative architecture by forming, strengthening, and training 90,000 new Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (M-PACS) across uncovered and underserved Gram Panchayats over a four-year period (2026–27 to 2029–30). While the Government has already approved a national plan to establish 2 lakh new multipurpose cooperatives (PACS, dairy, and fishery societies), progress in forming M-PACS has been slow due to the absence of dedicated funding for social mobilisation, registration, manpower, and early-stage handholding. The proposed scheme directly remedies this bottleneck by providing structured institutional and financial support to ensure that cooperatives are not merely registered, but become viable, democratically governed, and economically active village-level institutions. Accordingly, a token allocation of Rs 1 Lakh has been taken in BE 2026-27.”

2.5 When the Committee asked about the reasons that Cooperative Training could not be formulated during the Financial Year 2024-25 and 2025-26, the Ministry stated: -

“The Ministry of Cooperation oversees a wide range of cooperative sectors and is committed to strengthening the capacities of board of directors, members and employees in view of evolving framework for cooperative education and recent policy initiatives. The formulation of a comprehensive training policy and scheme requires strategic planning and adequate time.

To facilitate full-scale implementation, a pilot project was undertaken by the National Council for Co-operative Training (NCCT), the designated implementing agency. The pilot was conducted in four districts representing different regions of the country—Una (Himachal Pradesh) in the North, Sambalpur (Odisha) in the East, Jodhpur (Rajasthan) in the West, and Theni (Tamil Nadu) in the South.

Further, Tribhuvan Sahkari University (TSU), in collaboration with the Ministry of Cooperation, is in the process of developing structured programmes to address the training needs of Chairpersons, Boards of Directors of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), employees, and members of cooperative societies. In the interim, based on periodic needs assessments, NCCT and its regional units continue to conduct targeted training programmes”.

The number of training programmes conducted during FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 is as under: -

Year	No of Programmes	No of Participants
2024-2025	4389	315474
2025-2026 (Upto Jan, 2026)	3388	235906

B. Co-operative Education

Year	(Rs. In Crore)		
	BE	RE	Actuals
2023-24	30.00	-	-
2024-25	0.01	-	-
2025-26	-	200.00	-
2026-27	300.00	-	-

2.6 When the Committee asked about the reason for Budget Estimate of Cooperative Education Scheme for the FY 2025-26 being ₹ 0.00. Whereas, the Budget Estimate for FY 2022-23 and 2023-24 was ₹ 30 crores and the Budget Estimate for FY 2024-25 was ₹ 0.01 crore, the Ministry stated: -

“During the F.Y. 2024-25 the scheme for Cooperative Education could not be formulated. Subsequently, in the F.Y. 2025-26, a grant in aid general fund of Rs. 200 Crore was given to Tribhuvan Sahakari University (TSU) under the Cooperative Education Component which is part of one-time grant of Rs. 500 Crore allocated to TSU. Remaining Rs. 300 Crore have been allocated under Cooperative Education component for release in FY 2026-27.”

2.7 Further on being asked does the Ministry have no plan under the Cooperative Education Scheme in the Financial Year 2025-26, the Ministry replied the following: -

“In the F.Y. 2025-26, a grant in aid general fund of Rs. 200 Crore was given to Tribhuvan Sahakari University (TSU) under the Cooperative Education Component which is part of one-time grant of Rs. 500 Crore allocated to TSU. Remaining Rs.300 Crore have been allocated under Cooperative Education component for release in FY 2026-27.”

C. Grants-in-aid to NCDC

Year	(Rs. in Crore)		
	BE	RE	Actuals
2024-25	-	-	-
2025-26	500.00	500.00	-
2026-27	500.00	-	

2.8 When the Committee asked about the outcome of the scheme Grant-in-aid to National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Scheme with ₹ 500 crores allocation in the Budget Estimate of Financial Year 2025-26, the Ministry stated: -

“NCDC is effectively implementing the Scheme and as on 09th February 2026, it has sanctioned financial assistance to the Cooperatives/State Governments to the tune of Rs.13,812.94 crore and released Rs.6,114.03 crore against the sanctions.

The Ministry till date has assigned Rs. 375 Crore to the NCDC under the scheme. The mid-term evaluation of the Scheme would be done as per the Scheme guidelines.”

2.9 On being asked Whether the Ministry is fully confident that the entire budget will be utilized by the end of the Financial Year 2025-26. The budget estimated for the grant-in-aid scheme to the National Cooperative Development Corporation for the Financial Year 2025-26 is ₹500 crore and so far, only ₹ 375 crore rupees have been spent., the Ministry replied the following: -

“Yes, NCDC has already disbursed the funds as financial assistance to Cooperatives/State Governments and is already eligible for remaining tranche of grant of Rs.125.00 crore and the entire budget shall be utilized by the end of FY2025-26.”

II. CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES

A. Computerization of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies

2.10. During the evidence meeting in connection with examination of Demands for Grants 2026-27, the representatives of the Ministry stated that the Ministry has launched 18 initiatives for economic strengthening of PACS which includes changes in regulations, Computerization of PACS etc. Schemes for Computerization of PACS was launched with initial allocation of Rs. 2516 Crore but the allocation was increased to 2925 Crore in view of the enthusiasm showed by the states.

Segment	BE 2022-23	BE 2023-24	%age (+)increase and (-)decrease F.Y 2022-23 to F.Y 2023- 24	BE 2023-24	BE 2024-25	%age (+)increase and (-)decrease F.Y 2023-24 to F.Y 2024- 25	BE 2024-25	BE 2025-26	age (+)increase and (-)decrease F.Y 2024-25 to F.Y 2025- 26
Computerizat on of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies	350.00	968.24	(+) 176.64	968.24	500.00	(-) 48.36	500.00	560.00	(+)12

2.11 When the Committee asked about the reason for the increase of Budget Estimate for the Computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies in FY 2025-26 to ₹560 crore, which is 12% higher than the Budget Estimate allocation in FY 2024-25. However, the budget in FY 2024-25 was 48.36% lower than in FY 2023-24, the Ministry stated: -

“Funds during FY 2025-26 were more than FY 2024-25 as the physical progress in the project was made significantly and funds were required to increase the pace of the Project. Project is now stabilizing after on-boarding of all participating States/UTs in the project and since States/UTs have made progress like increase in Day-End process and declaration of e-PACS in the project, which draws payments to System Integrator deployed by States/UTs under the project guidelines. The progress can be seen in the project as 61,478 PACS have been on-boarded on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software, 59,842 PACS have been made Go-Live and 58,406 PACS have completed the Day-end process on the software. On-system audit for 44,860 PACS also been completed during last year”.

2.12 Further on being asked the current status of Computerization of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies scheme, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The current status of the project is as under”: -

PACS Computerization Details as on 20th January 2026

S.No	State/UTs	Total Sanctioned PACS	ERP Onboarded	ERP Go Live	Day End Completed	Audit Completed	Total amount released in Cr.
1	Maharashtra	12178	12028	12011	12000	11949	130.73
2	Bihar	4495	4478	4475	4471	4364	51.76
3	Gujarat	6216	5705	5575	5458	4724	93.97
4	Andhra Pradesh	2037	2021	2021	2017	2016	37.41
5	Chhattisgarh	2028	2028	2028	2028	1975	28.35
6	Rajasthan	8525	6157	6153	5860	3828	84.83
7	Jharkhand	2797	1479	1491	1461	1378	34.30
8	Punjab	3482	3172	2760	2385	786	32.94
9	Madhya Pradesh	5455	4532	4524	4530	4492	66.43
10	J&K	708	537	537	537	537	10.37
11	Himachal Pradesh	1885	1376	1234	1210	608	28.25

12	Haryana	710	624	580	568	454	8.79
13	Uttar Pradesh	6257	3061	3052	2922	2110	67.10
14	Karnataka	5894	4337	3690	3606	3252	67.83
15	Assam	850	577	576	569	566	17.02
16	Tripura	475	267	247	262	197	8.21
17	Sikkim	131	107	107	107	105	3.28
18	Goa	86	51	46	41	37	1.19
19	Puducherry	45	45	45	45	30	0.67
20	ANI	46	46	46	46	46	0.69
21	Mizoram	99	25	25	25	24	1.27
22	Ladakh	10	10	10	10	10	0.12
23	Nagaland	231	102	67	53	17	4.43
24	DNH & DD	9	4	4	4	4	0.12
25	Arunachal Pradesh	139	13	13	13	13	1.22
26	Uttarakhand	1216	669	668	589	469	5.69
27	Manipur	308	199	195	196	128	3.14
28	Meghalaya	330	11	9	10	4	2.34
29	Tamil Nadu	4561	4509	4508	4509	529	51.73
30	West Bengal	4187	3308	3145	2874	208	45.79
31	Odisha	4240	0	0	0	0	18.07
Grand Total		79630	61478	59842	58406	44860	908.06

B. Centrally Sponsored Project for Strengthening of Cooperatives through IT interventions

Segment	BE 2022-23	BE 2023-24	%age (+)increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2022-23 to F.Y 2023-24	BE 2023-24	BE 2024-25	%age (+)increase and (-) decrease F.Y 2023-24 to F.Y 2024-25	BE 2024-25	BE 2025-26	age (+)increase and (-)decrease F.Y 2024-25 to F.Y 2025-26
Centrally Sponsored Project for Strengthening of Cooperatives through IT interventions	-	-		-	88.96	-	88.96	25.00	(-) 71.90

2.13 When the Committee asked about the reasons for the reduced budget allocation in the Financial Year 2025-26, for the Centrally Sponsored Project for Strengthening of

Cooperatives through IT interventions which was ₹88.96 crore in FY 2024-25, and is ₹25 crore in FY 2025-26, which is 71.90% less than the previous financial year, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The scheme has two components namely: -

(a) Computerization of Agriculture Rural Development Banks (ARDBs)

(b) Computerization of Offices of Registrar of Cooperatives of States and UTs

In respect of (a) above, it is to state that the Project for Computerization of ARDB Project was started with some delay by States/UTs and they also made delays in procurement of Hardware and onboarding of System Integrators for implementation of project in their States/UTs, further, funds were not utilized by them in time, causing pending SNA Balances in their SNA accounts hampering physical and financial progress in the project due to which allocation in FY 2025-26 got reduced.

With respect to the Computerization of Offices of RCS of States/UTs component (point b), it is submitted that an amount of Rs. 64.8 crore was allocated during FY 2024-25, out of which Rs. 16.86 crore was released to the States/UTs. During FY 2024-25, the introduction of the new CSNA model and delay in mapping the States/UTs as child agencies under CSNA led to procedural delays in the release of funds. Further, many States/UTs were unable to utilize the released funds in time due to delay in administrative approval by States/UTs for projects, non-finalization of vendor for software development & delay in hardware procurement and release of matching grants by States/UTs; consequently, the second instalment could not be released. These factors led to reduction in allocation in BE 2025-26”.

2.14 When the Committee enquired whether the fund of ₹25 crore is sufficient for the scheme to achieve its goal in the Financial Year 2025-26, the Ministry stated: -

“Yes, the funds are sufficient to achieve the goals in the FY 2025-26. Out of the total allocation of Rs. 25.00 crore, Rs. 13 Crore have been allocated under the Computerization of Offices of RCS of States/UTs component and Rs. 12 Crore have been allocated under the Computerization of ARDB component”.

III. INITIATIVES/SCHEMES/PROGRAMMES IMPLEMENTED BY THE MINISTRY

A. Atma Nirbharta Abhiyan

2.15 It is humbly submitted by the Ministry of Cooperation that Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is the administrative Ministry for the Atma Nirbharta Abhiyan.

2.16 When the Committee asked the details of proposal for farmers who are not registered on the web portal of NAFED and NCCF for selling their crops at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) under Atma Nirbharta Abhiyan, and what is the Ministry's plan to ensure that their crops are sold at the Minimum Support Price, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The total number of farmers cultivating pulses and maize enrolled on the e-Samridhi and e-Samyukti web portals is 57,91,382, comprising 14,68,298 farmers registered on e-Samridhi and 43,23,084 farmers registered on e-Samyukti.

The state – wise data of farmers cultivating pulses and maize enrolled on web portal of e-samridhi or e-samyukti is attached as **Annexure I**.

The Ministry of Cooperation is facilitating the enrolment of farmers cultivating pulses (Tur, Masur & Urad) and maize on the NAFED/NCCF portals through Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), which are assisting in registration and verification of farmers at the grassroots level. The farmers verified by PACS are treated as eligible for procurement. Procurement centres are being set up at PACS premises to improve access and reduce costs. The initiative is being widely publicized through advertisements and awareness campaigns in vernacular languages to ensure maximum farmer participation and access to cultivation incentives”.

B. Relief In Income Tax Laws

2.17 When the Committee asked how the proposed relief measures benefit cooperative societies and their members, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The proposed relief measures announced in the Union Budget 2026–27 are aimed at providing tax certainty, improving financial viability of cooperative societies and

ensuring enhanced income and welfare for their members. The benefits of the measures are as under:

(i) Deduction allowed to primary cooperative societies on the profits and gains on the sale of cattle feed and cotton seed produced by their members:

The extension of deduction to profits arising from supply of cattle feed and cotton seed produced by members will encourage diversification of activities by primary cooperative societies. This will enhance value addition at the grassroots level, reduce input costs for farmer-members and result in higher net income and better livelihood security for them.

(ii) Deduction of inter-cooperative society dividend under the new tax regime to the extent it is further distributed to members:

Allowing deduction of dividend income received from other cooperative societies, to the extent it is distributed to members, will prevent double taxation within the cooperative structure. This will strengthen federated cooperative institutions and ensure that surplus flows down to members in the form of higher dividends.

(iii) Deduction of dividend received by notified national cooperative federations from companies for a period of three years, to the extent it is further distributed to members, in respect of investments made till 31.01.2026:

Allowing deduction of dividend income received from companies, to the extent it is distributed to members, will prevent double taxation within the cooperative structure. This will further enhance the liquidity and financial strength of national-level cooperative federations. The condition of onward distribution of dividends ensures that the benefit ultimately accrues to member cooperatives and, in turn, to individual members, thereby reinforcing the cooperative principle of equitable distribution.

(iv) Inclusion of cooperatives registered under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 within the definition of “co-operative society”:

By explicitly including Multi-State Cooperative Societies registered under **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002** within the statutory definition of “co-operative society” under the Income Tax Act, the amendment ensures uniform tax treatment and removes legal ambiguity. This will enable such cooperatives to smoothly avail tax benefits and incentives, thereby strengthening multi-state cooperative enterprises operating across sectors”.

2.18 When the Committee asked whether the Ministry has any specific conditions or criteria that cooperative societies need to fulfil for availing the relief measures, the Ministry stated: -

“The benefits/ tax reliefs under the Income Tax Act, can be availed by the eligible cooperatives in compliance with the procedures laid down under the Income Tax Act and Income Tax Rules”.

C. National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL)- New MSCS

2.19 When the Committee asked how much funds the Ministry has proposed/sought for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 for the National Cooperative Organics Limited Scheme in the Demand for Grants 2026-27, the Ministry replied the following: -

“No funds have been proposed/sought for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 for the National Cooperative Organics Limited Scheme in the Demand for Grants 2026-27”.

2.20 When the Committee asked for the reasons for not providing the fund to National Cooperative Organic Limited (NCOL) for the Financial Year 2026-27, the Ministry replied the following: -

“National Cooperative Organics Limited is a multi-state cooperative society set up by Ministry of Cooperation with the approval of union cabinet for promotion of organic produce. It is promoted by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and cooperative societies such as Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and National

Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) with a contribution of ₹20 crore by each.

At present, no separate budgetary provision has been earmarked for National Cooperative Organic Limited (NCOL) for the Financial Year 2026–27. However, if NCOL submits a justified requirement along with a detailed proposal, the same will be examined and considered in accordance with extant guidelines and the availability of funds”.

2.21 When the Committee asked for the details of progress that has been made in implementing the scheme, and the challenges faced by the Ministry, the Ministry stated: -

“National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) is a multi-state cooperative society set up by the Ministry of Cooperation for promotion of organic products and it is presently not functioning under any scheme formulated/being formulated by Ministry of Cooperation”.

2.22 When the Committee asked the role of National Cooperative Organics Limited in promoting organic farming and marketing of organic products, the Ministry stated: -

“National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) has been established as an umbrella cooperative society for the aggregation, procurement, certification, testing, branding, and marketing of organic products. NCOL undertakes the following activities to benefit the cooperative organic farming and marketing of organic products:

- (i) **Onboarding and Capacity Building:** NCOL aims to guide its growing network of 11,000+ member societies through the entire organic value chain. This involves sensitization, training, and handholding of societies during the organic transition and certification process, followed by the eventual procurement and aggregation of their produce for sale through the Bharat Organics brand.

- (ii) **Marketing and D2C Channels:** The products are marketed at affordable, through diverse channels, including retail outlets like SAFAL and Kendriya Bhandar, and major e-commerce platforms such as Amazon, Flipkart, Blinkit, BigBasket and Bharat Organics' own D2C platform.
- (iii) **Quality Assurance and Testing:** NCOL ensures stringent quality control through meticulous testing of batches for pesticide residues. The products marketed under the brand Bharat Organics carry a QR code, which allows consumers to scan and access the laboratory test reports, thereby ensuring transparency and trust.
- (iv) **Fair Pricing and Value Redistribution:** NCOL aims to provide organic products to consumers at reasonable and affordable rates. Being a cooperative, NCOL redistributes generated profits back to its producing PACs”.

D. Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL)

2.23 When the Committee asked about the how much funds the Ministry has proposed/sought for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 for the Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) Scheme in the Demand for Grants 2026-27? How does the Ministry of Cooperation plan to utilize the funds allocated for the BBSSL scheme, the Ministry stated: -

“No funds have been proposed/sought for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 for the Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) Scheme in the Demand for Grants 2026-27”.

2.24 When the Committee asked how the BBSSL scheme will benefit farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers, in terms of access to quality seeds, the Ministry stated: -

“BBSSL benefits farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers, by ensuring access to affordable and quality seeds through cooperative-led production and distribution. It provides assured procurement, transparent pricing and timely payments to seed growers, while PACS and State cooperatives ensure last-mile

delivery. Digital systems support quality assurance and traceability, reducing intermediaries and improving seed availability and affordability”.

2.25 Further on being asked Whether the BBSSL ensure that affordable and certified seeds reach small and marginal farmers, the Ministry stated: -

“Yes. BBSSL ensures access to affordable and certified seeds for small and marginal farmers through cooperative-led production and distribution involving PACS and State cooperative networks. Quality assurance, certification and traceability are ensured through standard protocols and digital systems. By reducing intermediaries, seeds are supplied at competitive prices”.

E. National Cooperative Export Limited (NCEL)- New MSCS

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2025-26	-	-	-
2026-27	450.00	-	

2.26 When the Committee asked the details how the Ministry is proposed to be utilized the amount Rs. 450 Crore have been allocated to NCEL for the Financial Year 2026-27, the Ministry stated: -

“The grant-in-aid of ₹450 crore will be utilized by NCEL for strengthening of National Cooperative export eco-system. The utilization will be under the following four verticals:

- (i) Cooperative Quality and Compliance Ecosystem
- (ii) Market Development and Branding of the Cooperative Sector
- (iii) Cooperative supply-chain and processing ecosystem strengthening.
- (iv) Governance, Transparency and System Strengthening”.

2.27 When the Committee asked the details of funds, if any, proposed to be provided to the Member Co-operative by NCEL and the activities/heads for which it will be utilized, the Ministry replied the following: -

“It is humbly submitted that there is no such proposal”.

F. Establishment of Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat/Village

2.28 When the Committee asked about the targets set for establishment of Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat/Village in Financial Year 2026-27, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The Government has also approved the Plan to strengthen cooperative movement in the country and deepen its reach up to the grassroots by establishing multipurpose PACS, Dairy and Fishery Cooperative societies covering all the Panchayats/ villages in the country in 5 years. The plan is being implemented with the support of NABARD, NDDDB, NFDB and State/ UT Governments. In order to ensure effective implementation of the Plan, an SOP (Margdarshika) has also been launched on 19.9.2024. So far, **33,822** new PACS, Dairy and Fishery cooperative societies have been formed and **19,592**, Dairy Cooperative Societies & **1,700 Fishery** Cooperative Societies have been strengthened since the approval of the plan on 15.2.2023. (Data till 09.02.2026).

The Agency-wise targets for Financial Year 2026-27:

Sr. No.	Name of Agencies	Establishment of Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies		Total	Remark
		Formation	Strengthening		
1	NABARD	23,890	0	23,890	*Included the State Target of 5,000 formation of PACS
2	NDDDB	13,707	11,607	25,314	
3	NFDB	1,026	2,757	3,783	
Total		38,623	14,364	52,987	

2.29 When the Committee asked what role Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies being set in every Panchayat/Village will play in promoting economic activities and employment generation in rural areas, the Ministry stated: -

“The establishment of Multipurpose PACS, Dairy, and Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat and village is a strategic initiative under the national vision of “Sahakar-se-Samriddhi” (Prosperity through Cooperation). These societies are being transformed from limited-function credit providers into vibrant economic hubs designed to stimulate rural economic outputs and generate significant employment.

The role of these cooperatives in rural transformation includes the following key areas:

(i) Diversification of Economic Activities

Through the adoption of Model Bye-laws, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are being empowered to undertake more than 25 different business activities. This diversification allows them to:

- Operate Retail Outlets: PACS can now run Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) for generic medicines, petrol/diesel pumps, and LPG distributorships, providing essential services locally while creating institutional revenue.
- Provide Essential Services: Over 52,000 PACS have started functioning as Common Service Centres (CSCs), offering more than 300 e-services like banking, insurance, and Aadhaar enrolment to rural citizens at the Panchayat level.
- Infrastructure Management: Cooperatives are becoming eligible to carry out the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of rural piped water supply schemes, creating a robust local mechanism for utility management.

(ii) Strengthening Agricultural Infrastructure and Value Chains

The “World’s Largest Decentralized Grain Storage Plan” is converting PACS into infrastructure hubs.

- Post-Harvest Management: By constructing godowns, custom hiring centers, and primary processing units, these societies help reduce food grain wastage and transportation costs.

- **Price Realization:** This decentralized infrastructure enables farmers to store produce locally and avoid distress sales, helping them secure better prices.
- **Input Accessibility:** Societies are being upgraded to Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSK) to ensure easy access to fertilizers, seeds, and soil testing services in a single location.

(iii) Employment Generation and Entrepreneurship

The cooperative network creates employment through several channels:

- **Direct Employment:** Jobs are generated during the construction phase of godowns and infrastructure, and long-term positions are created for operations, logistics, and management of these facilities.
- **Entrepreneurial Support:** Schemes like Yuva Sahakar and Nandini Sahakar provide financial assistance and interest subventions to encourage youth and women-led cooperative start-ups and innovative business ideas.
- **Technical Roles:** The induction of community resource persons like MAITRIs (Multipurpose AI Technicians in Rural India) provides doorstep breeding services to farmers on a self-sustainable basis.

(iv) Expansion of Dairy and Fisheries Sectors

Specific initiatives in the dairy and fishery sectors focus on increasing rural income:

- **White Revolution 2.0:** This aims to increase milk procurement by 50% over five years by establishing 75,000 new multipurpose dairy societies, particularly in uncovered areas.
- **Fisheries Modernization:** Existing fisheries cooperatives are being converted into Fish Farmer Producer Organizations (FFPOs) to provide better market linkages, processing facilities, and credit access to fishermen.
- **Circular Economy:** The vision of “Gold out of Garbage” promotes manure management and animal feed production, turning waste into income-generating opportunities for rural communities.

(v) Global and National Market Linkages

Newly established national multi-state cooperatives—NCEL (Exports), NCOL (Organics), and BBSSL (Seeds)—act as umbrella organizations that connect primary village societies to wider markets. This allows local producers to access export markets and branding (e.g., "Bharat Organics", "Bharat Beej"), fetching higher remunerative prices for their goods.

(vi) Digital and Financial Inclusion

Digital transformation through the PACS Computerization Project ensures that these societies function with transparency and accountability. By integrating with modern Core Banking Solutions (CBS) and digital payment systems like UPI and AePS through entities like Sahakar Sarathi, rural cooperatives can provide doorstep financial services and faster loan disbursement to small and marginal farmers”.

2.30 When the Committee asked about the details of the expected impact of Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat/Village on the income and livelihood of rural communities, particularly farmers, dairy farmers, and fishermen, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The establishment of multipurpose PACS, Dairy, and Fishery Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat is designed to transform the rural economy by turning primary societies into vibrant, multi-service hubs. These initiatives aim to diversify income streams, provide high-quality agricultural inputs, and offer direct market linkages, significantly reducing the reliance on middlemen.

(i) Expected Impact on Farmers (Agriculture)

The restructuring of PACS into multipurpose entities provides comprehensive support for crop cultivation and post-harvest management:

- **Infrastructure and Loss Reduction:** Through the "World's Largest Decentralized Grain Storage Plan," farmers can store produce locally in cooperative godowns. This reduces food grain wastage and transportation

costs, enabling farmers to avoid distress sales and secure better remunerative prices.

- **Market and Input Access:** PACS upgraded to Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs) provide a single point for fertilizers, seeds, and soil testing. Furthermore, through portals like e-Samyukti and e-Samridhi, farmers are guaranteed 100% procurement of pulses and maize at Minimum Support Price (MSP).
- **Enhanced Credit Flow:** The PACS Computerization Project implements a unified ERP platform that ensures transparent accounting and faster loan disbursements. Integration with RuPay Kisan Credit Cards provides necessary liquidity at lower interest rates for small and marginal farmers.

(ii) Expected Impact on Dairy Farmers

Initiatives like White Revolution 2.0 and the Sardar Patel Cooperative Dairy Federation (SPCDF) focus on institutionalizing the dairy sector:

- The goal is to increase milk procurement by 50% over five years by providing market access to farmers in previously uncovered areas.
- Recent tax reforms have made GST on milk and paneer "nil" and reduced rates on butter and ghee to 5%. This is expected to increase the share of the consumer price passed back to the dairy farmer from 80% to approximately 85%.
- New cooperatives for animal feed, disease control, and artificial insemination aim to improve animal health and farmer profitability. The "Gold out of Garbage" vision further creates income opportunities through manure management and renewable energy.

(iii) Expected Impact on Fishermen

The conversion of 1,000 existing fisheries societies into Fish Farmer Producer Organizations (FFPOs) is the cornerstone of this sector's reform:

- **Value Chain Integration:** FFPOs provide fishermen with essential market linkages, processing facilities, and cold chain infrastructure.
- **Financial and Technical Support:** New fishery cooperatives receive financial grants (e.g., ₹3.00 lakh) for establishment and maintenance, alongside specialized training in modern techniques like cage culture and biofloc.

(iv) General Rural Livelihood and Employment Outcomes

Beyond specific sectors, these multipurpose societies act as engines for rural employment:

- Employment is generated directly through the construction and management of godowns, as well as the operation of new business units like Pashu Aushadhi Vikray Kendras (veterinary medicine centers) and PM Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
- Over 52,000 PACS now function as Common Service Centers (CSCs), providing more than 300 digital services (banking, insurance, Aadhaar) at the village level, which creates local administrative roles while enhancing citizen convenience.
- Inclusivity mandates require reserved board seats for women and SC/ST members. Targeted financial products like Nandini Sahakar (for women) and Yuva Sahakar (for youth) provide concessional finance to encourage cooperative entrepreneurship in backward and tribal districts.

G. Rupay Kisan Credit Cards to members of cooperative societies

2.31 When the Committee asked about the progress made in issuing Rupay Kisan Credit Cards to members of Cooperative Societies, and what are the targets in Financial Year 2026-27, the Ministry stated: -

“Under the Cooperation among Cooperatives Campaign, 16,51,000 RuPay Kisan Credit Cards have been distributed to the members of cooperative Societies, till 31.12.2025. Under this campaign the Rural Cooperative Banks are distributing RuPay Kisan credit cards to all the eligible members, hence no target has been fixed. However, all efforts are being made to saturate all eligible farmers under KCC.

Further, it is submitted that the KCC–Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (KCC-MISS) is a Central Government scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare aimed at making short-term agricultural credit affordable for farmers”.

2.32 When the Committee asked the current status of the Pilot Project to provide Rupay Kisan Credit Card to the Members of Cooperative Societies and how long will it take to implement this Project nationwide, the Ministry stated: -

“Based on the learnings from the Pilot done in Gujarat State, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for nationwide rollout of the campaign was circulated on 19.09.2024 and is under implementation across States/UTs. The campaign in Gujarat has shown encouraging progress, reflected in active stakeholder participation, improved coordination among cooperative institutions, increased adoption of the prescribed processes, and measurable outcomes at the grassroots level. Other States/UTs are at different stages of operationalising the SOP, with preparatory groundwork and initial implementation activities underway in many areas”.

2.33 When the Committee asked about the terms and conditions of the Rupay Kisan Credit Cards, and how do they compare to other credit products available to farmers, the Ministry stated: -

“Under the KCC–Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (KCC-MISS), a Central Government scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Loans up to an overall limit of ₹3 lakh are provided to farmers at a concessional interest rate of 7%. An interest subvention of 1.5% is provided to the lending bank for providing loans at 7%. Further, a Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI) of 3% per annum is also available to those farmers who repay their loans on time”.

The comparison of RuPay KCC to other credit product is as under:-

S.no	Parameter	RuPay Kisan Credit Card (RKCC)	Gold Loans (Labelled as Agriculture Loans)	Microfinance / SHG–MFI Loans
1	Basis of Credit Limit	Credit Limit is linked to the Scale of Finance proposed by District Level Technical Committee (DLTC) and approved by State Level Technical Committee (SLTC) ensuring alignment with actual cultivation needs.	Loan amount is determined by the value of gold pledged to Bank/FI. It varies between 70% and 75% of the market value of gold as an agriculture crop loan, known as the Loan-to-Value (LTV) ratio.	Loan size is based on MFI/SHG policy norms, not crop-specific finance needs.
2	Interest Rate	Concessional interest rate is 7% up to ₹3 lakh with 1.5% Interest Subvention benefits to FI and 3% Prompt Repayment Incentives to beneficiary provided they repay the loan within the due date fixed by FI or within one year whichever is earlier.	No interest subvention available; rates depend on policy framed by the Board of Bank/FI.	Generally higher interest rates compared to KCC.
3	Collateral Requirement	Primary security Hypothecation of crops: Collateral- Loans up to ₹2 lakh are offered on a collateral-free basis. Loan above ₹2.00 lakhs are extended by Bank on charge creation on loan and mortgage.	It depends on gold as collateral.	Usually no traditional collateral; based on group liability.

2.34 When the Committee asked about the details of expected impact of Rupay Kisan Credit Cards on the financial inclusion and livelihood of farmers, particularly those belonging to Cooperative Societies, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The details of expected impact of RuPay KCC which is a part of KCC–Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (KCC-MISS), a Central Government scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, are as under:

- (i) RuPay KCC ensures that farmers receive timely and adequate short-term credit at concessional interest rates, which reduces their dependence on money lender to borrow at exorbitant interest rates.
- (ii) RuPay KCC is a debit cum credit card, enabling cashless and secure transactions. This promotes digital inclusion among rural farmers.
- (iii) Micro-ATMs provided to cooperative Bank Mitras ensure doorstep banking, eliminating the need to travel to distant bank branches—a major barrier previously pushing farmers towards quick local moneylenders.
- (iv) RuPay KCC ensures timely access to working capital for agriculture, dairy, and allied activities. Farmers gain access to credit for seeds, fertilizers, fodder, veterinary expenses, and other inputs necessary for enhancing productivity. Interest incentives encourage timely repayment, strengthening long term creditworthiness.

H. Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks

2.35 During the evidence meeting in connection with examination of Demands for Grants 2026-27, the representatives of the Ministry stated that Land Mortgage Banks, that approves long term loans to farmers is being implemented with the allocation of Rs. 119 Crore, so far 1422 ARDBs in 10 States/UTs have been onboarded to this scheme of Computerization. Under this scheme 68 Lakh farmers will be directly connected to the ERP software. This software has been linked to the PACS software and would be later connected to the Co-operative Database.

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2024-25	14.53	4.29	-
2025-26	7.45	-	-
2026-27			

2.36 When the Committee asked how much funds the Ministry has proposed/sought for Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks for the Fiscal Year 2026-27, the Ministry stated: -

“Under the above-mentioned object head Rs. 7.45 Crore have been allocated in BE 2026-27”.

2.37 Further on being asked the details of the Revised Estimate & Actual Expenditure of the detailed head (Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks) for the Financial Year 2025-26, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The RE-2025-26- has been kept at Rs. 7.45 Crore and actual Mother sanctions released till date is Rs. 3,02,78,382/- “.

2.38 When the Committee asked the current status of Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks, the Ministry stated: -

“The current status of Computerization of ARDB Project is as under: -

S. No	State/UTs	Sanctioned ARDBs	FHR Completed	FVR Completed
1	Tamil Nadu	216	211	0
2	Rajasthan	163	39	23
3	Karnataka	207	207	207
4	Uttar Pradesh	342	342	342
5	Gujarat	195	195	195
6	Haryana	90	20	20
7	Himachal Pradesh	88	57	57
8	Punjab	113	90	90
9	Puducherry	2	2	2
10	Tripura	6	6	6
Total		1,422	1,169	942

2.39 When the Committee asked the details about the benefits expected from the Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks, the Ministry replied the following: -

“In order to improve their operational efficiency, bring uniformity in accounting practices and core aspects of the systems followed in lending, recovery and raising resources, and to aid in their business expansion, there is a need to computerize ARDBs in line with the centrally sponsored project for computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) currently under implementation”.

2.40 When the Committee asked how will Computerization improve the delivery of services to farmers and rural customers, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The ARDBs are refinanced by NABARD. Other than providing long-term credit to farm (minor irrigation, micro irrigation, farm mechanization, etc.) and non-farm sector (rural micro and small enterprises, rural housing, etc.), the ARDBs also extend non-credit services and undertake non-fund-based activities, like sale of insurance products, safe deposit services, etc.; mobilize resources for lending; undertake training and capacity building of staff and members”.

2.41 When the Committee asked how will data security and privacy be ensured in the Computerized System, the Ministry replied the following: -

“On the similar lines in Computerization of PACS Project, a National Level Data Repository (NLDR), data security and privacy will be ensured in the Computerization of ARDB Project”.

2.42 When the Committee asked What targets have been set for implementing the Computerization Project, the Ministry stated: -

“The target for implementation of Computerization of ARDB is 1422 units in 10 States/UTs”.

I. Tribhuvan Sahkari University

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2024-25	-	-	-
2025-26	00.00	200.00	-
2026-27	300.00	-	

2.43 In the salient features written replies to the list of points for evidence the Ministry, furnished that out of a grant in aid of Rs. 500 Crore (in total) to Tribhuvan Sahkari University which was approved in the year 2025, Rs. 200 Crore were released in Financial Year 2025-26. Remaining amount of Rs 300 Crore has been allocated in BE 2026-27 for release to the University.

2.44 When the Committee asked about the details how will the Rs 300 crore allocated in BE 2026-27 be utilized by Tribhuvan Sahkari University, and what are the specific objectives, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The Rs 300 crore allocated in BE 2026–27 will be utilized for the development of the physical infrastructure of Tribhuvan Sahkari University, in accordance with the approval of the Union Cabinet”.

2.45 Further on being asked what measures are being taken to ensure timely utilization of the Rs 300 crore by Tribhuvan Sahkari University, allocated in 2026-27, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The work of building physical infrastructure of Tribhuvan Sahkari University has been entrusted to Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Govt of India. The Architect for the project has been selected through open tender by CPWD and the work is in progress”.

2.46 When the Ministry asked how does the Ministry plan to monitor and evaluate the impact of the grant-in-aid on Tribhuvan Sahkari University's development, the Ministry replied the following: -

“The grant-in-aid provided to Tribhuvan Sahkari University will be utilized for the construction of the University's new infrastructure. Accordingly, completion of the infrastructure will be treated as the achievement of the intended objective. The progress of the project is being monitored regularly by the Ministry”.

2.47 The Committee pointed out to the need for creating a system wherein an Independent Election is created out side the ambit of the Ministry to conduct free and fair Elections to the Cooperative. The Committee also asked about the challenges being faced by the Cooperative Election Authority in conducting elections? If so, what steps are being taken to address them. In their written reply, the Ministry stated as under: -

“The following challenges are being faced by the CEA in conducting elections:

- Timely up-dation of Member's List and lack of transparent criteria for preparation of Member's List.
- Non availability of functional website.

- For proposer and seconder there should not be any "product & services criteria" [Rule 193 (2)].
- Inadequate participation of members in Elections. Out of 217 elections 180 have been unopposed.
- Casual vacancies of Directors/Office Bearers are not notified to Authority in time.
- Casual vacancies of delegates impacting representation of all the members on the Board.
- Tenure of Delegate is different from the tenure of Board of Director.
- Conduct of Delegate Elections
- What should be the size of delegates to elect Board of Director
- No Standard guidelines for determination of constituencies

The following steps have been taken by the Cooperative Election Authority to address the challenges:

- Preparation of Manual for preparation of voter list, Member list, Handbook of Returning Officer and seeking prior approval of result in Form 19M & Form 19N- available at CRCS website (<https://crs.gov.in/handbooks officer>).
- Finalisation of Forms relating to nomination of delegate under Section 38. (<https://crs.gov.in/handbooks officer>)
- Guidelines relating to tenure of the Government Servant restricting maximum tenure of five years
- Guidelines relating to blood relation on the Board of Directors
- Model code of conduct
- Voting by nominated Director for Office Bearer
- Lodging of return of election expenses made by candidate
- Scheme of appointment of Observer
- Amendment of Section 10A (ZA)(i) of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 restricting the tenure of Board of Directors to continuous ten years
- Alignment of Bye-Law in accordance with master circular of RBI for contesting election and eligibility to cast vote.”

2.48 During the evidence meeting of the Committee, the issue of irregularities in elections to Cooperatives was raised. In their written response the Ministry informed that:

“In order to strengthen election system and prepare independent voter lists for cooperatives, the Cooperative Election Authority has prepared Manuals for Returning Officer for (i) Preparation of Members’ list (ii) Preparation of voter list. Standard formats for nomination of delegate under section 38 of MSCS Act have been devised. Cooperative Election Authority has also issued guidelines relating to (i) tenure of Government Servant restricting maximum tenure to five years, (ii) Limit i.e. not more than half of Board of Directors can be blood related. (iii) Model code of conduct, (iv) Lodging of Return of election expenses by the candidates with RO (v) Scheme of appointment of Observer, (vi) Implementation of provisions of Section 10A (2A)(i) of Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1949 restricting the tenure of Board of Directors to continuous ten years.”

2.49 During the evidence meeting of the Committee, it was pointed out that the profit of purchase of milk is not reaching the farmers and are being cornered by big cooperatives and money from all regions being diverted to states where such large Cooperatives are headquartered. The Ministry in its written reply informed that:

“To ensure the profit goes to the farmers from whom the milk is being procured, the Ministry of Cooperation has taken an initiative to bring the Milk Collection Centres (MCCs) and Milk Pooling Points (MPPs) of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) under cooperative framework. Under this initiative, about 45,000 MCCs/MPPs are proposed to be registered as Multi-Purpose Village Cooperative Societies (M-VCS) and enrolled as members of Sardar Patel Cooperative Dairy Federation Limited (SPCDF) and National Cooperative Milk Producer Organisation Ltd. (NCMPOL) as applicable, both being multi-state cooperative societies.”

CHAPTER – III

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF COOPERATIVES 2025

The Ministry of Cooperation has undertaken a range of special initiatives and events to commemorate the United Nations-International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) – 2025 with the theme “**Cooperatives Build a Better World**”, which was officially launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the ICA Global Cooperative Conference held in 2024. IYC highlights the vital role of cooperatives in promoting inclusive, participatory, and sustainable development in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Ministry prepared a comprehensive Annual Action Plan to mark the Year of Cooperatives 2025 in collaboration with all the stakeholders of the Cooperative Sector which was released by Hon’ble Home and Cooperation Minister on 24th January 2025 in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

3.2 When the Committee asked about the range of special initiatives and events to commemorate the United Nations-International Year of Cooperatives (IYC)-2025, with the theme “Cooperatives Build a Better World”, the Ministry replied the following: -

“International Year of Cooperatives (IYC)–2025 was celebrated across the country with the theme “Cooperatives Build a Better World”. As part of the national-level observance, a flagship event was held on 24th January 2025 at Mumbai in which Annual Action Plan of IYC-2025 was launched which was prepared by Ministry of Cooperation after seeking inputs from all the stakeholders to reaffirm the commitment towards strengthening the cooperative movement and highlighting its contribution to inclusive and sustainable development.

The observance of IYC–2025 witnessed active participation from a wide range of stakeholders, including State Governments, National & State-level Cooperative Federations, National level Organizations like NABARD, NDDDB, NFDB etc. and Cooperative societies across various sectors. The Ministry worked in close coordination with States/UTs and other stakeholders to ensure broad-based

engagement and nationwide outreach. During the year, more than 2,500 activities were organized across the country with active stakeholder participation.

On 5th July 2025, the foundation stone of the country's first university dedicated exclusively to the cooperative sector, namely 'Tribhuvan' Sahkari University (TSU), was laid, aimed at strengthening education, research, training, and professional capacity in cooperatives. A national level event was also organized in Anand, Gujarat on 06th July, 2025 on the occasion of completion of four years of establishment of the Ministry of Cooperation.

During IYC–2025, the National Cooperative Policy (NCP)–2025 was launched on 21st July, 2025, providing a clear and forward-looking roadmap for the holistic development and modernization of the cooperative sector. In addition, several other initiatives and reform-oriented measures were undertaken during the year to further strengthen the cooperative ecosystem.

The activities undertaken during IYC–2025 were thematically structured to address key priority areas of the cooperative sector. Major themes included awareness Campaigns & Outreach Activities, Workshops, Seminars & Capacity Building Programs, Walkathons, Rallies & Public Mobilization Drives, Launch of New Initiatives & Programmes, Exhibitions, Melas & Community Engagement Activities, Skill Development, Employment & Farmer-Centric Activities. Women Empowerment & Inclusion Initiatives, Media Publicity & Social Media Campaigns, Cultural Programs & Community Participation, Success Stories & Best Practices from State, Women & Youth-Centric Empowerment Initiatives, New IT interventions in Cooperative Societies, Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Campaign and Swachhta Mein Sahkar Initiatives”.

PART – II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Budgetary Allocation

The Committee note that the Ministry of Cooperation sought an allocation of Rs. 1370.06 Crore for the Financial Year 2026-27 against this the Ministry has been allocated Rs. 1744.74 Crore which is 0.02% of total outlay of the Government of India for the year. This allocation is substantially higher than the allocation of Rs. 1186.29 Crore made in Budget Estimate 2025-26 and almost double the allocation of Rs. 981.31 Crore made in Revised Estimate 2025-26. The reduction of funds in RE 2025-26 was on account of reduction made in Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerization of PACS. As the Scheme was onboarded on SNA SPARSH model in the 2nd Quarter of Financial Year 2025-26, the onboarding of States/UTs on the new system and familiarization of the States/UTs with the new method of release of funds took some time due to which States could not raise their requirement. Further significant proposals for issue of mother sanctions under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes could only be processed in 3rd Quarter of the Current Financial Year. By that time, Revised Estimates are already prepared by Ministry of Finance based on the expenses already incurred. Since, funds could not be released on account of onboarding on new system of assignment of funds, allocation was reduced at RE Stage. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry need to focus on optimizing the utilization of the increased budget allocation of Rs. 1744.74 Crore in BE 2026-27.

2. Cooperative Training

The Committee note that the Ministry of Cooperation is taking necessary action for formulation of the Central Sector Scheme “Cooperative Training” to address a critical gap in India’s Cooperative architecture by forming, strengthening, and training 90,000 new Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (M-PACS) across uncovered and underserved Gram Panchayats over a four-year period (2026–27 to 2029–30). While the Government has approved a national plan to establish 2 lakh new multipurpose cooperatives (PACS, Dairy and fishery societies), the pace of formation of M-PACS has remained gradual, partly due to limited availability of dedicated support for activities such as social mobilization, registration processes, manpower deployment, and early-stage handholding. The proposed scheme directly remedies this bottleneck by providing structured institutional and financial support to ensure that cooperatives are not merely registered, but become viable, democratically governed, and economically active village-level institutions. Accordingly, a token allocation of Rs 1 Lakh has been taken in BE 2026-27. The Committee have no doubt that these initiatives will bring in transformative change in the Cooperative Training and therefor the Committee, recommend the Ministry to prioritize the Cooperative Training scheme, allocating sufficient funds for social mobilisation, registration, and handholding of new M-PACS. A structured training program needs to be developed to ensure these cooperatives become viable and democratically governed.

3. National Cooperative Organic Limited (NCOL)

The Committee appreciate that the Ministry of Cooperation has set up three new national level Multi-State Cooperative Societies, these societies have been registered under MSCS Act, 2002. Among these, NCOL has been set up to provide institutional support for aggregation, certification, testing, procurement, storage, processing, branding, labelling, packaging, logistic facilities, marketing of organic products and facilitate in arranging financial assistance to the organic farmers through its member Cooperatives including PACS/FPOs along with promotional and developmental activities of organic products with the help of various schemes and agencies of the Government. The NCOL will help in marketing of authentic and certified organic products to increase production of organic products by the cooperatives at various levels. As on 28.12.2025, 11,096 cooperatives have become its members. 30 States/UTs have nominated nodal Agencies and out of which 22 have signed MoUs. 29 products launched under “Bharat Organics” brand. Major products: Atta, Tur Dal, Chana dal, Masoor dal, Moong dal, Jagery Powder etc. are available at various Government outlets and private e-commerce platforms, covering 1000+ retails stores in Delhi NCR and Bengaluru. The Committee, however, recommend that the Ministry run campaigns to onboard more cooperatives beyond the current 11,096, strengthening NCOL's network. Encourage the remaining 8 states/UTs to sign MoUs, enhancing government support. Streamline financial schemes for organic farmers, encouraging NCOL membership and make testing and certification processes more efficient, maintaining product quality and consumer trust.

4. National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL)

The Committee note that NCEL will focus on exporting the surpluses available in the Indian cooperative sector by accessing wider markets beyond the geographical contours of the country, thereby, increasing the demand of Indian Cooperative products/services across the globe and fetch best possible prices for such products/services. It will promote exports through various activities including procurement, storage, processing, marketing, branding, labelling, packaging, certification, research and development, etc., and trading of all types of goods and services produced by cooperative societies. As on 01.01.2025, 13,890 cooperatives have become its member. 24 States/UTs have nominated nodal Agencies and out of these 14 have signed MoUs. Exported 40 agri products (Wheat, Non-Basmati Rice, Basmati Rice, Cumin Seed, Turmeric Finger, Onion, Hoso Shrimp, Sugar, Millets, Banana, Pomegranate, Mango, Grape etc.) to 29 countries. Major countries include Indonesia, Malaysia, Senegal, Cameroon, Singapore and Mali etc. The Committee are of the view that the Ministry encourage more cooperative societies to become members, increasing the range of products and services for export. 24 States/UTs have nominated nodal agencies, but only 14 States/UTs have signed MoUs, NCEL needs to encourage the rest of the States/UTs to establish agencies and sign MoUs, and organize training programs for cooperative societies, improving product quality and export capacity.

5. Relief in Income Tax laws

The Committee are happy to note that the Government has reduced surcharge from 12% to 7% for co-operative societies having income between Rs. 1 to 10 Crore. This will reduce the burden of Income Tax on Cooperative Societies and more capital

will be available with them to work for the benefit of their members. To bring parity between Cooperative Societies and Companies, the MAT has been reduced from 18.5% to 15%. To remove difficulties in cash transactions by cooperatives under Section 269ST of IT Act, Government has issued a clarification that cash transaction of less than Rs. 2 lakhs done by a cooperative society with its distributor in a day will be considered separately, and will not be charged with income tax penalty. The Government has decided that a flat lower tax rate of 15% will be charged, compared to an earlier rate of up to 30% plus surcharge, for new cooperatives commencing manufacturing activities by March 31, 2024. This will encourage the formation of new cooperative societies in the manufacturing sector. The Government has enhanced the limit for Cash Deposits and Payments by PACS and Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 2 lakh per member. This provision will facilitate their activities, increase their business and benefit members of their societies. The Government has enhanced the limit for Loan and Loan Repayments in Cash by PACS and Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 2 lakh per member. This provision will facilitate their activities, increase their business and benefit members of these societies. Government has increased the cash withdrawal limit of cooperative societies without deduction of tax at source from Rs.1 crore to Rs.3 crore per year. This provision will save Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) for cooperative societies, which will enhance their liquidity. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Cooperation needs to support tax relief measures, including reducing the surcharge on cooperative societies and maintaining the reduced MAT rate, to enhance their financial health and promote growth. Additionally, clarifying cash transaction rules and increasing deposit limits for PACS and PCARDBs will facilitate smoother

operations. These measures will strengthen cooperative societies, boosting their contributions to economic development and social welfare.

6. Computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks

The Committee note that the Ministry of Cooperation intends to increase the operational efficiency of Agriculture Rural Development Banks through computerization., In order to improve their operational efficiency, bring uniformity in accounting practices and core aspects of the systems followed in lending, recovery and raising resources, and to aid in their business expansion, there is a need to computerize ARDBs in line with the centrally sponsored project for computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) currently under implementation. The ARDBs are refinanced by NABARD. Other than providing long-term credit to farm (minor irrigation, micro irrigation, farm mechanization, etc.) and non-farm sector (rural micro and small enterprises, rural housing, etc.), the ARDBs also extend non-credit services and undertake non-fund-based activities, like sale of insurance products, safe deposit services, etc.; mobilize resources for lending; undertake training and capacity building of staff and members. On lines similar to Computerization of PACS Project, a National Level Data Repository (NLDR), data security and privacy will be ensured in the Computerization of ARDB Project. The target for implementation of Computerization of ARDB is 1422 units in 10 States/UTs. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry of Cooperation need to prioritize the computerization of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) to improve operational efficiency, uniform accounting practices, and business expansion within the timeline i.e. next two years approved by the Competent Authority of the Ministry. Timely completion of

Computerization project of ARDBs would not only facilitate its seamless integration with PACS and other identified entities but also enable ARDBs to provide better services, including long-term credit, non-credit services, and non-fund-based activities. This initiative will strengthen ARDBs and promote rural development and financial inclusion.

7. Establishment of Multipurpose PACS/Dairy/Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat/Village

The Committee note that the Government has also approved the plan to strengthen cooperative movement in the country and deepen its reach up to the grassroots by establishing multipurpose PACS, Dairy and Fishery Cooperative Societies covering all the Panchayats/ Villages in the country in the ensuing 5 years. The plan is being implemented with the support of NABARD, NDDDB, NFDB and State/ UT Governments. In order to ensure effective implementation of the Plan, an SOP (Margdarshika) has also been launched on 19.9.2024. So far, 33,822 new PACS, Dairy and Fishery Cooperative Societies have been formed and 19,592, Dairy Cooperative Societies and 1,700 Fishery Cooperative Societies have been strengthened since the approval of the plan on 15.2.2023. The Committee noted that the establishment of Multipurpose PACS, Dairy, and Fisheries Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat and village is a strategic initiative under the national vision of “Sahakar-se-Samriddhi” (Prosperity through Cooperation). These societies are being transformed from limited-function credit providers into vibrant economic hubs designed to stimulate rural economic outputs and generate significant employment. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to continue to prioritize the establishment of multipurpose PACS, Dairy, and Fishery Cooperative Societies in every Panchayat and Village, aiming

to cover all areas within the 5-year timeline. Strengthening agricultural infrastructure and promoting digital inclusion through the PACS Computerization Project will be crucial for rural transformation. Encouraging entrepreneurship and employment generation through schemes like Yuva Sahakar and Nandini Sahakar will also support rural economic growth.

8. Conduct of Elections to Cooperatives

The Committee during the evidence pointed out that some irregularities were reported in the elections of various Multi-State Cooperatives (MSCs) and sought to know how the Ministry plan to check this. In response the Ministry in its written reply stated that in order to strengthen election system and prepare independent voter lists for cooperatives, the Cooperative Election Authority has prepared Manuals for Returning Officer for (i) Preparation of Members' list (ii) Preparation of voter list. Standard formats for nomination of delegate under section 38 of MSCS Act have been devised. Cooperative Election Authority has also issued guidelines relating to (i) tenure of Government Servant restricting maximum tenure to five years, (ii) Limit i.e. not more than half of Board of Directors can be blood related. (iii) Model code of conduct, (iv) Lodging of Return of election expenses by the candidates with RO (v) Scheme of appointment of Observer, (vi) Implementation of provisions of Section 10A (2A) (i) of Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1949 restricting the tenure of Board of Directors to continuous ten years. The Committee trust that such means will help in bringing transparency in the election process in the Cooperative Sector. However, the Govt. may take adequate measures to tackle complaints relating to Elections to Cooperatives.

9. Benefits of Dairy Cooperatives to Farmers

In the course of evidence, the Committee raised the point that the profit of purchase of milk is not reaching the farmers and are being cornered by big cooperatives and money from all regions being diverted to states where such large

Cooperatives are headquartered. The Ministry in its written reply informed that to ensure the profit goes to the farmers from whom the milk is being procured, the Ministry of Cooperation has taken an initiative to bring the Milk Collection Centres (MCCs) and Milk Pooling Points (MPPs) of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) under cooperative framework. Under this initiative, about 45,000 MCCs/MPPs are proposed to be registered as Multi-Purpose Village Cooperative Societies (M-VCS) and enrolled as members of Sardar Patel Cooperative Dairy Federation Limited (SPCDF) and National Cooperative Milk Producer Organisation Ltd. (NCMPOL) as applicable, both being multi-state cooperative societies. The Committee trust that such measures will help to protect that interest of farmers at village levels and would like to be informed about the outcome of this measure, State-wise.

10. Creation of an Independent Election Authority for Cooperative

The Committee are of the considered view that free, fair and timely elections are the cornerstone of the democratic functioning of cooperative institutions. The Committee note that delays in the conduct of election, concerns regarding the institutional independence of election processes, and extended periods of supersession of elected boards in certain instances may have implications for the spirit of democratic member control, which remains a core principle of the cooperative movement. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government of India, through the Ministry of Cooperation, in consultation with State Governments, evolve a comprehensive national framework for strengthening cooperative electoral governance. The framework should encourage States to establish or reinforce independent State Cooperative Election Authority, ensure strict timelines for elections before the expiry of the tenure of boards, and promote digitisation and transparency in electoral processes. In respect of Multi-State Cooperative Societies governed under the Multi-

State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002, the Committee recommend the creation of a statutory, independent and professionally managed election mechanism to conduct elections in a transparent and time-bound manner so as to safeguard the democratic character and credibility of these institutions.

NEW DELHI;

16th March, 2026

25 Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI

Chairperson

***Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing***

Annexure-I

NAFED						
Progress in Atmanirbhar Krishi as on 05-02-2026						
S. No.	State	Commodity	Quantity Purchased during K-25 (MT)	E-samridhi portal Registered PACS/FPOs during K-25	No. Of Farmers benefited during K-25	No. of farmers registered (E-samridhi portal)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Tur	97839.3	1682	60895	109308
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	178
		Urad	37.95	4	19	1868
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	25
		Masur	0	0	0	338
		Maize	0	0	0	1370
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	1
3	Assam	Tur	0	0	0	171
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	19
		Urad	0	0	0	2717
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	19
		Masur	0	0	0	319
		Maize	1971	2	120	1709
4	Bihar	Tur	0	0	0	210
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	34
		Urad	0	0	0	318
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	28
		Masur	0	0	0	385
		Maize	1400	12	148	1657
5	Chhattisgarh	Tur	0	94	0	11072
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	20
		Urad	0	92	0	8296
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	15
		Masur	0	0	0	2074
		Maize	88.5	1	12	2004
6	Goa	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0

7	Gujarat	Tur	60758.05	76	29774	186184
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	2344
		Urad	1915.98	96	2017	6712
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	1294
		Masur	0	0	0	1584
		Maize	0	0	0	1768
8	Haryana	Tur	0	0	0	16
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	7
		Urad	0	0	0	38
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	6
		Masur	0	0	0	24
		Maize	0	0	0	53
9	Himachal Pradesh	Tur	0	0	0	5
		Urad	0	0	0	21
		Masur	0	0	0	8
		Maize	0	0	0	799
10	Jharkhand	Tur	0	0	0	544
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	6
		Urad	0	0	0	40
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	8
		Masur	0	0	0	48
		Maize	0	0	0	53
11	Karnataka	Tur	190496.84	768	126313	269448
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	255
		Urad	3506.5	103	3233	6337
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	76
		Masur	0	0	0	270
		Maize	771.95	6	147	4876
12	Kerala	Tur	0	0	0	28
		Urad	0	0	0	65
		Masur	0	0	0	29
		Maize	0	0	0	25
13	Madhya Pradesh	Tur	4049.7	20	2219	9954
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	98
		Urad	5219.76	75	3916	12655
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	72
		Masur	131621.55	488	59590	99089
		Maize	840	0	91	15723
14	Maharashtra	Tur	105261.28	1417	63681	391479
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	9474

		Urad	1572.154	803	1160	50455
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	4080
		Masur	0	0	0	7968
		Maize	2658.3	0	894	17278
15	Manipur	Tur	0	0	0	5
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	1
		Urad	0	0	0	7
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	1
		Masur	0	0	0	5
		Maize	0	0	0	29
16	Meghalaya	Tur	0	0	0	1
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	4
17	Mizoram	Tur	0	0	0	2
		Urad	0	0	0	2
		Masur	0	0	0	1
		Maize	0	0	0	1
18	Nagaland	Tur	0	0	0	1
		Urad	0	0	0	1
		Masur	0	0	0	1
		Maize	0	0	0	2
19	Odisha	Tur	0	0	0	3650
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	136
		Urad	317.15	83	256	8875
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	164
		Masur	0	0	0	10460
		Maize	0	0	0	4567
20	Punjab	Tur	0	0	0	30
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	1
		Urad	0	0	0	17
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	1
		Masur	0	0	0	44
		Maize	0	0	0	298
21	Rajasthan	Tur	0	0	0	2839
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	1519
		Urad	133.15	244	99	8076
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	1809
		Masur	0	0	0	3823
		Maize	37.05	2	23	6946

22	Sikkim	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	Tur	0	0	0	1324
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	20
		Urad	1010.4	53	548	13235
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	27
		Masur	0	0	0	636
		Maize	0	0	0	7367
24	Telangana	Tur	9051.68	42	10272	60882
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	18
		Urad	0	0	0	397
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	15
		Masur	0	0	0	156
		Maize	0	0	0	682
25	Tripura	Tur	0	0	0	15
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	1
		Urad	0	0	0	9
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	2
		Masur	0	0	0	26
		Maize	0	0	0	30
26	Uttarakhand	Tur	0	0	0	346
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	7
		Urad	0	0	0	537
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	5
		Masur	0	0	0	378
		Maize	0	0	0	536
27	Uttar Pradesh	Tur	18900.76	137	8105	7736
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	460
		Urad	37714.3	224	8116	36263
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	455
		Masur	35322.42	119	15222	26033
		Maize	5150	0	366	7683
28	West Bengal	Tur	0	0	0	56
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	47
		Urad	0	0	0	65
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	47
		Masur	0	0	0	71
		Maize	1800	0	237	1440

29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Tur	0	0	0	1
		Urad	0	0	0	3
		Masur	0	0	0	1
		Maize	0	0	0	2
30	Chandigarh	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	Tur	0	0	0	8
		Tur PSF	0	0	0	6
		Urad	0	0	0	7
		Urad PSF	0	0	0	6
		Masur	0	0	0	11
		Maize	0	0	0	8
33	Jammu & Kashmir	Tur	0	0	0	101
		Urad	0	0	0	156
		Masur	0	0	0	168
		Maize	0	0	0	1964
34	Ladakh	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	Tur	0	0	0	5
		Urad	0	0	0	44
		Masur	0	0	0	9
		Maize	0	0	0	21
Total			719445.724	6643	397473	1468298

NCCF						
Progress in Atmanirbhar Krishi as on 30 Jan 2026						
S. No.	State	Commodity	No. of farmers registered	Registered PACS/FPOs	No. Of Farmers benefited	Quantity Purchased (MT)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Tur	25482	583	7366	11536
		Urad	14740	60	79	58
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	22535	556	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Tur	248	31	0	0
		Urad	162	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	248	30	0	0
3	Assam	Tur	20953	229	0	0
		Urad	15820	102	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	21051	261	18	115
4	Bihar	Tur	41479	195	0	0
		Urad	30769	14	0	0
		Masur	55230	269	0	0
		Maize	49089	272	257	3001
5	Chhattisgarh	Tur	28819	532	0	0
		Urad	31362	478	0	0
		Masur	51	78	0	0
		Maize	25874	2151	14	98
6	Goa	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	Tur	287241	550	47290	98761
		Urad	37844	132	1321	1186
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	54566	708	0	0
8	Haryana	Tur	24071	68	0	0
		Urad	20419	1	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	24068	504	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	Tur	17558	45	0	0
		Urad	13940	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	17552	52	0	0

10	Jharkhand	Tur	1025363	3981	0	0
		Urad	51256	2419	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	594349	3575	0	0
11	Karnataka	Tur	171229	464	25045	38692
		Urad	21810	43	4011	5980
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	25633	372	0	0
12	Kerala	Tur	7780	38	0	0
		Urad	7778	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	7778	37	0	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	Tur	91098	464	2253	6471
		Urad	98295	196	2035	3718
		Masur	95491	516	35119	80719
		Maize	91229	459	1287	7624
14	Maharashtra	Tur	155818	1276	22369	28972
		Urad	57431	959	735	647
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	75603	2197	392	5016
15	Manipur	Tur	1851	5	0	0
		Urad	1453	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	1851	5	0	0
16	Meghalaya	Tur	1078	2	0	0
		Urad	252	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	1078	2	0	0
17	Mizoram	Tur	910	13	0	0
		Urad	900	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	910	13	0	0
18	Nagaland	Tur	3229	8	0	0
		Urad	3229	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	3229	8	0	0
19	Odisha	Tur	151	1	0	0
		Urad	74	1	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	147	3	0	0
20	Punjab	Tur	14013	60	0	0
		Urad	12338	4	0	0

		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	22574	899	0	0
21	Rajasthan	Tur	55450	4917	0	0
		Urad	52812	4850	179	277
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	55465	5406	0	0
22	Sikkim	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	Tur	22654	1239	0	0
		Urad	36324	1468	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	23092	5957	0	0
24	Telangana	Tur	4302	74	4284	5096
		Urad	3	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	7	0	0	0
25	Tripura	Tur	4562	12	0	0
		Urad	1760	6	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	4562	12	0	0
26	Uttarakhand	Tur	7415	59	0	0
		Urad	4495	238	0	0
		Masur	138	0	0	0
		Maize	7463	599	0	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	Tur	133523	607	0	0
		Urad	109626	316	5753	28681
		Masur	35706	418	327	410
		Maize	135155	638	520	4677
28	West Bengal	Tur	33019	51	0	0
		Urad	5075	3	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	33311	62	64	257
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0

31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	Tur	6	0	0	0
		Urad	6	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	6	0	0	0
32	Delhi	Tur	0	3	0	0
		Urad	0	3	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	3	7	0	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	Tur	11182	91	0	0
		Urad	6403	31	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	11180	117	0	0
34	Ladakh	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	Tur	0	0	0	0
		Urad	0	0	0	0
		Masur	0	0	0	0
		Maize	0	0	0	0
Total*			43,23,084	53,105	1,60,718	3,31,992

***Note- One farmer and PACS/FPO have been added under multiple commodities. Unique count of farmers is 25.04 Lakhs.**

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2025-26)**

The Committee sat on Friday, the 20th February, 2026 from 1055 hours to 1310 hours in Committee Room '1', Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi and the following were present:

Present

Shri Charanjit Singh Channi – Hon'ble Chairperson

Members

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
4. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
5. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
6. Shri Dharmbir Singh
7. Shri Dushyant Singh
8. Shri Sudhakar Singh
9. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh

Rajya Sabha

10. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
11. Shri Nitin Laxmanrao Jadhav Patil
12. Shri Ramji Lal Suman

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Dhiraj Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri Fauzi Badruddin | - | Deputy Secretary |

LIST OF WITNESSES

MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

1.	Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani	-	Secretary (Cooperation)
2.	Shri Pankaj Kumar Bansal	-	Additional Secretary & Managing Director (NCDC)
3.	Shri Sanjiv Narain Mathur	-	Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor
4.	Shri Anand Jha	-	Joint Secretary
5.	Shri Siddharth Jain	-	Joint Secretary
6.	Shri Raman Kumar	-	Joint Secretary

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting convened for taking evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Cooperation in connection with examination of Demands for Grants (2026-27) - Demand No.16 - pertaining to the said Ministry. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Cooperation were called in. After welcoming the representatives of the Ministry to the sitting, the Hon'ble Chairperson apprised them about the provision of Direction 55 of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding confidentiality of the proceedings.

3. After introducing themselves, the representative of the Ministry of Cooperation informed the Committee about the budgetary allocation made under different heads to support the schemes, programmes and initiatives being implemented by the Ministry and to meet its administrative and other expenses for the year 2026-27. They also informed about the progress being made to achieve the desired results in respect of the schemes and programmes.

4. The Chairperson and Members of the Committee also sought the following information:

- (i) Low capital allocation despite expansion of Budget;
- (ii) Land Mortgage Banks not functioning in Bihar, identification and solution of the problem;
- (iii) Intervention of Cooperative Sector in distribution of seeds;

- (iv) The irregularities in elections for BISCOAUN and appointment of nominated Directors with voting power;
- (v) Key indicators being monitor for Cooperative intervention, assessment for future budget allocation and continuation/discontinuation/restructuring of schemes;
- (vi) Increasing the share of Cooperative Sector in distribution of seeds in collaboration of Ministry of Agriculture;
- (vii) Efforts made to usher in transparency in the functioning of PACs by digitizing their data and to take necessary steps to bring out improvement in their functioning and to make them self-sufficient;
- (viii) Data on number of sugar mills which are actually operational and out of these operational sugar mills the number of mills which are making profit and have installed ethanol units. The efforts being made to make all the Mills viable and profitable;
- (ix) Improvement in the system of election to Cooperatives including free and independent election and preparation of electoral rolls;
- (x) Improvement of Sahakar Taxi and its expansion to Daman & Diu;
- (xi) Procurement of milk to ensure profits to Dairy Farmers. The benefits of procurement by Cooperatives going to large cooperatives and the places, where they are Headquartered;
- (xii) Creation of Godown by Cooperatives;
- (xiii) Training of the Members & Staff of Cooperative to create awareness about cooperative and its schemes;
- (xiv) Training of Staff of Cooperative Banks for strengthening it;
- (xv) Increasing the working days of Cooperative Sugar Mills, comparative to private Mills;
- (xvi) Increasing minimum sale price of sugar;
- (xvii) Creation of a Central Commission for functioning of cooperatives and a National Cooperative Services Cadre;
- (xviii) Creation of organic farming societies and encouraging banks to provide funds to them for Market Price Support to Farmers.

5. The Representatives of the Ministry responded to most of the queries raised by the Members. The Chairperson, then, thanked the witnesses for sharing valuable information with the Committee on the Subject and directed them to furnish the requisite information on the points/items, which were not readily available with them to the Secretariat.

The Committee then adjourned.

(A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the Sitting has been kept separately.)

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2025-26)**

The Committee sat on Monday, 9th March, 2026 from 1530 hours to 1630 hours in Committee Room No. 3, First Floor, Block-A, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI – CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
4. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
5. Shri Kuldeep Indora
6. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
7. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
8. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
9. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
10. Shri Dharambir Singh
11. Shri Dushyant Singh
12. Shri Sudhakar Singh
13. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
14. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

15. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
16. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
17. Shri H.D. Devegowda
18. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
19. Shri Nitin Laxmanrao Jadhav-Patil
20. Shri P. P. Suneer

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Dhiraj Kumar | – | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | – | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | – | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri Fauzi Badruddin | – | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration of Draft Reports on Demands for Grants (2026-27) pertaining to the

- (i) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare);
- (ii) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education);
- (iii) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries);
- (iv) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying);
- (v) Ministry of Food Processing Industries; and
- (vi) Ministry of Cooperation.

3. During deliberations, Members of the Committee suggested amendments to the recommendations of the draft Reports. They also suggested to convene sitting of the Committee again on 13.03.2026 to consider and adopt the draft Reports, which was agreed upon by the Chairperson of the Committee.

The Committee then adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2025-26)**

The Committee sat on Friday, 13th March, 2026 from 0940 hours to 1120 hours in Committee Room No. 3, First Floor, Block-A, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI – CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
3. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
4. Shri Kuldeep Indora
5. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
6. Shri Rahul Singh Lodhi
7. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
8. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
9. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
10. Shri Murasoli S.
11. Shri Dharambir Singh
12. Shri Dushyant Singh
13. Shri Sudhakar Singh
14. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh
15. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
16. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

17. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
18. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
19. Shri H.D. Devegowda
20. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
21. Shri Madan Rathore
22. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala

SECRETARIT

1. Shri Dhiraj Kumar – Joint Secretary
2. Shri Maheshwar – Director
3. Shri Prem Ranjan – Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Fauzi Badruddin – Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration of the following draft Reports on Demands for Grants (2026-27):-

- (i) Ministry of Cooperation
- *(ii) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
- *(iii) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
- *(iv) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
- *(v) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
- *(vi) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

3. The Committee after considering the draft Report on Demands for Grants (2026-27) of the Ministry of Cooperation; suggested the amendments/changes as shown in **Annexure-A**.

4. The Committee, thereafter adopted the draft Report mentioned at para 2 (i) above with modifications/amendments as listed at **Annexure-A**.

5. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to finalize the Reports in the light of modifications suggested and present the Reports to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

****Matter not related to this Report***

During the Sitting held on 13.03.2026, the Members made the following suggestions to be incorporated into the DFG (2026-27) Draft Report of the Ministry of Cooperation

Rec No.	Para/ page	Amendments Incorporated
2	pg.44	While the Government has approved a national plan to establish 2 lakh new multipurpose cooperatives (PACS, Dairy and fishery societies), the pace of formation of M-PACS has remained gradual, partly due to limited availability of dedicated support for activities such as social mobilization, registration processes, manpower deployment, and early-stage handholding.
10	pg.51	The Committee note that delays in the conduct of election, concerns regarding the institutional independence of election processes, and extended periods of supersession of elected boards in certain instances may have implications for the spirit of democratic member control, which remains a core principle of the cooperative movement.