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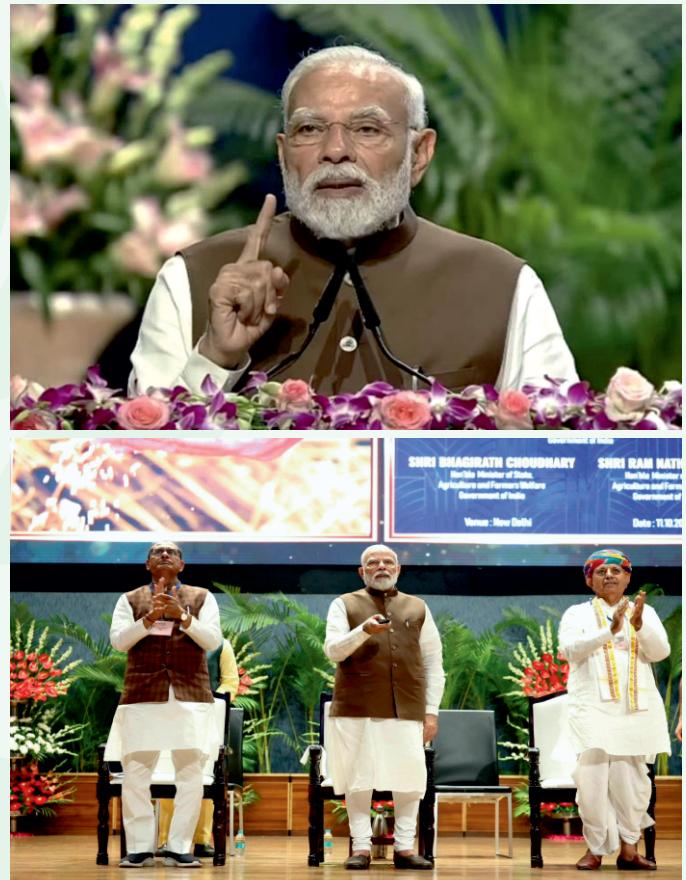
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Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched 'Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana' and 'Pulses Self-Reliance Mission' with agriculture sector, animal husbandry, fisheries, FPO and innovation, farmers getting a historic gift of more than ₹42,000 crore on 11th October, 2025 at New Delhi



On 11th October 2025, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 1,100 projects of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), animal husbandry, fisheries and food processing sector in Pusa, New Delhi. Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and MoS for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Bhagirath Chaudhary also participated in the event. Union Ministers Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh and Shri Ramnath Thakur along with several Chief Ministers and other public representatives including lakhs of farmers participated virtually from various places. The Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana has been launched to coordinate 36 sub-schemes of 11 ministries for agricultural upliftment in the aspirational districts of the country, while the Pulses Self-Reliance Mission has been launched to make the country self-reliant in pulses production, keeping in mind the increasing consumption of pulses, thereby reducing dependence on imports.



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurates Sabar Dairy Plant on 03rd October 2025 in Rohtak



On 3rd October 2025, Hon'ble Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurated Sabar Dairy Plant in Rohtak, Haryana. Chief Minister of Haryana Shri Nayab Singh Saini, Union MoS for Cooperation Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar, Union Minister of State Shri Rao Inderjit Singh and several other esteemed dignitaries were present. Sabar Dairy has established the country's largest plant for producing milk, 150 metric tons of curd, 10 metric tons of yogurt, 3 lakh liters of buttermilk and 10,000 kg of sweets daily at a cost of ₹350 crore for the welfare of milk-producing farmers in Haryana.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurates the expanded capacity of the Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil Cooperative Sugar Factory on 05th October 2025 in Ahilyanagar



On 05th October 2025, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the expanded capacity of the Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil Cooperative Sugar Factory and also unveiled the statues of Padma Shri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil and Padma Bhushan Balasaheb Vikhe Patil in Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra. The event was graced by Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra; Shri Murlidhar Mohol, Union MoS for Cooperation. Deputy Chief Ministers of Maharashtra Shri Eknath Shinde and Shri Ajit Pawar along with other distinguished dignitaries. During the event, he emphasized that cooperative sugar mills should evolve into multi-dimensional enterprises by diversifying into the production of multi-feed ethanol, frozen vegetables, fruit pulp, and other value-added products, especially during the non-crushing season.



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurates 'Deep Sea Fishing Vessels' under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana on 27th October 2025 at Mumbai



On 27th October 2025, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, inaugurated and handed over the deep-sea fishing vessels to beneficiaries at Mazagon, Mumbai, a significant milestone in strengthening Maharashtra's fisheries sector and enhancing fishermen's income by opening new opportunities in the deep sea through cooperatives. The event was graced by Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra; Shri Murlidhar Mohol, Union MoS for Cooperation Deputy Chief Ministers of Maharashtra Shri Eknath Shinde and Shri Ajit Pawar along with other distinguished dignitaries. This marks a significant step towards modernizing India's marine fisheries sector and promoting cooperative-based development in coastal areas with commitment in realizing the vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and strengthening the blue economy by leveraging the potential of the cooperative sector.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah pays tribute to Co-op doyen Vaikunthbhai Mehta

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah paid tribute to freedom fighter and social reformer Vaikunthbhai Mehta on his birth anniversary on 26th October. Shri Shah hailed Mehta as a pioneering force behind India's cooperative movement, lauding his role in laying the foundations of cooperative banks, agricultural cooperatives, and consumer societies. He also highlighted Mehta's vision strengthened the cooperative spirit across rural India and continues to inspire generations working for self-reliant communities and inclusive economic growth. (Source: Indian Cooperative)



Review Meeting on media outreach activities held on 16th October 2025 at New Delhi



Union MoS for Cooperation, Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar, chaired a review meeting on 16th October 2025 to assess the progress of directions issued for enhancing media outreach and publicity in the cooperative sector at New Delhi. The discussions emphasized the need to strengthen communication,

adopt innovative strategies, and amplify public engagement to align with the Ministry's objectives. He highlighted the potential of 'Bharat Organics', encouraging its promotion through the lens of health and wellness, and leveraging social media as the most effective platform to reach a wider audience. He further recommended creating short-form content like reels and YouTube videos to creatively showcase the Ministry's initiatives and their real-world impact. All officials and stakeholders were directed to develop a comprehensive action plan for greater social media presence and inclusive outreach among cooperative societies and beneficiaries. The meeting was attended by Shri Anand Kumar Jha, Joint Secretary, Shri Kapil Meena, Director, senior officials of the Ministry, and representatives from national-level cooperative federations.



A two-day National-Level Workshop and Review Meeting held on 08th and 09th October 2025 at Tirupati



A two-day national-level workshop and review meeting on 08th & 09th October 2025 focusing on initiatives to strengthen the cooperative sector was inaugurated by Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. The event brings representatives from state and union territory govts, secretaries and registrars of cooperative societies, national cooperative federations, as well as key stakeholders from the cooperative sector. The sessions aim to review ongoing efforts and foster collaboration among all stakeholders to further enhance the impact of cooperative initiatives across the country.

Ministry, NABARD chart revival plan for Co-operative Banks in Agri Credit

Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC, chaired a high-level virtual meeting with NABARD to discuss the declining share of cooperative banks in agricultural credit and to explore strategic measures to reverse this trend on 24th October 2025 at New Delhi. During the meeting, Dr. Bhutani emphasized the need for strengthening the cooperative credit structure, enhancing digital and institutional capacities, and promoting policy interventions to increase the flow of agricultural credit through cooperatives. He also mentioned that cooperative banks—especially the three-tier structure comprising State Cooperative Banks (StCBs), District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs), and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)—form the backbone of rural credit delivery. With their deep roots in villages and community-based approach, these institutions have historically ensured access to affordable finance for small and marginal farmers. However, their share in agricultural credit has eroded significantly in recent decades, necessitating immediate institutional and policy action. The participants reviewed the status of agricultural lending by cooperatives and discussed ways to modernize the cooperative credit structure through digital integration, professional training, and improved coordination across all levels.



Recent studies highlight the depth of the problem. Cooperative banks' share in short-term agricultural credit, which was around 66% in 1995–96, dropped to about 59% by 2021–22, according to research published by NABARD. Other analyses show that their overall share in agricultural lending has fallen from nearly 86% in the early 1970s to below 20% in recent years. The decline has been attributed to a combination of factors—limited capital base, outdated technology, weak governance, and competition from commercial and regional

rural banks. To reverse the trend, the meeting underscored four key strategies. First, the accelerated computerisation and digital linkage of PACS with district and state cooperative banks, an initiative already being implemented under the Centrally Sponsored Project for PACS Computerisation. Second, institutional capacity-building and staff training to improve risk management and governance. Third, targeted policy interventions and incentives to enhance cooperatives' ability to lend to small and marginal farmers. And fourth, diversification of PACS into non-credit activities—such as input supply, storage, and marketing to improve financial viability. The discussion reflected a shared understanding between MOC and NABARD that revitalising cooperatives is essential for achieving inclusive and sustainable agricultural growth, ensuring that the benefits of rural credit reach the farmers who need the most. The meeting was attended by Shri Pankaj Kumar Bansal, Additional Secretary, MOC; Shri Raman Kumar, Joint Secretary, MOC; Shri Shaji KV, Chairman, NABARD; along with senior officials from both organizations. (Source: Indian Cooperative)

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