

5th Foundation Day of the Ministry of Cooperation on 06th July 2026: Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah Unveils Vision for Globally Competitive Co-op Sector



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah said the Ministry of Cooperation has, in its first five years, laid a strong foundation for building a modern, transparent, technology-driven, and globally competitive cooperative sector at the Ministry's 5th Foundation Day celebrations on 06th July 2026 at New Delhi. He described the period as a "golden phase" for cooperatives and expressed confidence that the sector would become a major pillar of Viksit Bharat by 2047. He highlighted the creation of a National Cooperative Database (NCD) covering over 32 crore members and 8.58 lakh cooperative societies, the establishment of nine national cooperative societies, and significant progress in computerization of PACS, with nearly 50,000 e-PACS operational, 55,000 PACS are now

providing Common Service Centre services, while many have expanded into Kisan Samruddhi Kendras and Jan Aushadhi Kendras. Reforms in cooperative banking, including digital banking, e-KYC and cybersecurity, have strengthened District Cooperative Banks by increasing business volumes and reducing NPAs. He also emphasized initiatives such as the proposed Tribhuvan Cooperative University, promotion of Bharat Beej Sahakari Samiti Ltd., and expansion of cooperatives into organic farming, bio-fertilisers, renewable energy, and rural logistics. During the event, several new digital initiatives and infrastructure projects were launched, reaffirming the govts commitment to making cooperatives a key driver of inclusive rural development and economic growth.

Progress of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerisation of ARDBs

The Scheme involves computerisation of 1851 operational units of LTCCS as below:

1. Head Office of SCARDBs	-	13
2. Controlling/Supervising Offices of SCARDBs	-	126
3. Branches of SCARDBs	-	619
4. PCARDBs	-	606
5. Branches of PCARDBs	-	487
Total	-	1851

Outlay of Components of the Scheme

1. Hardware units	-	4127 @ ₹1.53 lakhs each
2. Digitisation	-	₹ 24.03 crores
3. Support System	-	₹ 16.80 crores
4. Customisation of Software	-	₹ 15.51 crores
Total Outlay	-	₹ 119.40 crores

The implementation of the scheme which was originally scheduled to be completed during 2025-26 has now been extended till March 2027. Out of 13 fully functional SCARDBs the scheme is currently implemented in 10 banks excluding Kerala, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir SCARDBs. Kerala SCARDB is yet to receive administrative approval for the scheme from the state govt. Computerisation scheme with financial support from state govt is nearing completion in West Bengal SCARDB. The bank has requested to Ministry of Cooperation and NABARD for permission to continue with the software already developed specially for ARDBs in West Bengal at a cost of about ₹ 6.00 crores and to integrate the same with the national network and data centre being developed under the central sector scheme for computerisation of



ARDBs. The Govt of India and NABARD are requested to take a decision in this regard. A similar request has also come from Gujarat SCARDB where the software with core banking solutions was developed only about 2 years back which meets all the requirements of the bank. Gujarat SCARDB also requested for using the existing software by integrating with national network and database being developed under the central sector scheme.

1) Software

- The Scheme envisaged using common software developed for computerisation of PACSs, by ARDBs also with required changes.
- The Intellect Informatics Ltd, Hyderabad which developed Common Software for PACS was engaged by NABARD for customisation as per requirements of ARDBs.
- However, Intellect Informatics could not make much progress even after 2 years in finalising software in any State.
- Govt of India, in June 2026 cancelled the contract given to the Intellect Informatics and has constituted a Committee consisting of representatives of Govt of India, select State Govts, NABARD, Federation and NIC to recommend available options to finalise a new Vendor for developing Common Software.
- The Committee in its meeting on 15th July 2026 decided that the technical team of NABARD will study the Software used by ARDBs in Karnataka, Gujarat, Haryana and West Bengal and will prepare and

submit to MOC by 20th July 2026 the final Draft Request for Proposal (RFP) consisting of precise scope of work, core technical aspects and templates for project costing for floating tenders for Vendor finalisation for developing Common Software.

- In view of delay in developing Common Software, for which a new vendor is expected to be selected shortly, the implementation period of the scheme is likely to be extended by one more year.

2) Hardware

- Overall 75% of Hardware procurement has been completed in various States with financial support of Central and State Govts under the Scheme.

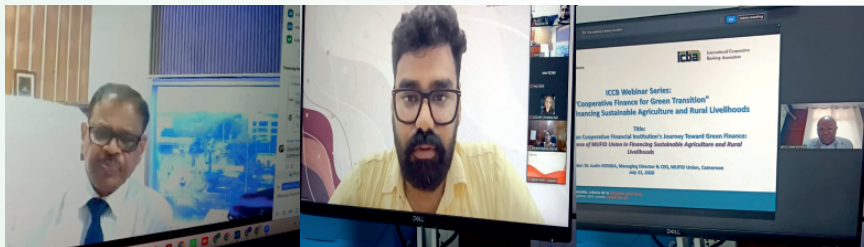
3) Digitisation

- Digitisation of legacy data is an important part of the Computerisation scheme. It has now been decided that SCARDBs themselves will act as System Integrators for digitisation once the new Software becomes ready.

4) Including Kerala in the Scheme

- Kerala did not join the Scheme for want of State Govt's approval.
- The new Government in Kerala is positive in giving administrative approval.
- In the meeting of Managing Director, Federation and Managing Director, Kerala SCARDB with Additional Secretary (CTP) on 22nd July 2026, the Ministry agreed to extend the scheme to Kerala subject to Govt of Kerala issuing administrative approval for implementing the Scheme.

ICA-AP Webinar on Financing Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods



The ICA-AP Credit & Banking Committee organized a Webinar on "Financing Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods". Dr. Justin Bomda, Managing Director & CEO of MUFID Union, Cameroon was the main Speaker in the first part of the Webinar held on 21st July 2026. MUFID Union is a countrywide network of micro-finance institution in Cameroon. Dr. Bomda shared his experience of MUFID Union in promoting sustainable agriculture and rural livelihoods. Chairman of ICA-AP Credit & Banking Committee Shri K.K. Ravindran (Managing Director, NAFCARD); Mr. Bhima Subrahmanyam, Chairman, ICBA and Mr. Balu Iyer, Regional Director, ICA-AP also addressed the Webinar, highlighting core aspects of Financing Sustainable Agriculture. Mr. Naveen Kumar, Secretary, ICCB was the Moderator of the Webinar.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurated world's largest yogurt/curd production plant on 19th July 2026 in Kolkata, West Bengal



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the world's largest yogurt/curd production plant under the ₹700 crore Amul Bengal Dairy Project on 19th July 2026 in Kolkata, marking a major milestone in White Revolution 2.0.

Review meeting on 'The Proposed Cooperative Life Insurance Initiative' on 13th July 2026 at New Delhi



Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC reviewed the progress of the proposed Cooperative Life Insurance entity and issues related to IFFCO Tokio General Insurance on 13th July 2026 at New Delhi.



Himachal Pradesh SCARDB introduces three OTS schemes for farmers



Shri Sanjay Singh Chauhan, Chairman, Himachal Pradesh SCARDB on 21st July 2026 launched three One-Time Settlement (OTS) schemes, valid up to 31st December 2026, to provide financial relief to farmers and improve loan recoveries at Shimla. The schemes include 50% interest subvention by the State govt for 6,359 agricultural borrowers, a 25% waiver of outstanding interest on eligible old loan accounts sanctioned up to 31st March 2016, and a concessional interest scheme for land purchase loans. The Bank expects these initiatives to strengthen recoveries and support farmers with the Agricultural Loan Interest Subvention Scheme being the first such initiative introduced by the Himachal Pradesh govt.

74th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Kheti Bank and celebrations on completion of 75 years of dedicated service to farming community



Gujarat SCARDB held 74th AGM on 09th July 2026 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat with Shri Acharya Devvrat, Governor of Gujarat as the chief guest. On the occasion, Shri Dolar Kotecha, Chairman, Gujarat SCARDB highlighted the bank's outstanding financial performance in 2025-26, achieving 0% Net NPA, a Gross Profit of ₹111 crore, and Net Profit of ₹81 crore. He appreciated the establishment of the MOC and the cooperative sector reforms, including ARDB computerization. Commemorating the milestone of 75 years, several landmark initiatives were inaugurated, reaffirming Bank's commitment to the economic empowerment and development of Gujarat's farmers.

SCARDBs Celebrate Cooperative Week and 5th Foundation Day of the MOC on 06th July 2026

Member banks conducted activities like seminar/ panel discussion, cooperative chaupal/ melas, loan melas, awareness camps, cooperation and banking quiz competitions, tree plantation drives, sapling distribution, health and blood donation camps, cleanliness drives, yoga camps, poster-making competitions, notebook distribution, honouring meritorious students, Nasha Mukti Abhiyaan, etc. These initiatives were conducted across several districts in Gujarat, Karnataka, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Delhi, and West Bengal, witnessing active participation from members, farmers, students, and the general public, thereby reinforcing the cooperative movement and enhancing grassroots outreach.

Gujarat SCARDB



Karnataka SCARDB





Haryana SCARDB



Himachal Pradesh SCARDB



Punjab SCADB



Delhi SCB



West Bengal SCARDB



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