

NAFCARD Board Meeting, Annual General Meeting and Workshop on Restructuring of ARDBs



NAFCARD held its 185th Board Meeting and Annual General Meeting on 31st August 2026 at Hotel Holiday Inn, Jaipur. A Workshop on Restructuring of ARDBs was also held in conjunction with the Board Meeting. These events were hosted by Rajasthan RSBVB under the guidance of Administrator Shri Rajendra Kumar Meena and Managing Director Shri Jitendra Prasad. The Board Meeting was chaired by Shri Dolar Kotecha, Chairman, NAFCARD and was attended by other senior members including Dr. Bijender Singh, Delhi; Shri Sanjay Singh Chauhan, Himachal Pradesh; Shri Dalip Singh Yadav, Haryana; Dr. Vivek Singh Tomar, Uttar Pradesh; Adv. Shri C.K. Shajimohan, Kerala; Shri Subhash Chand Kalsana, Haryana etc. The Board in this meeting reviewed the progress of ongoing major initiatives in the sector including Central Sector Scheme for Computerisation, Restructuring and Reforms recommended in the study undertaken by the MOC through NABCONS etc. The Board observed that there is significant delay in finalizing the Common Software as part of Computerisation scheme and resolved to request NABARD which is the implementing agency and MOC to address this issue on priority. The Board in this meeting approved a ranking framework to evaluate the performance of member banks every year and selecting banks for its annual awards for outstanding performance. The meeting also considered the issue of exclusion of ARDBs from the benefits of interest subvention and credit guarantee support under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and requested Govt of India & NABARD to consider the long pending demand for extending AIF to ARDBs positively.

NAFCARD also organized a Workshop on 'Restructuring of ARDBs' in conjunction with the Board Meeting, which was attended by 22 delegates from member banks in various States. The workshop welcomed the proposal to consider sustainably viable ARDBs for giving banking license, but requested to take a cautious approach with regards to merger of currently viable SCARDBs and PCARDBs with SCBs and DCCBs, respectively and also liquidation of unviable PCARDBs on account of its unaffordable financial impact on SCARDBs and State Govts.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah unveils new Umbrella framework to transform UCB on 08th August 2026 at Mumbai, Maharashtra





Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah has unveiled a major technology and institutional push to modernise India's Urban Cooperative Banks (UCB), launching the Security Operations Centre (SOC) and 'Bank in a Box' services under the National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC) at the 'Sahkar Nav-Kranti' programme on 08th August 2026 at Mumbai. Maharashtra's Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde; Union Ministers of State for Cooperation Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar and Shri Murlidhar Mohol; Maharashtra Cooperation Minister Shri Babasaheb Patil; other state ministers; Cooperation Secretary Shri Ashish Kumar Bhutani; NUCFDC Chairman Shri Jyotindra Mehta; representatives of UCB federations from various states and other dignitaries associated with the sector were present at the programme.

Shri Amit Shah highlights Shri Narendra Modi's 12-Year farm push



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah has highlighted what he described as an uninterrupted series of major agricultural and livestock initiatives launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi between 2014 and 2026, presenting them as the foundation of India's rural transformation. Shri Shah listed the Gokul Mission in 2014, Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and Soil Health Card in 2015, PM Fasal Bima Yojana and e-NAM in 2016, Kisan Sampada Yojana in 2017 and higher MSP in 2018. PM-KISAN followed in 2019, while the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and Matsya Sampada Yojana were launched in 2020. He cited the creation of the Ministry of Cooperation in 2021, Kisan Samridhhi

Kendras in 2022, the International Year of Millets in 2023, the National Mission on Edible Oils in 2024 and Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana in 2025. He also mentioned foodgrain procurement at MSP had reached its highest level in recent years, MSP increase of 130% for bajra, 103% for mustard, 84% for wheat, 120% for cotton and 168% for jowar. (Source: Indian Cooperative)

NAFED, NCCF Power Co-operative Push for Pulse, Maize Self-Reliance

NAFED, NCCF Power Co-operative Push for Pulse, Maize Self-RelianceThe Govts Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is promoting domestic production of pulses and maize, with NAFED and NCCF strengthening farmer registration, assured procurement and market linkages. Over 44.09 lakh farmers have registered on NCCF's e-Samyukti portal and more than 15.84 lakh on NAFED's e-Samridhi portal. The large-scale registration reflects the growing role of the two national-level cooperative organisations in bringing farmers into an organised procurement framework. Through their respective digital platforms and procurement networks, NCCF and NAFED are helping create



a mechanism under which pre-registered farmers can receive assured procurement of their produce at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). This provides farmers greater certainty over market access and price realisation even before they take their produce to the market. The initiative aims to boost production of tur, urad and masur, reduce import dependence, and promote maize cultivation to support the country's Ethanol Blending Programme. (Source: Indian Cooperative)

Co-ops Celebrate 80th Independence Day with Patriotic Fervour across India

Cooperatives across India celebrated the 80th Independence Day on 15th August, 2026 with great enthusiasm, reaffirming their commitment to nation-building and the cooperative movement. From national-level institutions to state, district and village cooperatives, the Tricolour was unfurled at offices and campuses as members, employees and cooperative leaders came together to mark the occasion with patriotic zeal. Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) across the country also celebrated the occasion with enthusiasm, demonstrating the deep-rooted presence of the cooperative movement in rural India. As the nation commemorated 80 years of independence, the cooperative fraternity showcased its collective commitment to strengthening communities, empowering farmers and contributing to the vision of a developed and self-reliant India. (Source: Indian Cooperative)

Kheti Bank Celebrates the 80th Independence Day on 15th August 2026 in Ahmedabad



Gujarat SCARDB celebrated Independence day under the leadership of Shri Dolar Kotecha, Chairman with flag hoisting by Shri Kiritbhai Patel, CGM on 15th August 2026 at Ahmedabad. A Tiranga Rally was organised from banks HO on Ashram Road to Sanyas Ashram with active participation from bank employees and general public.



NCDC (Amendment) Bill, 2026 Passed by the Parliament



The Rajya Sabha passed the National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2026 on 12th August 2026, completing Parliament's approval of the legislation marking a major step forward in strengthening and modernizing cooperative infrastructure. The Bill seeks to strengthen NCDC's role in cooperative development and provide cooperatives with more direct access to institutional finance. Key provisions include enabling NCDC to provide loans and grants directly to cooperative societies, participate in their share capital with Central Govt approval, and support a wider range of cooperative development activities. The Bill also

expands eligible activities to include processed food and other edible products, covering agriculture, food processing, storage, marketing and value addition. With both Houses approving the Bill, Presidential assent and notification remain before the amended provisions come into force.

Scholarship Push to prepare Agri Youth for Farms, Startups and Cooperatives

Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched a new scholarship disbursement system for agriculture students, under which more than 6,000 students across the country received ₹21.35 crore directly through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) using the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism on 10th August 2026 at ICAR-IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. The initiative is aimed at making scholarship payments faster, more transparent and hassle-free for students pursuing agricultural education. Under the new system, agriculture students will receive their scholarships every month directly into their bank accounts, helping them avoid delays associated with conventional disbursement mechanisms. (Source: Indian Cooperative)



RBI approves internet banking services for Kerala Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved internet banking services for Kerala State Cooperative Bank (Kerala Bank), enabling individuals, PACS and other institutions to access banking services 24x7. Member societies can undertake online RTGS and NEFT transactions, while services such as bulk payments, fund transfers and account management will be extended to govt departments, local bodies and institutions. Kerala Bank has already integrated its core banking system and introduced UPI through KB Prime and KB Prime Plus apps, recording ₹16,041.25 crore across 9.8 crore UPI transactions in the last financial year. The bank's total business stands at ₹1,28,697 crore. (Source: Indian Cooperative)

Review meeting on 'The progress of the CTP Division related to the NCP 2025' on 04th August 2026 at New Delhi



A review meeting of the progress of the CTP Division related to the National Cooperation Policy (NCP), 2025 was organized on 04th August 2026 at New Delhi, under the co-chairmanship of the Hon'ble Union Ministers of State for Cooperation Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar and Shri Murlidhar Mohol; Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC and other senior officials also attended the meeting. Discussions were held on developing modules on the subject of cooperation through NCERT,

fellowships, training programs, technology-based reforms, skill development for youth, formation of new multi-purpose PACS, dairy and fishery cooperative societies, and effective implementation of various cooperative schemes.

Review meeting on 'The Status of Implementation of Various Initiatives of the MOC' on 06th August 2026 at Patna, Bihar

Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC chaired a review meeting on 'Status of implementation of various initiatives of the MOC' on 06th August 2026 at Patna, Bihar. A detailed review of the progress of effective implementation of various schemes and initiatives of the MOC including discussions on necessary suggestions and future action plans was conducted aiming to make the cooperative movement more empowered, inclusive, and effective. The meeting was attended by Secretaries, RCS and senior officials from various Departments of Ministries.





Meeting on 'Strengthening Inter Ministerial collaboration through Reform Utsav' on 11th August 2026 at New Delhi



Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC, as the Convener of Sectoral Group of Secretaries Sub-Group 1A on Agriculture & Allied Sectors (SGoS-1A), chaired a meeting on 11th August 2026 at New Delhi, to discuss the implementation framework for Reform Utsav campaign, scheduled for 3 months from October to December 2026. The Sub-Group consists of Secretaries of the Ministries/ Departments of Cooperation, Animal

Husbandry & Dairying, Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Fisheries, Fertilizers, and Food Processing Industries. The deliberations focused on the three-stage Reform Utsav framework, Jan Manthan (Discover), Vimarsh (Deliberate) and Jan Samadhan (Deliver). The meeting was attended by secretaries and senior officials from various Departments of Ministries.

Inter-ministerial meeting on 'One Stop Shop initiatives through PACS' on 18th August 2026 at New Delhi

Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC, chaired an inter-ministerial meeting on 18th August 2026 at New Delhi, to discuss 'One Stop Shop initiative' with all constituent Departments of various Ministries. The meeting focused on leveraging the extensive rural network and digital infrastructure of PACS to deliver a wide range of govt services, schemes, products, training, and market linkages at the grassroots level. The meeting was attended by Shri Siddharth Jain, Additional Secretary, MOC, along with senior officials and representatives from various Departments of Ministries.



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7th Meeting of 'The National Level Monitoring & Implementation Committee on Computerization of PACS' on 20th August 2026 at New Delhi



Under the chairmanship of Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC a meeting on 'Computerization of PACS' was organized on 20th August 2026 at New Delhi. Key points of the meeting included Project progress; Operation of new PACS; Human Resources (HR) policy; Providing loans to farmers; Mobile application and SMS alerts; Changes and resolutions as per need; Policy for formation of auditor panel for 3 years and Emphasis on supply of

hardware for Phase-2 of the project. Shri Siddharth Jain, Additional Secretary, MOC; senior officials from NITI Aayog; NABARD; Registrars (RCS) and Cooperation Department of various states also participated in the meeting.

Review meeting on 'Ranking Framework for DCCBs' on 21st August 2026 at New Delhi

Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, MOC reviewed the proposed Ranking Framework for District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) on 21 August 2026 at New Delhi. The framework will assess the DCCBs on five broad parameters covering Financial Performance, Activities / Services, Infrastructure & Assets, Audit Status, and Profile. The meeting was attended by Shri Shiv Pal Singh, Joint Secretary; Shri Kumar Ram Krishna, Director, MOC; and other senior officials. The framework aims to establish an objective and transparent mechanism for assessing DCCB performance, identifying areas for improvement, and encouraging healthy competition and the adoption of best practices. It will also facilitate the recognition and showcasing of top-performing cooperative institutions.



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