

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2244  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2022**

**Primary Agricultural Credit Societies**

**2244: SHRI P. RAVINDHRANATH:**

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

- a) whether the Government has decided to computerize all Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) across the country with the aim to increase efficiency, transparency and accountability, if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the Government has also planned to increase the number of PACSs to cover all villages and to ensure credit facility to more number of farmers; and
- c) if so, the details thereof and the actions taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION  
सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a): A project for Computerization of 63,000 functional Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), with a total financial outlay of ₹2,516 Crore has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs vide its decision dated 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. This project entails bringing all the functional PACS onto an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) based common software, linking them with NABARD through State Cooperative Banks (StCBs) and District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs). Computerization of PACS will provide various benefits such as increasing the efficiency of their operations, ensuring speedy disbursement of loans, lowering of transaction costs, reducing imbalances in payments, seamless accounting with DCCBs and StCBs and increasing transparency. Implementation of Common Accounting System (CAS) and Management Information System (MIS) would enable PACS to carry out their operations online and obtain refinance/ loans from NABARD through DCCBs and StCBs.

(b) to (c): Yes, Sir. There are nearly 95,000 Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) as against 2,55,643 Panchayats and 6,62,750 villages in the country. As per the Allocation of Business Rules, 1961, one of the mandates of the Ministry is “Strengthening of cooperative movement in the country and deepening its reach up to the grassroots”. Model Byelaws for PACS have also been prepared after consultation with various stakeholders including States/Union Territories Administration which will allow PACS to diversify their income streams, enabling them to avail more credit facilities, in turn benefitting their members, which are primarily farmers.

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