

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.322
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/07/2022

Registration of Agricultural Societies

322. **Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:**

Will the Minister of **Cooperation** be pleased to state

- (a) whether many agricultural cooperative societies were not registered, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether there should be transparency in administration, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Central Government is all set to bring in model bylaws to govern around 63,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) across the country and proposing to formulate a national level policy for cooperatives, if so, the details thereof and progress made, State-wise also?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION

सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a): For any society to function as a Cooperative Society, it needs to be registered either under the State/UT Cooperative Acts or under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002. The Cooperative Societies functioning only in one particular State/UT are governed by the laws of the respective State/UT Government and the cooperative societies functioning in more than one state are governed by the central law, namely, 'the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 (39 of 2002)'. Any issues related to their registration, administration, etc. are to be dealt as per the respective law as above. It is to mention that Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are registered and administered under the respective State Cooperative Laws.

(b) & (c): A centrally sponsored project for Computerization of 63,000 PACS has been launched to further help them in their digitalization and end-to-end automation of their businesses, which will bring transparency in its administration and enhance trustworthiness in the working of PACS.

In order to make Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) multipurpose vibrant business entities, draft model bye-laws are being prepared in consultation with the State Governments, National Cooperative Federations and all other stakeholders. These Draft Model Bye-Laws contain various provisions for bringing professionalism, transparency and accountability in their operation.

The Government is also formulating a new national level policy for cooperatives and two-day National Conference on new Cooperation Policy was held on 12th and 13th April, 2022 with Cooperation Secretaries/ RCSs from all the States/UTs, wherein discussions were inter alia held on legal framework, identification of regulatory, policy & operational barriers; ease of doing business; reforms for strengthening governance; promoting new and social cooperatives; revitalizing defunct ones; making cooperatives vibrant economic entities; cooperation among cooperatives and increasing membership of cooperatives.
