

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4939
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1st APRIL, 2025**

Sahakar Mitra Internship Yojana

**4939. Smt. Vijaylakshmi Devi:
Shri Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar:**

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

- (a) the steps being taken to enable students from rural and economically weaker section to avail opportunities of internship under the scheme;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to increase internship seats based on demands from students particularly belonging to rural and agricultural sectors;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any partnership has been signed for strengthening cooperative sector between the Sahkar Mitra Internship Yojana and other major programmes of the Government like the Startup India, AtmaNirbhar Bharat or the digital India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
सहकारिता मंत्री (SHRI AMIT SHAH)**

(a) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), a statutory corporation under the administrative control of Ministry of Cooperation, launched Sahakar Mitra Internship Scheme with the objective to provide work related learning experience in the core and special fields of functioning of NCDC to students of professional courses and to project contribution and achievements of NCDC in the development of cooperative. The scheme is open to students of all background.

(b)&(c) Considering the requirement of the NCDC, the present intake capacity of intern under the scheme is 180 in a year. The requirement is reviewable from time to time as per need.

(d)&(e) The Sahakar Mitra Internship Scheme contributes significantly to the development of the cooperative sector in the country in several ways. It helps promote and enable young professional graduates to take on leadership and entrepreneurial roles within Farmers

Producer Organizations (FPOs) organized under the Cooperative Act. The scheme also orients these graduates to the cooperative business model, encouraging them to engage in the establishment of start-up cooperatives. Additionally, the scheme provides valuable assistance to cooperatives in need by helping them prepare business plans and projects, thereby strengthening their operational capacities and fostering growth within the sector. There has been no partnership so far.

The Sahakar Mitra Internship Scheme aims to support the socio-economic development of the country by enabling cooperative institutions to benefit from the innovative ideas of young professionals while providing interns with valuable field experience.
