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Cooperatives to push rural economy: PM

Cooperatives to push rural economy: PM

Modi Bats For Protecting The Interests Of Small Farmers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Asserting that cooperatives are being made a strong aspect of rural economy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said they are being scaled up in fisheries and different sectors of agriculture after making a mark in dairy and sugar industries.

Interacting virtually with beneficiaries of the ongoing 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', the PM batted for protecting the interests of small farmers, saying they are at

times forced to sell their produce at low prices due to a lack of storage facilities and his government will boost storage capacity massively across the country. "We have to build lakhs of such storage facilities," he said.

With the Yatra seeking to cover those so far left out of his government's flagship welfare schemes, he said the change in the lives of crores of beneficiaries of these programmes in the last 10 years has been a story of courage, satisfaction and dreams.

Modi said it has been a great source of satisfaction for him to see the self-confidence of people when he interacts with them. It has been not even 50 days since the Yatra began and it is a record that it has already covered 2.5 lakh villages, he said.

During the Yatra, he said,



PM Narendra Modi addresses the beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra via a video conference in New Delhi on Wednesday

one crore people have been given 'Ayushman' cards to benefit from the government-run health insurance scheme for the poor. 1.25 crore people have undergone health check-ups while more than 70 lakh were inspected for tuberculosis.

Taking a swipe at previous dispensations, he said if the situation seen during their tenure had prevailed now, the prospective beneficiaries of these schemes would have lost their hopes.

There is no nepotism and bribery now to get these bene-

fits, he said, adding, "Modi is like family to you. You don't need any connection."

In the 10 years of his government, 10 crore women have joined self-help groups across the country and have been given Rs 7.5 lakh crore through banks, he said, adding that it is his dream to make two crore women 'lakh-pati'. This is boosting the rural economy, he added.

The PM said his government's proactive outreach to people is meant to assure them that its schemes are available to all without any favour or discrimination. "I am searching for people who have been left out," he said.

Highlighting the campaign to organise small farmers, he spoke about efforts to expand FPOs (Farmer Producer Organisations) and cooperative enterprises like

PACS (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies).

It is our endeavour that cooperatives emerge as a strong part of rural life in India," he said, citing its benefits in milk and sugarcane sectors.

"Now it is being expanded to other areas of farming and sectors like fish production also. We are moving ahead with the target of creating new PACS in two lakh villages in the coming time," Modi said.

Since the Yatra's launch on November 15, it was the fourth time that Modi interacted with its beneficiaries and addressed them.

The programme is also seen as a key aspect of Modi's welfare agenda as he seeks a third straight term in office in the Lok Sabha elections, due in April-May next year.



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Govt to strengthen coops for farmers' benefit: Modi

Govt to strengthen coops for farmers' benefit: Modi

■ Centre targets formation of 2 lakhs coop societies

SHASHI BHUSHAN |DC
NEW DELHI, DEC. 27

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) aims to reach out to all those who have been left behind by the government's welfare schemes.

Interacting virtually with beneficiaries of the ongoing 'Yatra', the Prime Minister said he was looking for such people who are yet to be included under these welfare schemes.

He pointed out that the aim of the Yatra was to reach people who, due to some reason or the other, have been deprived of the benefits of schemes. "It has not been even 50 days since the Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra started, but till now it has reached 2.25 lakh villages. This is a record in itself," Mr Modi said.

"This proactive outreach to people is meant to



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra via video conferencing in New Delhi on Wednesday. —PTI

assure them that government schemes are available to all, without any favour or discrimination," Mr Modi said.

Elaborating on the campaign to organise small farmers, the PM talked about Farmer Producer

Organisations (FPOs) and cooperative enterprises like the primary agriculture cooperatives (PACs). "It is our endeavour that cooperation emerges as a strong aspect of rural life in India. Till now, we have seen the benefits of cooper-

ation in the milk and sugarcane sectors. Now it is being expanded to other areas of farming and sectors like fish production. We are moving ahead with the target of creating new PACS in two lakh villages soon," Mr Modi said. ■ P7



Govt to strengthen coops for farmers' benefit: Modi

FROM P1

He also talked about the proposals for promoting cooperative solutions in dairy and storage. "Efforts are also being made to strengthen more than two lakh micro industries in the food processing sector," he added.

The PM further noted the unprecedented confidence among the beneficiaries and said: "Every beneficiary across the country has a story about the changes in their lives in the last 10 years. It is a story full of courage."

"These benefits are pushing the beneficiaries to make their lives even better. Today, millions of beneficiaries of the country are using the government schemes as a medium to move ahead," he said.

He said that wherever the "Modi ki Guarantee ki Gaadi" is going, it is increasing people's confidence and fulfilling the hopes of the people.

The PM pointed out that

many new people were getting the benefits and stressed the responsibility of representatives of local bodies, asking them to identify every eligible person in villages, wards, cities and localities.

He informed the audience that to give impetus to the rural economy, the government was running a huge campaign to provide self-employment to women in villages and in past years, about 10 crore sisters, daughters and "didis" in the country have joined self-help groups.

The Prime Minister mentioned that these sisters and daughters have been provided assistance of more than Rs 7.5 lakh crores by banks. "To further expand this campaign, I have set a target of creating two crore 'Lakhpati Didis' in the next three years," he announced and also mentioned the "Namo Drone Didi Yojana" that will enhance the confidence of rural women.



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PM: Co-ops will be big part of villages

PM: Co-ops will be big part of villages

Viksit Bharat to reach all those 'left behind'

SHASHI BHUSHAN | DC
with agency inputs
NEW DELHI, DEC. 27

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said his government is working to make cooperatives a strong aspect of rural life. He said they are being scaled up in fisheries and different sectors of agriculture after making a mark in dairy and sugar industries.

Engaging with beneficiaries during a virtual interaction of the ongoing 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' (VBSY), the Prime Minister expressed his dedication to identifying those yet to be encompassed by these welfare initiatives. He declared that the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' is actively seeking individuals excluded from government welfare schemes.

Elaborating on the efforts to organise small farmers, the Prime Minister discussed the establishment of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and cooperative enterprises like Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS).

"It is our endeavour that cooperation emerges as a strong aspect of rural life in India. We have seen the

MODI FOR SMALL FARMERS

PM says...

- It has been not even 50 days since the yatra began and it is a record that it has already covered 2.5 lakh villages.
- One crore people have been given 'Ayushman' cards to benefit from the government-run health insurance scheme for the poor.
- 1.25 crore people have undergone health check-ups while more than 70 lakh were inspected for tuberculosis.
- There is no nepotism and bribery now to get these benefits.



It is our endeavour that cooperation emerges as a strong aspect of rural life in India. We have seen the benefits of cooperation in the milk and sugarcane sectors, and now it is being expanded to other areas of farming.

— NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

benefits of cooperation in the milk and sugarcane sectors, and now it is being expanded to other areas of farming and sectors like fish production. We are moving ahead with the target of creating new PACS in two lakh villages in the coming time," said Modi.

■ Page 8: Modi: Will promote co-ops in dairy, storage



WILL PROMOTE CO-OPS IN DAIRY, STORAGE: MODI

FROM PAGE 1

Prime Minister also highlighted proposals for promoting cooperative solutions in dairy and storage, along with efforts to strengthen over two lakh micro-industries in the food processing sector. He emphasised that the goal of 'VBSY' is to extend support to individuals who, for various reasons, have been excluded from government schemes. The Prime Minister asserted that this campaign, aligned with the vision of a developed India, is continuously expanding.

"It has not even been 50 days since the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra started, but it has already reached 2.25 lakh villages. This is a record in itself," stated Modi, expressing gratitude to everyone, especially women and youth, for contributing to its success.

He highlighted the Yatra's purpose, aiming to reach individuals who, due to specific reasons, have missed out on the benefits of Government of India schemes.

"This proactive outreach is intended to assure people that government schemes are accessible to all without any bias or discrimination, and I am actively searching for those who have been overlooked," Modi said. Modi underscored the unprecedented confidence among beneficiaries, acknowledging their stories of positive life changes in the past decade.



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Rahul Dutta

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Empowering lives our mission: Modi

Empowering lives our mission: Modi

RAHUL DUTTA ■ NEW DELHI

From farmers to members of self-help groups, Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with a diverse group of beneficiaries of various government schemes on Wednesday as part of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

The yatra is being undertaken across the country with the aim of achieving saturation of flagship government schemes, ensuring that the benefits reach all targeted beneficiaries in a timely manner. Prime Minister Modi connected with a diverse group of beneficiaries participating in the Sankalp Yatra through video conferencing.

The event saw thousands of participants from various corners of the country, including Union ministers, MPs, MLAs, and local representatives.

According to an official statement, the Prime Minister began by acknowledging Sapna Prajapati from Kota, Rajasthan, a beneficiary of the SVANidhi scheme who played a crucial role in mask-making during the pandemic. Praising her for her digital business transactions, Modi highlighted her group's promotion of millets, an initiative applauded by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. Modi encouraged women



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with the beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra via video conferencing in New Delhi on Wednesday PTI

entrepreneurs like Sapna to leverage the Vishwakarma Scheme and contribute to the success of "Modi ki Guarantee ki Gaadi".

"Your collective 'Matru Shakti' will take you to new heights, and I ask all of you 'didis' to make 'Modi ki Guarantee ki Gaadi' a great success by informing people about the benefits they can avail," Modi was quoted as saying in the statement.

Continuing the engagement, he greeted Harikrishnan, a farmer from Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu, who has successfully embraced modern agricultural practices.

The farmer, a beneficiary of various government schemes, including Ayushman Bharat Yojana, commended the introduction of Nano Urea and the support provided by the government.

Modi reiterated the government's commitment to stand with farmers and appreciated their adoption of modern techniques, according to the statement.

Further, the Prime Minister extended greetings to Gurdev Singh from Haridwar, involved in both farming and fisheries. Singh shared his success story under the Matsya Sampada Yojna, which doubled his income.

Emphasising the importance of animal husbandry, fisheries, and the blue revolution, Modi reiterated the government's commitment to augmenting farm income through innovative practices. In another inspiring story, Rubina Khan from Dewas, Madhya Pradesh, a member of a self-help group, shared her entrepreneurial journey.

Continued on Page 2



Empowering lives our mission...

From Page 1

With a loan from her SHG, Rubina transitioned from a labourer to a successful businesswoman, contributing to pandemic relief efforts by making masks and sanitizer.

The Prime Minister applauded her confidence and pledged to make two crore women from SHGs 'lakhpati,' emphasising the role of SHGs in fostering self-reliance.

The session continued with Arjun Singh, a tea garden worker from Tripura, who transformed his life through various government schemes like PM Awas, Ujjwala, and free toilets.

Expressing satisfaction, Modi highlighted the ease with which beneficiaries like Arjun are availing the benefits, reflecting the success of the government's initiatives.

The Prime Minister underscored the importance of the confidence displayed by women entrepreneurs and beneficiaries, emphasising that their empowerment is integral to making the nation self-reliant.

He said his government is working to make cooperatives a strong part of rural life, asserting that they are being scaled up massively in sectors like agriculture and fisheries after making a mark in fields such as dairy and sugar production.

Modi said the change in the lives of crores of beneficiaries of his government's welfare schemes in the last 10 years has been a story of courage, satisfaction, and dreams.

During the yatra, he said one crore people have been given 'Ayushman' cards, a health insurance scheme run by the government for the poor; 1.25 crore people have undergone health check-ups, while more than 70 lakh have been inspected for tuberculosis.

Taking a swipe at previous dispensations, he said if the situation during their tenure had prevailed now, then prospective beneficiaries of these schemes would have lost their hopes doing rounds of government offices.

There is no nepotism and bribery now to get these benefits, he said, adding "Modi is like family to you. You don't need any connection."

In the 10 years of his government, 10 crore women have joined self-help groups across the country and have been given Rs 7.5 lakh crore through banks, he said, adding that it is his dream to make 2 crore women 'lakhpati.'

The Prime Minister said his government is working to build lakhs of storage facilities to help farmers.

He also said, "I have been told that wherever this Vikas Yatra reaches, stalls and shops of local products and information related to it are also being given. Products made by self-help groups are also being shown there. Information is also being given through government employees regarding how they can register on the GeM portal."



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Govt working to make cooperatives strong aspect of rural life: PM Modi

Govt working to make cooperatives strong aspect of rural life: PM Modi

My dream to turn 2 cr women associated with SHGs into 'lakhpati': PM

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said his government is working to make cooperatives a strong aspect of rural life. He asserted that the cooperatives are being scaled up in fisheries and different sectors of agriculture after making a mark in the dairy and sugar industries.

In a virtual interaction with beneficiaries of the ongoing 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', he batted for protecting the interests of small farmers saying they are at times forced to sell their produce at low prices due to a lack of storage facilities and his government will boost storage capacity massively across the country.

"We have to build lakhs of such storage facilities," he said.

With the yatra seeking to cover those so far left out of his government's flagship welfare schemes, he said the change in the lives of crores of beneficiaries of these programmes



PM Modi interacts with the beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra via video conferencing, in New Delhi, on Wednesday

PTI

in the last 10 years has been a story of courage, satisfaction and dreams.

Modi said it has been a great source of satisfaction for him to see the self-confidence of people when he interacts with them. It has been not even 50 days since the yatra began and it is a record that it has already covered 2.5 lakh villages, he said.

During the yatra, he said, one crore people have been given 'Ayushman' cards to benefit from the government-run

health insurance scheme for the poor, 1.25 crore people have undergone health check-ups while more than 70 lakh were inspected for tuberculosis.

In the 10 years of his government, 10 crore women have joined self-help groups across the country and have been given Rs 7.5 lakh crore through banks, he said, adding that it is his dream to make two crore women 'lakhpati'. This is boosting the rural economy, he added.

The Prime Minister said

Highlights

- » PM Modi said that during the yatra one crore people have been given 'Ayushman' cards to benefit from the government-run health insurance scheme for the poor
- » PM batted for protecting the interests of small farmers saying they are at times forced to sell their produce at low prices due to a lack of storage facilities
- » Since the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra's launch on November 15, it was the fourth time that Modi interacted with its beneficiaries

his government's proactive outreach to people is meant to assure them that its schemes are available to all without any favour or discrimination. "I am searching for people who have been left out," he said.

Noting that the awareness about Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) cards is so far limited, he asked people to join the scheme. A new awareness about healthcare is rising in the country, he said.

Highlighting the campaign to organise small farmers, he

spoke about efforts to expand FPOs (Farmer Producer Organisations) and cooperative enterprises like PACS (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies).

Since the yatra's launch on November 15, it was the fourth time that Modi interacted with its beneficiaries and addressed them.

The programme is also seen as a key aspect of Modi's welfare agenda as he seeks a third straight term in office in the Lok Sabha elections, expected to be held in April-May next year.