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**SANDIP DAS**  
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**THE GOVERNMENT IS** aiming to computerise 70,000 primary agricultural credit societies (PACS) across 30 states and union territories in the next three years to allow these farmers-owned entities access bank credits as well as a host of other benefits.

An official with the cooperation ministry told *FE* that so far 24,000 PACS have availed the enterprise resource planning (ERPs) based common national software, which links them with NABARD through state and district cooperative banks.

“After computerisation, these village-based entities are seamlessly connected with various departments. It helps in accurate delivery of funds and subsidies through direct benefit transfer to the targeted beneficiary groups, besides providing financial services to un-banked areas and improving the efficiency of these farmers' owned entities,” an official said. Currently there are around 0.1 million PACS in the country, of which 70,000 are “active”. These have 139 million farmers as members.