

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Programme report - IYC – 2025-26

Celebration of International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) – Programme on 14.05.2025, Meghraj Block, Arvalli District

As advised by IDD, a programme was successfully organized on 14th May 2025 in collaboration with the DCCB to commemorate the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC). The event was chaired by the undersigned and brought together various stakeholders from the cooperative ecosystem in Meghraj Block.

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### Participants Included:

- Shri Naresh Patel, Assistant General Manager, DCCB
- Shri Mominbhai, Senior Staff, Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCS) Office, Arvalli
- Shri Zakir Husen, OA, DCCB
- Branch Manager, DCCB Meghraj
- Field-level staff of DCCB
- Secretaries and staff members from 17 PACS in Meghraj Block

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### Highlights of the Programme and NABARD's Address:

Representing NABARD, I had the privilege of participating in the event and interacting with all attendees. In my address, I highlighted several important initiatives being undertaken by the Government of India to strengthen the cooperative sector, with a special focus on:

- The ongoing PACS Computerisation Project
- The formation and promotion of new Multi-Purpose PACS (mPACS)
- The broader vision of revitalizing the cooperative movement across rural India

I spoke about how these initiatives are not just policy measures but are aimed at empowering rural communities by making cooperatives more efficient, transparent and member-centric.

I urged all present – whether they were PACS Secretaries, DCCB officials or cooperative leaders – to see this period as a turning point for the sector. With the right mindset, adoption of technology and a collaborative spirit, we can transform our cooperatives into modern institutions that serve rural citizens better and more effectively.

### Message from NABARD:

I reaffirmed NABARD's unwavering commitment to supporting these reforms. NABARD is not just a funding institution but a development partner that stands shoulder to shoulder with cooperatives at every stage – from planning and training to implementation and monitoring.

I encouraged everyone to work together with shared purpose and unity, and to take full advantage of the opportunities available through digitalization and structural reforms. This is a golden chance to build institutions that not only meet present-day needs but are also ready for future challenges.

During my address, I highlighted that the cooperative movement has been the backbone of the rural economy for more than a century. For crores of people in India, cooperation is not just a concept — it's a way of life. In sectors like agriculture, dairy and fisheries, cooperative societies play a vital role by offering both livelihood opportunities and a financial safety net. They operate on a community-based model, ensuring inclusivity and mutual support for rural households.

To further strengthen this system, I shared that the Ministry of Cooperation has developed Model Byelaws for Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). These byelaws are designed to empower PACS to diversify into more than 25 different business activities, extending beyond just short-term credit. This includes medium- and long-term loans, input distribution (fertilizers, seeds, pesticides), dairy, poultry, fisheries, custom hiring centers, grain procurement and storage, fair price shops, fuel dealerships, and even services like insurance, CSCs, and Bank Mitras.

By adopting these new roles, PACS are being transformed into multi-purpose, multi-functional institutions — making them vibrant grassroots economic hubs. This aligns with the vision of 'Sahakar se Samridhhi', aiming for prosperity through cooperation.





