



DDM Sabarkantha & Arvalli

Cooperative Literacy Camp – Programme Completion report - IYC – 2025-26

Celebration of International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) – Programme on 02.07.2025, Idar Block, Sabarkantha District

Participants attended the programme:

1. H M Patel, Advisor to Board
2. Zakir Husen, OA, SK BANK
3. Staff of DCCB
4. PACS secretaries
5. Field Staff of DCCB

To mark the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) 2025, a Cooperative Literacy Camp was held on 2nd July 2025 in Idar Block, Sabarkantha district. The event focused on the global theme “*Cooperatives Build a Better World*” and aimed to spread awareness about the strength of the cooperative movement in empowering communities and promoting inclusive rural development.

During the programme, the undersigned conducted a session covering the evolution, legal framework and current status of cooperatives in India. With over 100 years of history, cooperatives in India have played a major role in promoting financial inclusion, especially in rural areas. Today, the country has over 8 lakh cooperatives—accounting for more than 27% of the global total—with nearly 29 crore members. Maharashtra leads in the number of cooperatives, followed by Gujarat, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka, while Kerala stands out with the highest membership coverage at 77% of its population.

The legal foundation of the cooperative movement was explained, including key provisions of the 97th Constitutional Amendment, which made the right to form cooperatives a fundamental right and added Article 43B as a directive principle. The creation of the Ministry of Cooperation at the national level in 2021 was also highlighted as a major policy milestone.

Participants were introduced to the seven cooperative principles, such as democratic member control and concern for the community, which form the backbone of cooperative functioning. Recent government initiatives like the Computerisation of 67,000 PACS, formation of 2 lakh new multipurpose PACS, and introduction of model bye-laws to allow diverse activities were also discussed.

Special focus was given to IYC 2025 priority areas, including digital transformation, increased participation of youth and women and strengthening PACS as service hubs in the agricultural



value chain. Successful cooperative models such as Amul, IFFCO and strong PACS like Amalsad and Gadat were cited to inspire local action.

The session concluded by underlining the role of national institutions like NABARD, NCDC, NDDDB, IFFCO, and NAFED in supporting cooperative development. Participants were encouraged to actively participate in strengthening the cooperative movement to build a more equitable and resilient rural economy.



