

IYC –NABARD- Promotional Events through Cooperatives - Bio-Village/ Natural farming/ Organic Farming /Climate Smart Agriculture/Solar

Name of District and DDM	Gurpreet Singh, Barnala
Date of event	17 July 2025
Place of event	Handiaya PACS
Purpose / Objective of Event	Promotional Event/ Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam and NABARD Foundation Day celebrations
Names & Designation of participants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gurpreet Singh, DDM NABARD 2. Sh. Gurperminder Singh, LDM Barnala 3. Sh. Jaswinder Singh, Barnala BM 4. Sh Bhola Singh, President, and entire committee, the Handiaya PACS, 5. Sh Bir Devinder Singh, AGM, PADB, Sh Mukesh Garg, Manager PADB, 6. Sh Hakam Singh, Secretary PACS, and Sh Kulwant Singh CFL <p>Society members</p>
Important points discussed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NABARD's Foundation day was celebrated along with International Year of Cooperatives in the Handiaya PACS. • DDM NABARD briefed about the journey undertaken by NABARD in the last 44 years and ongoing programs including computerisation of PACS. • He also shared governments vision for the IYC. Sh Gurperminder Singh shared the message of promotion of specialized cooperatives for seeds, agri-exports etc on the lines of dairy cooperatives and need to venture into allied activities. • Basics of cooperative movement, the background of the International Year of Cooperatives and the importance of Cooperation among Cooperatives was discussed. • PACS role in rural economy was duly highlighted and need for strenghtening such grassroot level organizations was emphasized. • Importance of Natural and Organic Farming in the district to achieve the goal of sustainable agriculture especially with declining groundwater and soil health. • Discussions were held with the participants regarding the significance and role of cooperatives in financial inclusion and equitable growth. How the short-term and long-term cooperative structure ie PACS and PADBs can play a very important role in this aspect. It was shared that PADBs have already written to the state government to allow them financing for solar projects in rural households and farms.

- LDM Barnala also prompted them to take up diversified business activities to enhance the viability of PACS and also achieve the goal of sustainable agriculture.
- We need to make a promise on the World Environment Day to move towards sustainable farming practices.
- It was also discussed that with climate change being a reality as we have seen heat waves in March and floods recently in the state, it is pertinent to adopt Climate Smart Agriculture.
- And a plantation drive was held post conduct of the programme.



