



National Cooperative Union of India March Month Activities Report During the IYC 2025

Criteria	Details
Sectors covered	❖ All Cooperatives Sectors
Location	<u>State</u> ❖ Delhi-NCR ❖ Uttar Pradesh (Robertsganj, Renusagar Sonbhadra, Agra) ❖ Sikkim ❖ Gujarat ❖ Rajasthan
Event/ Activity Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ One day State Level Women Cooperative Seminar organized at Gujarat & Delhi➤ Youth Workshop / Cooperative Olympiad - Agra, Sikkim & Rajasthan➤ One Day State Level Cooperative Conference in the wake of IYC2025 at Sikkim on 29th March 2025➤ Review Cum Refresher Course For LMs/CEIs➤ Entrepreneurs Development programme (EDP)➤ Training on 'Organic Farming & Indian Cooperative for India's Better & Safe Healthy Future➤ LDP Programme for Fisheries sector➤ Training program & Field Visits in Renusagar / Robertsganj for farmers, women empowerment and other participants in the State of Uttar Pradesh➤ Awareness Programs on Digital Literacy & Cybersecurity
Brief Information on the Activity	<p>On the occasion of International Women's Day - 8th March 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Gujarat State Co-operative Union (GSCU), Ahmedabad organised a State Level Women Cooperative Seminar with the theme: "Participation of the Women Power through Cooperative Sector in the Developed India" on 5th March 2025 Conference at the auditorium of Rabindranath Tagore Hall, Paldi, Ahmedabad. Shri Ghanshyambhai Amin, an eminent National Cooperative Leader and Chairman of Gujarat State Co-operative Union was presided over the women cooperative seminar.➤ Other eminent dignitaries also graced and enriched the seminar: Shri Dileep Sanghani, President, National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and Chairman of IFFCO, Ms Aarti Bisariya, Director, National Cooperative Committee for Empowerment of Women, NCUI and Executive Committee of ICA, Guest of Seminar - Ms. Jigishaben Mehta, Managing Director, Seva Federation➤ Approximately 1300 women participants were participated from various cooperative societies of Gujarat State <p>Cooperative Olympiad - One-day State Level Youth workshop at Rajasthan, Sikkim & Agra on 11th, 27th & 28th March 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ The Olympiad was inaugurated by:



- ❖ Dr. Jaiveer Singh, Co-founder & Director of Maharani Girls College, Jaipur, Rajasthan as 'Chief Guest'
- ❖ Dr. Jagannath Patnaik, Vice-Chancellor, ICFAI University, Sikkim as 'Chief Guest'
- ❖ Shri Yuvraj Ambareesh Pal Singh, Secretary, Balwant Educational Society, Agra (Uttar Pradesh) as 'Chief Guest'
- ❖ To engage and educate young minds on cooperative principles, values, and their role in socio-economic development.
- ❖ Featured two competitive rounds: a written quiz competition and extempore, among students from various colleges in Rajasthan, Sikkim & Agra (UP), respectively.
- ❖ Provided deeper insights into the cooperative movement and its relevance in contemporary socio-economic landscapes.

One Day State Level Cooperative Conference at Sikkim State in the wake of International Year of Cooperatives (IYC2025) on 29th March 2025:

- The conference was **inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay)**, as the 'Chief Guest' and also graced by **Shri Arun Kumar Upreti, Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation & Rural Development, Government of Sikkim**, as the 'Distinguished Guest,' and **Shri Dileep Sanghani, President, NCUI**, presided over the conference.
- Other dignitaries also graced and enriched the conference : Shri Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICA-AP, Dr. Bijender Singh, Vice-President, NCUI, Shri K Sivadasan Nair, Vice-President, NCUI, the Deputy Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly; Political Secretary to HCM; Cabinet Ministers; MLAs; Advisors; the Governing Council Members of NCUI, Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, Chief Executive of NCUI, Smt Savitri Singh, Dy. Chief Executive of NCUI, Heads of Departments & Offices, Representatives from various apex organizations and line departments, members and representatives from a wide range of cooperative societies
- The 600 participants from state, district, and primary-level cooperative organizations, officials of the Cooperative Department, Sikkim State Cooperative Union, and other stakeholders associated with the cooperative movement in the State of Sikkim participated in the conference.

NCUI Celebrates International Women's Day 2025 with a Call to "Accelerate Action" on 8th March 2025, New Delhi

During the IYC2025, the United Nations' has announced the theme for International Women's Day, "Accelerate Action," to underscore the urgent need to drive gender equality, inclusion, and sustainability. The theme calls for decisive steps to empower women and girls globally while celebrating their contributions to various sectors.

During her introductory remarks, Smt. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI, emphasized the importance of empowering women through cooperatives and the need for collective action to advance gender equality.

The following dignitaries graced the event:

- **Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, IAS (Retd.), Chief Executive, NCUI**– delivered the welcome speech, highlighting NCUI's ongoing initiatives for women's development in cooperatives.
- **Dr. Bijender Singh, Vice President, NCUI**– addressed the audience on the



growing role of cooperatives in supporting women entrepreneurs.

• **Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICA – Asia Pacific**– delivered the special address, underscoring the need for policy and grassroots efforts to bridge gender disparities in cooperatives.

NCUI honored the women leaders for their remarkable contributions to the cooperative sectors:

- ✧ Mrs. Geeta Sanghani, Chairperson, Gujarat Women Credit Cooperative Society
- ✧ Mrs. Sridevi Kripasankar, Chairman, Enliven Bot AI Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
- ✧ Ms. Mumtaz Patel, D/o Ahmedbhai Patel
- ✧ Smt. Neepa Mehta, Gujarat
- ✧ Smt. Alpaba V. Chudasama, Gujarat Mahila Credit Cooperative Society, Gujarat
- ✧ Smt. Alpa Ben Ramani, Director, Amreli District Cooperative Bank, Gujarat
- ✧ Ms. Trupti Khanna, Trustee and Chief Operating Officer, Council for Agriculture and Rural Development, Delhi
- ✧ Ms. Sangita Sadhu, Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies & CEO, West Bengal State Cooperative Union, Kolkata
- ✧ Smt. Poonam Nara, Additional RCS, Haryana
- ✧ Dr. Varsha Kasturkar, Director, IFFCO

The enthusiastic participation of 300 women cooperative leaders and members from national, state, district, and primary-level cooperatives across various sectors.

International Programme on "Cooperative Governance for Women Board of Directors of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions" Marks the Celebration of International Year of Cooperatives 2025 from 19th to 22nd March 2025 at Shri D.G. Patel Cooperative Management Centre, Kamrej Char Rasta, Surat, Gujarat

Programme Objectives:

- To familiarize participants with good governance practices in cooperatives and rural financing institutions.
- To sensitize participants to the values, principles, and mission of credit cooperatives.
- To equip participants with strategic decision-making skills, board meeting management, and relevant management tools for effective governance.

The following dignitaries graced the inaugural session:

Shri G.H. Amin, Chairman, Gujarat State Cooperative Union

Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI

Shri Rajender Tiwari, Chief Executive Officer, Gujarat SCU

Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB

The participants from **Sri Lanka, Nepal, and India**, including the board members, CEOs, and senior and middle-level executives, participated in the programme. The program provided a platform for women leaders to exchange their knowledge and experiences in cooperative governance.



National Centre for Cooperative Education Training organized the following programs during march 2025:

- Review Cum Refresher Course For LMs/CEIs
- Entrepreneurs Development programme (EDP)
- Training on 'Organic Farming & Indian Cooperative for India's Better & Safe Healthy Future
- Leadership Development Programme for Fisheries sector

Field Visits to Renusagar, Sonbhadra, Robbertsganj & Sohani, Jaunpur on 1st, 02nd, & 04th March 2025 in the State of Uttar Pradesh

✓ *Purpose of the field visits:*

- the training on beauty services & stitching for self independent.
- Educate the women on National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for financial empowerment.
- The sustainable agricultural practices to farmers, volunteers and field staff.
- Create awareness about the integrated farming to enhance the agricultural productivity.
- Guidance on the governance, formation and bylaws of SHGs, Cooperatives & Farmer Producer Organisations.
- Highlight NCUI's initiatives, such as NCUI Haat, Skill Development Centre to empower entrepreneurs and promote cooperative development.

Training Session on Social vision at Najafgarh, Delhi on 11th & 12th March, 2025

- ❖ The essentials of Digital Literacy and importance of Cyber Security
- ❖ Overview on using social media applications
- ❖ Avoiding scams and fraudulent schemes
- ❖ The importance of not sharing sensitive information such as personal details and OTPs with unknown entities.
- ❖ Training on herbal gulal making by using natural ingredients for additional income

Three-day Entrepreneurial Development Program, Uttam Nagar Delhi on 11th to 13th March 2025

- ❖ To empower the women & young girls by providing the essential skills and knowledge to foster sustainable livelihoods.
- ❖ Training on jewelry, candle & dhoopbatti (incense sticks) making and also guidance, how to market their products effectively.

Noida Skill Development Centre explore cooperative Models on 19th March 2025

- ❖ Students from Noids Skill development Centre visited the NCUI Haat, Coop Kitchen & Incubation Centre, to explore & learn about the cooperative models & various initiatives of NCUI
- ❖ NCUI Haat: a platform dedicated to promoting products made by cooperative societies, self help groups, and rural artisans.
- ❖ The role of cooperative models in empowering local communities.

Objective

- To educate participants on the principles and values of cooperatives.
- To enhance social awareness regarding the role of cooperatives in



	<p>economic development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ To develop sustainable business models for cooperatives.➤ Awareness about the Government Schemes & importance of Government issued documents➤ To equip participants with effective marketing strategies.➤ To strengthen capacity-building initiatives in the cooperative sector.
No. of Activities No. of Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 16nos of Programs➤ 3066 Participants
Achievements Outcomes &	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The programs were well-received, with positive feedback from participants.➤ Future initiatives should focus on expanding outreach and incorporating digital tools for training and development.➤ Recommended to conduct follow-up sessions to assess long-term impact and effectiveness.
Photographs & AV Content	Attached
Additional Remarks	

Ved Prakash Setia
17/4

(Ved Prakash Setia)
Executive Director / Nodal Officer
NCUI



National
Cooperative
Union of India



International Year
of Cooperatives

Cooperatives Build
a Better World



International
Cooperative
Alliance

CEDC REPORT MARCH-25

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1. Field Visit to Renusagar, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh

On 1st March the team conducted a training session in Renusagar, Sonbhadra engaging 23 women associated with various Self-Help Groups (SHGs) involved in activities such as beauty services and stitching.

Sumit Singh, Advisor–Strategy and Cooperation, explained the process of forming SHGs, cooperatives, and FPOs, while also highlighting NCUI’s initiatives to empower these entities. The discussions focused on identifying reliable markets for raw materials and developing a deeper understanding of market dynamics to enhance the productivity and profitability of the women’s enterprises.

Abhishek Agrawal conducted a session on cybersecurity, emphasizing the importance of online safety and introducing various government schemes and services that could benefit the participants. As a result, 13 individuals were successfully linked to relevant government schemes.

Additionally, G.P. Singh held a “Training of Trainers” session for five selected farmers. He provided cost-effective alternatives to improve agricultural productivity. These trained farmers are expected to share their knowledge with others, thereby fostering the principles of agroecology and promoting sustainable farming practices in the community.

2. Field Visit to Robbertsganj, Uttar Pradesh

During the field visit to Robbertsganj, Uttar Pradesh, on 2nd March, the team engaged with women associated with the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). These women represented a Cluster Level Federation comprising 15 village organizations and 150 SHGs.



The participants were introduced to innovative livelihood models, including soap-making and *dhoopbatti* (incense stick) production, and received training to enhance their skills in these areas. Additionally, they were guided on improving the design elements of their products to make them more appealing and market-ready.

Discussions also focused on how NCUI could further support their efforts by providing a range of additional training programs. It was agreed that the women would visit Delhi to explore NCUI’s Incubation Centre, where they would receive hands-on training and gain insights into scaling their entrepreneurial ventures effectively. This initiative highlights NCUI’s commitment to empowering women entrepreneurs through skill development, market linkage, and innovative livelihood opportunities.

3. Field Visit to Sohani, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh

On March 4th, 2025, in Sohani, Jaunpur, it was observed that while the region had several progressive farmers, they lacked knowledge of integrated farming practices and were uncertain about suitable crop choices. To address these challenges, G.P. Singh conducted a session for the farmers, emphasizing methods to enhance their income through integrated farming. Key measures discussed included the

adoption of biogas composting, poultry farming, dairy farming, and diversification of agricultural ventures.

During the session, G.P. Singh highlighted the support available to farmers from Banaras Hindu University, such as access to quality seeds and technical assistance.

The formation of a multi-purpose society was suggested as a way to leverage the network of progressive farmers in the area, potentially serving as a model cooperative for others to emulate. Some challenges, particularly regarding government documentation, were identified and resolved on the spot, further empowering the farmers to pursue these initiatives effectively.



4. Training Session at Social Vision, Najafgarh, Delhi

On 11th and 12th March 2025, training sessions were successfully organized at Social Vision, Najafgarh, Delhi. The session witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 42 individuals, who engaged in three impactful training programs: Digital Literacy and Cyber Security, and *Gulaal* Making.

Session 1: Digital Literacy and Cyber Security

The first session, led by Abhishek Agrawal, focused on the essentials of digital literacy and the importance of cybersecurity in today's digital age. He highlighted the growing prevalence of cybercrimes and shared practical tips to safeguard oneself online. He emphasized:

- Understanding and using basic social media applications.
- Avoiding scams and fraudulent schemes.
- The importance of not sharing sensitive information such as personal details and OTPs with unknown entities.



The session was interactive and engaging, leaving participants more confident and informed about navigating the digital world safely.

Session 2: *Gulaal* Making

The second session, conducted by Rinku Thakur, introduced participants to innovative livelihood opportunities. Women learned the art of crafting herbal *gulaal* using natural ingredients, promoting sustainable practices while opening avenues for additional income, especially during festivals.

Key Takeaways and Future Plans

The training sessions were well-received, with participants expressing keen interest in implementing the knowledge and skills gained. To ensure continuous support, hand-holding assistance and advanced training sessions will be organized in collaboration with Social Vision. This initiative aims to empower women further, enabling them to achieve economic independence while contributing to environmental conservation.

5. Three-Day Entrepreneurial Development Program, Uttam Nagar

CEDC organized a three-day Entrepreneurial Development Program (EDP) in Rajapuri Camp, Uttam Nagar, from March 11th to 13th, 2025. The initiative aimed to empower women and young girls by providing essential skills and knowledge to foster sustainable livelihoods. The program saw active participation from 35 women and 8 girls, who engaged in hands-on training sessions and gained awareness of government schemes, digital literacy, and social protection measures.



The first day of the training program, held on March 11th, 2025, witnessed 27 participants. Mrs. Anu from the NCUI Incubation Centre introduced NCUI, its incubation initiatives, and the concept and benefits of SHGs and cooperatives. She emphasized their potential to create livelihood opportunities within the community. Mr. Abhishek Agarwal, Co-Founder of ISRA, conducted an insightful session on government schemes and digital literacy, covering topics such as awareness of cyber-crime, data protection, and the procedure for claiming insurance benefits through the e-Shram card. A social protection camp was also announced to facilitate the updating of necessary documents for individuals in the camp. The day concluded with a training session by Mrs. Rinku Thakur, a master trainer from the NCUI Incubation Centre, who taught participants how to produce handmade *gulaal*, introducing them to a sustainable livelihood opportunity while promoting waste reduction.

On the second day, March 12th, 2025, 29 beneficiaries participated in sessions on jewelry and candle making. Ms. Alpna Jha, a seasoned trainer with expertise in crafts and entrepreneurial development, guided participants through the creative and business aspects of jewelry making, ensuring they understood how to market their products effectively. Ms. Shashi Mathur, an expert in candle making and small-scale business development, demonstrated the step-by-step process of candle making and provided valuable advice on packaging, marketing, and selling products locally and online.



The final day, March 13th, 2025, saw the participation of 33 individuals. Mrs. Ritu Saini, a master trainer from the NCUI Incubation Centre, conducted a session on making *dhoopbatti* (incense sticks) using leftover flowers collected from temples. This innovative approach to recycling waste materials attracted keen interest from participants, who were eager to learn about low-cost raw materials and market linkages. Additionally, a social protection camp led by Mr. Imran, an intern of the PMU, facilitated document correction and application for 35 individuals. The documents processed included Aadhar Card, Voter ID, ABHA Card, and e-Shram Card.

The three-day EDP was a resounding success, equipping participants with practical skills and knowledge for sustainable livelihoods. The program emphasized self-reliance, sustainability, and the effective utilization of government resources. Key achievements included hands-on training in *gula* making, jewelry making, candle making, and incense stick production, enhanced awareness of government schemes and digital literacy, and the correction and application of essential identification and welfare documents for 35 individuals. The EDP significantly enhanced the entrepreneurial capabilities of the participants, fostering economic independence and contributing to community development.

6. Students from Noida Skill Development Centre Explore Cooperative Models

On March 19, 2025, students from the Noida Skill Development Centre visited the NCUI Haat, COOP Kitchen, and the Incubation Centre to explore and learn about various cooperative initiatives and their impact on sustainable livelihoods. A special focus was placed on NCUI Haat, a platform dedicated to promoting products made by cooperative societies, self-help groups, and rural artisans.



The visit provided an enriching experience, offering students valuable insights into the significance of cooperative models in fostering social and economic development. It served as an eye-opening experience, inspiring students to appreciate and support such initiatives that contribute to building sustainable and inclusive communities.



This visit highlights the importance of collaborative efforts in achieving long-term socio-economic goals and underscores the role of cooperative models in empowering local communities.

7. Camp on Social Protection, Digital Literacy, and Business Development at Alliance India

On 22nd March, 2025, Alliance India organized a one-day health camp and invited the NCUI team to set up a camp aimed at enhancing social protection, promoting digital literacy, and fostering business development among the local community, with a particular focus on the transgender population. The camp featured a range of sessions addressing these objectives, including training on business development, digital literacy, cyber security, and the dissemination of essential information about government schemes.



Event Highlights:

i. Business Development Training:

- **Number of Participants:** 9 individuals
- **Objective:** To provide training on business development, focusing on practical approaches to starting and managing small businesses.
- **Topics Covered:** Business strategies, market research, and business planning.

ii. ABHA Card:

- **Number of Participants:** 4 individuals
- **Objective:** To provide ABHA cards to enable access to various government benefits and services.

iii. Digital Literacy & Cyber Security:

- **Number of Participants:** 94 individuals
- **Objective:** To enhance digital literacy and cyber security awareness.
- **Topics Covered:** Safe online practices, digital tool usage, and securing personal information in the digital space.



iv. Business Loans & Government Schemes:

- **Objective:** To inform participants about government schemes and business loans available for aspiring entrepreneurs.
- **Discussion Topics:**

- i. **Jan Samarth Portal:** Participants were introduced to the portal, which connects individuals with various government schemes aimed at business financing, skill development, and other social welfare programs.
- ii. **Government Schemes:** Information was provided about how individuals can access financial assistance and support for starting businesses.
- **Feedback:** Many participants showed enthusiasm for using these resources to start their own businesses and improve their livelihoods.

v. SHG Formation:

- **Objective:** To inform participants about NCUI and the process of forming **SHGs**.
- **Number of Interested Participants:** 9 individuals
- **Discussion Topics:**
 - i. How to form SHGs, their benefits, and how to access collective resources for business activities and micro-financing.
 - ii. NCUI's role in marketing products both online and offline.
- The event had a significant number of transgender individuals, which highlights the inclusive nature of the camp and its relevance to marginalized groups.
- Participants were not only attentive during sessions but also actively participated in discussions and demonstrations, showing a keen interest in enhancing their knowledge and skills.
- There was a clear sense of empowerment among the participants, with many expressing their readiness to use the information gained to improve their livelihoods and engage in new business opportunities.

Findings/Challenges:

The transgender community was found to face significant challenges in various areas, including accessing appropriate government support, securing loans, and establishing their own businesses.

Conclusion

The event successfully met its goals of providing digital literacy, business development training, and promoting government schemes. Moving forward, it would be beneficial to:

- i. Based on the interest shown, additional efforts should be made to help participants who are interested in forming SHGs, providing them with the necessary resources and guidance.
- ii. Facilitate networking sessions to connect participants with local business mentors, financial advisors, and government scheme facilitators.

The positive response from the participants suggests that such camps are vital for empowering marginalized communities, and more such events should be organized to support their continued growth and development.

8. Training for EDP Participants NCCE

The National Centre for Cooperative Education (NCCE), under the aegis of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), organized a 13-day training session. On the final day of the training, the CEDC conducted a special EDP session on 28th March from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The session witnessed the participation of around 25 women from SHGs and cooperatives across different regions. It was aimed at empowering women by equipping them with livelihood skills and sharing knowledge on various entrepreneurial opportunities.



Areas of Training:

The training was delivered by a panel of NCUI Incubation Centre Master Trainers who shared practical insights and hands-on knowledge in the following areas:

i. Digital Literacy and Financial Inclusion

Master Trainer: Mr. Abhishek Agrawal, SPOC, NCUI-GIZ SuATI

Focus: The session focused on promoting safe digital practices and awareness. Key points included cybersecurity tips such as avoiding OTP sharing, fraudulent calls, and oversharing on social media. He introduced key government schemes like Ayushman Card, ABHA, E-Shram, PM Suraksha Bima Yojana, and others—explaining their benefits, eligibility, and application processes. He also clarified document-related queries, highlighting that PAN cards are free through official channels.



ii. SHG and Cooperative Formation

Master Trainer: Mrs. Anu, Field Mobilizer, NCUI Incubation Centre

Focus: The session focused on educating women from various regions about the formation and effective management of SHGs and cooperatives to promote collective economic empowerment. Mrs. Anu also shared inspiring success stories from the NCUI Incubation Centre, where women received training, went on to establish their own SHGs and businesses, and later became master

trainers themselves—helping others generate sustainable livelihoods through skill-sharing and mentorship.

iii. Bio-Enzymes

Master Trainer: Mrs. Rinku Thakur, Women Entrepreneur

Focus: Introducing the concept of bio-enzymes as sustainable, eco-friendly products made from waste materials like citrus peels and food scraps. The session highlighted various applications such as perfumes, hand sanitizers, face wash, household cleaners, and sun protection serums. Mrs. Thakur emphasized the environmental benefits of using the leftover waste as plant fertilizer. A live demonstration was conducted on how to prepare bio-enzymes using jaggery, citrus peels, and water, along with techniques for storage and preservation

iv. Dhoopbatti, Agarbatti, and Cow Dung Products

Master Trainer: Ms. Ritu Saini, Women Entrepreneur, NCUI Incubation Center

Focus: The session focused on training participants in the preparation of Dhoopbatti and Agarbatti using waste flowers collected from temples and other sustainable materials. Ms. Saini also provided hands-on training in creating eco-friendly home décor items made from cow dung, promoting the use of natural resources for income generation while encouraging sustainable living practices.



v. Millet-Based Homemade Snacks

Master Trainer: Mrs. Anjana Singh Women Entrepreneur, NCUI Incubation Center

Focus: The session promoted the use of millets to prepare healthy and nutritious snacks, encouraging women to start home-scale food enterprises. Mrs. Singh provided practical guidance on low-cost production methods and how to generate income from home, while also spreading awareness about the benefits of healthy snacking and the growing demand for millet-based products.

vi. Candle and Recycled Paper Products

Master Trainer: Ms. Shashi Mathur Women Entrepreneur, NCUI Incubation Center

Focus: The session focused on the creative reuse of materials to produce eco-friendly items such as candles and recycled paper. Ms. Mathur provided detailed guidance on making long-lasting candles using soya wax, a more durable and sustainable alternative to conventional wax. She also explained the process of making recycled paper at home using waste hosiery cloth with basic tools like a mixer grinder, encouraging women to adopt low-cost, home-based production methods for income generation



Success story shared:

NCUI Coop Kitchen by Sangita Shee, Women Entrepreneur, NCUI Incubation Center

Mrs. Sangita Shee shared her inspiring journey of transformation after receiving training from the NCUI Incubation Centre. She was given the opportunity to manage the NCUI Cooperative Kitchen located within the NCUI Complex. Starting with a modest profit of just ₹6,000, her dedication and entrepreneurial spirit helped grow the venture to an impressive annual revenue of ₹12–15 lakh.



The Coop Kitchen not only became a successful business model but also created employment opportunities for other trainees from the incubation center, empowering more women to achieve financial independence and sustainable livelihoods.

Conclusion

The session effectively imparted valuable entrepreneurial knowledge and hands-on skills to the participants, fostering a strong sense of self-reliance, cooperation, and confidence among women. It played a key role in raising awareness about sustainable, low-cost, and locally viable livelihood opportunities. The interactive format encouraged active participation through dialogue, questions, and knowledge-sharing, making the session not only informative but also inspiring and empowering for all attendees.



One-Day Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad) at Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan

The Coop Connect division of NCUI successfully conducted One-Day State-Level Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad) at Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan on March 11, 2025. Sponsored by the Ministry of Cooperation, more than 137 students and 15 faculty members and senior officials attended the event. This event is a part of a series of state-level youth workshops and competitions in the country during the UN International Year of Cooperatives 2025.

The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr. Jaiveer Singh, Co-Founder & Director of Maharani Girls College, Rajeev Sharma, Executive Director, NCUI, proposed vote of thanks and highlighted the significance of the event.

During the event, Dr. Amit Sharma, Vice-Principal of Maharani Girls College, was also present. Rajeev Sharma, Executive Director, Anant Dubey, Deputy Director & Anurag, Deputy Director, shared their expertise by conducting insightful sessions on Cooperative Ideology, Values & Principles, Formation of Cooperatives, Role of Social Media & Recent Initiatives of the Ministry of Cooperation and NCUI.

After two rounds of exciting competitions, the winners were:

- Ms. Ruchika Sirotha - First prize
- Ms. Sushma - Second prize
- Ms. Tanu Singh - Third prize
- Consolation prizes: Ms. Aditi OJha and Ms. Himanshi Hirani

The dedicated faculty members and other staff of Maharani Girls College put in their best efforts to make this event a grand success.

One-Day State Level Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad)

At

Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan



The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Jaiveer Singh, Co-Founder & Director of Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan on 11th March, 2025.



Group photo with all the participants, and faculty members Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan.



Winners of the Youth Workshop on Cooperation at Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan.



Sh. Rajeev Sharma Executive Director NCUI took an insightful session about cooperative s a successful model and taught the participants about the same at Maharani Girls College (MGC), Jaipur, Rajasthan.

One-Day Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad)

at
Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI),
Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.)

The Coop Connect Division of NCUI successfully conducted One-Day Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad) at Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI), Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.) on March, 28, 2025 Sponsored by the Ministry of Cooperation, more than 110 students and 30 faculty members and senior officials attended the event. This event is a part of a series of Youth workshops and competitions in the country during the UN International Year of Cooperatives 2025.

The program was inaugurated by Sh. Yuvraj Ambareesh Pal Singh ji, Secretary, Balwant Educational Society, Agra (U.P.) who was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Shri Raj Dutt Pandey, Shri Om Veer Singh, & Shri Rakesh Shukla & Dr Grish Maglik attended the event as Guest of Honor. Sh. Rajeev Sharma, Executive Director, NCUI, highlighted the significance of the event.

During the event, Prof. Seema Bhadauria, Principal, BVRI, Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.) was also present. Sh. Rajeev Sharma, Executive Director, NCUI, New Delhi shared their expertise by conducting insightful sessions on Cooperative Ideology, Values & Principles, Successful Cooperative Business Models, Role of Social Media & Key Initiatives of the Ministry of Cooperation and NCUI.

After two rounds of exciting competitions, the winners were:

- Ms. Archi Tomer - First prize
- Ms. Khusi Gupta - Second prize
- Ms. Anjali Saraswat - Third prize
- Ms. Shivani Solanki & Neha Saraswat - Consolation Prizes:

The dedicated faculty members and other staff of BVRI put in their best efforts in making this event a grand success.

One-Day Youth Workshop on Cooperation
(Cooperative Olympiad)
At
Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI),

Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.)



Shri. Yuvraj Ambareesh Pal Singh ji, Secretary, Balwant Educational Society, Agra (U.P.) inaugurated the Youth Workshop on Cooperation at Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI), Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.) on 28th March, 2025.



Group photo with all the participants and faculty members of Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI), Bichpuri, Agra(U.P.)



Winners of the Youth Workshop on Cooperation at Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI) Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.).



Tree Plantation Campaign under “**Ek Pedh Maa Ke Naam**” during the IYC, 2025 at Balwant Vidyapeeth Rural Institute (BVRI) Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.).

One-Day State Level Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad) at College of Agricultural Engineering & Post Harvest Technology (CAEPHT). Gangtok, Sikkim

One day State Level Youth Workshop on Cooperation (Cooperative Olympiad) organized by National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi in collaboration with Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN) at the College of Agricultural Engineering & Post Harvest Technology (CAEPHT), Gangtok, Sikkim, on 27th March, 2025.

The workshop was graced by the chief guest Dr. Jagannath Patnaik, Vice Chancellor, ICFAI University, Sikkim, Guest of Honor, Prof. N. S. Chauhan, Dean, College of Agricultural Engineering and Post Harvest Technology, Ranipool, Mr. Purna Prasad Sharma, Vice-Chairman, Sikkim State Cooperative Union, NCUI's Youth Committee Members Mr. Lalit Pokhrel Sharma and Mr. Dil Kumar Rai, Mrs. Indira Sharma, Executive Officer, SICUN, Mrs. Sandhya Rani Pant, Deputy Registrar, ICFAI University, Mr. Uttam Sharma, ICFAI University, Mr. Anant Dubey, Deputy Director NCUI, Mr. Anurag, Deputy Director NCUI.

More than 100 students from eight different colleges and universities were participated in the workshop.

The Vice-Chairman of SICUN welcomed all the dignitaries and thanked everyone for being present for the workshop and wished all the very best to the students of different colleges and universities from Sikkim.

Mr. Anant Dubey in his keynote speech explained the details of the structure of this workshop and the importance of this workshop.

Dr. Jagannath Patnaik, VC, ICFAI University in his speech highlighted the importance of team work, Cooperation among cooperatives, importance of values and ethics in our life. Dr. Patnaik gave a motivational and inspiring words to the students and wished him the best for the future ahead.

Mr Anant Dubey imparted his lecture on the introduction to Cooperatives, Values and Principles, formation of Cooperative, Role of Social Media in the Coops.

Mr Anurag, highlighted on the role of NCUI in Cooperatives and PACS (Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies), IYC 2025, initiatives launched by Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India.

After these session, two round completions were conducted and winners are;

1. Mr. Bhupendra Adhikari, Sikkim University (First prize)

2. Mr. Soumyabrata Saha, Sikkim Manipal University (Second prize)
3. Ms. Pratima Sharma, Sikkim University (Third prize)
4. Ms. Dipshikha Sengupta, Sikkim Manipal University (Consolation prize)
5. Mr. Abishek Sharma, DIET College (Consolation prize)

The workshop concluded with the vote of thanks and was a grand success.

The winners awarded with trophies and certificates by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) in the State Level Conference on Promotion and Development of Cooperatives in Sikkim State, conducted by NCUI at SICUN on 29th March 2025.

Agricultural Engineering & Post Harvest Technology (CAEPHT). **Gangtok, Sikkim**



The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Jagannath Patnaik, Vice Chancellor, as a Chief Guest ICFAI University, Sikkim, Guest of Honor, Prof. N. S. Chauhan, Dean, College of Agricultural Engineering and Post Harvest Technology, Ranipool, Mr. Purna Prasad Sharma, Vice-Chairman, Sikkim State Cooperative Union, the Youth Workshop on Cooperation at Agricultural Engineering & Post Harvest Technology (CAEPHT). Gangtok, Sikkim on 27th March ,2025



Group photo with all the participants, and faculty members at Agricultural Engineering & Post Harvest Technology (CAEPHT). Gangtok, Sikkim.



Winners of the Youth Workshop on Cooperation at Agricultural Engineering & Post Harvest Technology (CAEPHT). Gangtok, Sikkim.



The 1st prize winner” Mr. Bhupendra Adhikari” was awarded with trophies and certificates by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) in the State Level Conference on Promotion and Development of Cooperatives in Sikkim State, conducted by NCUI at SICUN on 29th March 2025.

STATE LEVEL WOMEN CO-OPERATIVE SEMINAR - 2025

THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN POWER THROUGH THE CO-OPERATIVE SECTOR IN DEVELOPED INDIA : STATE LEVEL WOMEN CO-OPERATIVE SEMINAR - 2025 ORGANIZED BY GUJARAT STATE CO-OPERATIVE UNION, AHMEDABAD

WOMEN CAN MAKE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN THE DEVELOPED INDIA AND BE ECONOMICALLY EMPOWERED BY WAY OF JOINING THE CO-OPERATIVE SECTOR : SHRI GHANSHYAMBHAI AMIN

THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE WOMEN SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE CONCEPT OF CO-OPERATION BY WAY OF UNDERSTANDING VARIOUS SCHEMES OF " PROSPERITY THROUGH CO-OPERATION ": SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI

Gujarat State Co-operative Union (GSCU), Ahmedabad on the occasion of International Women's Day falling on 8th March of every year and International Year of Co-operatives (IYC) - 2025 organized a State Level Women Co-operative Seminar - 2025 on the main theme of "Participation of the Women Power through the Co-operative Sector in the Developed India" for the female members of various Co-operative Societies across the State of Gujarat on 5th March 2025 at the auditorium of Rabindranath Tagore Hall, Paldi, Ahmedabad. This seminar was presided over by Shri Ghanshyambhai Amin, an eminent National Co-operative Leader and Chairman of Gujarat State Co-operative Union.

Inaugurating the Seminar by way of lighting the traditional lamp and congratulating the State Co-operative Union for organizing Women Co-operative Seminar, Shri Dileepbhai Sanghani, the President of National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi and Chairman of IFFCO, Shri Dileepbhai Sanghani, explained the concept and definition of Co-operation and elucidated how the standard of life can be changed through the Co-operation. Briefing about the history of Amul and citing the ideal examples of successful State and National Co-operative Institutes and organizations, Shri Sanghani stated that the contribution of women in the Co-operative Sector is not limited to only Dairy Sector, but also in various sectors. He stated that in India ' the Co-operation is Culture ' and that is why it has succeeded in several sectors. The Co-operation is the only way through which we can make our friends prosperous. There are limitless ample opportunities for employment in the Co-operative Sector. However, the strength of women in the Co-operative Sector is very less. To increase the numbers and strength, the women will have to make strong demand. Without demand, they won't get their rights. When the Government is also actively helping in this direction, the various schemes launched by Government under slogan of " Prosperity through Co-operation " should be well understood and the women empowerment should be achieved through the generation of the employment by joining with the Co-operative Sector and thus women can make remarkable and significant contribution through the Co-operative Sector in the Developed India.

In his presidential remarks, Shri Ghanshyambhai Amin, Chairman of Gujarat State Co-operative Union, Ahmedabad and an eminent National Co-operative Leader, while explaining the relevance of the Women Co-operative Seminar and also explaining the significance of National and International Co-operative Activities as well as the importance and history of International Women's Day, stated that now-a-days the women all over the world have started to choose the form of the Co-operative Enterprises in order to achieve their economic and social needs because the Co-operative Sector empowers the women by bestowing gender equality and rights. The Co-operative Activity is the best platform to empower the women by way granting them meaningful status. Shri Amin drew attention to the fact that as against 8.5 lakh Co-operative Societies, only 25,385 Women's Co-operative Societies are registered, which number is very less compared to the total number of registered Co-operative Societies. Further there are about 1.5 lakh Milk Co-operative Societies in the country, where large numbers of rural women are associated.

Elucidating the significance of the Co-operative Activities, Shri Amin stated that the Co-operative activity is going on in full swing in 118 countries of the world and it is developing and progressing day by day. When the entire world was in the midst of worst global economic recession during the period from 2008 to 2010, a survey conducted by the United Nations Organization (UNO) in 2011, it was revealed that all the enterprises of the Corporate World were under severe economic recession. But the positive revelation of the survey was that even during the worst global economic recession, the condition of the Co-operative Enterprises was sound and were making profit. Keeping in view the sound condition of the Co-operative Enterprises during global recession, the UNO announced to observe and celebrate the year 2012 as the Year of Co-operatives. Similarly, the United Nations and the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) have declared the year of 2025 as the "International Year of Co-operatives" (IYC). Its main theme is, "Cooperatives Builds a Better World". Shri Narendrabhai Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched and kickstarted the International Year of Co-operatives - 2025 on 25th November, 2024 in a function at New Delhi. Thus, when the United Nations and Shri Narendrabhai Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister accord so much importance the Co-operative framework, the women can play the pivotal role in the Developed India by joining with the Co-operative Sector in large numbers and enhancing their economic prosperity. Realizing their responsibilities towards the Society, the women already associated with the Co-operative Activities, should motivate and enroll the other women with the Co-operative Sector. On the International Women's Day, the women should resolve to empower fellow women community. Citing the example of Lijjat Papad, Shri Amin explained that a Co-operative Society started by seven sisters 65 years ago, provides employment to 45,000 women today. Today in the era of modern technology and state of the art facilities, why women can't follow their example and footprints? So It's very important and essential that women establish more and more new Co-operative Societies and more and more women join them and make more and more economic earnings.

Releasing a book titled "Sahakare Samrasta" published by GSCU, Ms. Aarti Bisariya, the Director of National Co-operative Committee for Empowerment of woman, NCUI, New Delhi and Executive Committee of ICA, New Delhi and also Guest of the Seminar while giving overview of International Women's Day and Rights of the Women in the Co-operative Sector, stated that the Co-operation has bestowed self-respect to the women and for the sustainable society, there is no other competent means than the Co-operation. The credit for the development of Gujarat goes to the Co-operation which is a guiding force for the entire nation. There is lots of things to be learnt from the woman leadership that is clearly evident in Gujarat.

The Guest of the Seminar and MD of Seva Federation Ms. Jigishaben Mehta stated that the women are being promoted every now and then by the Co-operative Movement, but why there are only 25,000 Co-operative Societies for women out of 8.5 lakhs Co-operative Societies in the country? The representation of women in the Co-operative Sector should be increased. When the Government itself promoting and assisting, the women should come forward to join the Co-operative Sector and become empowered.

Dr. Rajendra Trivedi, Executive Officer of Gujarat State Co-operative Union presented the outline of the program and verbally welcomed all the attendee Hon'ble Guests and distinguished dignitaries and expressed sincere feelings of thanks and profound gratitude to them.

In the State Level Women Co-operative Seminar, Dr. Bhumiben Pandya, Assistant Administrative Officer of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation guided the participants of the Seminar on the subject of Skill Development in Women, Ms. Anita Kapoor, Admin. Membership Training Head , ATIRA, Ahmedabad on the subject of Women Leadership, Ms. Drashtiben Oza, Director, Khet Utpadan Samiti, Gandhinagar on the subject of The Various Schemes of the Government and Ms. Varshaben More, Officer of Banas Dairy guided the delegates of Seminar on the subject of The Economic Development of the Women through Dairy Industry. The anchoring of the entire event was done by Shri A K Rawal, the Officer of State Co-operative Union. The Vote of the thanks was proposed by Shri C J Dave, Information Officer of State Co-operative Union. Around 1300 Women Members representing various Co-operative Societies of the State attended the seminar and sought the guidance. The employees of the State Co-operative Union worked hard to make the entire program a success.

GUJARAT STATE COOPERATIVE UNION

State Level Women Seminar Photos - 05.03.2025

Photo- 1



Ms Unnatiben Pandya - District Registrar, Ahmedabad, Ms. Drashtiben Oza - Dy. Director, Khet Utpann Bazar Samiti, Gandhinagar, Ms. Aarti Bisariya - Director of National Co-operative Committee for Empowerment of woman, NCUI, New Delhi & Executive Committee of ICA, New Delhi, Shri Ghanshyambhai Amin - Vice Chairman, Cooperative Bank of India (COBI), New Delhi, Chairman, GSCU, Gujarat, Shri Dileepbhai Sanghani - President of National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi and Chairman, IFFCO, New Delhi, Ms. Anita Kapoor - Head, Training, ATIRA, Ahmedabad, Ms Jigisha Mehta - Managing Director at SEWA Cooperative Federation, Dr Rajendra Trivedi - Executvie Officer, GSCU, Gujarat.

Photo- 2



On occasion of International Women Day & International Year of Co-operatives (IYC) - 2025, Gujarat State Co-operative Union has organized a State Level Women Co-operative Seminar on 05.03.2025. During the seminar, a book titled "Sahakare Samrasta" published by GSCU was released by Ms. Aarti Bisariya, Director of National Co-operative Committee for Empowerment of woman, NCUI, New Delhi and Executive Committee of ICA, New Delhi; Shri Ghanshyambhai Amin, Vice Chairman, Cooperative Bank of India (COBI), New Delhi; Chairman, GSCU, Gujarat, Shri Dileepbhai Sanghani, President of National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi and Chairman, IFFCO; Ms. Jigishaben Mehta, Managing Director of Seva Federation; Ms. Drashtiben Oza, Dy. Director, Khet Utpann Bazar Samiti, Gandhinagar; along with other dignitaries.

Photo- 3



Photo- 4



Photo- 5



On the occasion of International Women's Day and the International Year of Co-operatives (IYC) 2025, a State-Level Women Co-operative Seminar was organized by the Gujarat State Co-operative Union on 05.03.2025.

Photo- 6



On the occasion of International Women's Day and the International Year of Co-operatives (IYC) 2025, a State-Level Women Co-operative Seminar was organized by the Gujarat State Co-operative Union on 05.03.2025. Around 1300 women members representing various Co-operative Societies of the Gujarat state have participated in the seminar.



International Year
of Cooperatives

*International Relations Division
Programme Report*

International Programme on "Cooperative Governance for Women Board of Directors of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions" Marks the Celebration of International Year of Cooperatives 2025

Surat, Gujarat – March 19, 2025: In commemoration of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 (IYC2025), the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), in collaboration with the Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking (CICTAB) and the Gujarat State Cooperative Union, organized an International Programme on “Cooperative Governance for Women Board of Directors of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions.” The event was held at the Shri D.G. Patel Cooperative Management Centre, Kamrej Char Rasta, Surat, from March 19 to 22, 2025.

The programme aimed to empower women leaders in cooperative governance by focusing on best practices, decision-making strategies, and effective management techniques for cooperatives and rural financing institutions.

Inaugural Ceremony Highlights

Key dignitaries present at the inaugural session included:

- **Shri G.H. Amin**, Chairman, Gujarat State Cooperative Union
- **Mrs. Savitri Singh**, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI
- **Shri Rajender Tiwari**, Chief Executive Officer, Gujarat State Cooperative Union
- **Dr. D. Ravi**, Consultant, CICTAB

A total of 21 participants from **Sri Lanka, Nepal, and India**, including board members, CEOs, and senior and middle-level executives, took part in the programme. The event provided a platform for women leaders to exchange knowledge and experiences in cooperative governance.

Programme Objectives:

- To familiarize participants with good governance practices in cooperatives and rural financing institutions.
- To sensitize participants to the values, principles, and mission of credit cooperatives.
- To equip participants with strategic decision-making skills, board meeting management, and relevant management tools for effective governance.

Key Addresses

Mrs. **Savitri Singh**, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI, delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the importance of women’s participation in cooperative governance. She encouraged participants to actively engage in IYC2025 initiatives and contribute to the global cooperative movement.

In his keynote address, **Shri G.H. Amin**, Chairman of the Gujarat State Cooperative Union, welcomed participants and lauded the programme's objectives. He underscored the significance of empowering



women in cooperatives and urged attendees to champion women's leadership in their respective countries. As a token of goodwill, he presented mementos to each delegate.

Dr. **D. Ravi**, Consultant at CICTAB, elaborated on the organization's mission and commended the initiative for its timely focus on cooperative governance and women's empowerment.

Field Visits to Cooperatives

As part of the programme, a **field visit** on **March 21, 2025**, was organized to the following cooperative institutions:

1. **Shree Sevani Service Cooperative Society Ltd., Kamraj**
2. **Shri Sardar Bardoli Taluka Farmers' Cooperative Purchase-Vaichana Mandli Ltd., Bardoli**
3. **Surat District Cooperative Union**
4. **Swaraj Asharam, Bardoli**

The field visits provided participants with firsthand insights into the operational and governance structures of cooperative institutions, enhancing their practical understanding of cooperative management.

Closing Ceremony & Key Takeaways

The programme concluded on **March 22, 2025**, with high enthusiasm and active participation. A key highlight was the **country paper presentations**, where participants shared their national experiences, strategies, and best practices in cooperative governance.

Mrs. **Savitri Singh** engaged with participants during the closing session, collected feedback, and presented **certificates of participation** along with a **group photograph**. She thanked the nominating organizations and participants for their commitment to cooperative governance and urged them to take proactive leadership roles in their respective cooperative movements.

The valedictory ceremony received positive feedback from participants and faculty members, who appreciated the programme's impact. The session was efficiently coordinated by **Mr. John**, while the **Principal, JCTC**, delivered the vote of thanks.

Conclusion

This international programme significantly strengthened women's participation in cooperative governance and reinforced NCUI's commitment to fostering **gender-inclusive leadership** in the cooperative sector globally.

The event was meticulously coordinated by **Mrs. Inderpreet Kaur, Assistant Director, NCUI**, ensuring its smooth execution and success.



International Year
of Cooperatives



Shri G. H. Amin, Chairman of the Gujarat State Cooperative Union, ceremonially lighting the lamp to inaugurate the International Programme on Cooperative Governance for Women Board of Directors of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions. Also present on the occasion are esteemed dignitaries, including Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive of NCUI, Shri Rajender Tiwari, Chief Executive Officer of Gujarat State Cooperative Union, and Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant at CICTAB.



Shri G. H. Amin, Chairman of the Gujarat State Cooperative Union, delivering the keynote address at the International Programme on Cooperative Governance for Women Board of Directors of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions, highlighting the importance of women's leadership in cooperative governance and urging participants to be catalysts for change in their respective countries.



International Year
of Cooperatives



Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive of NCUI, addressing the participants at the International Programme on Cooperative Governance for Women Board of Directors of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions. She emphasized the pivotal role of women in cooperative leadership, highlighted global best practices, and encouraged participants to actively contribute to the cooperative movement in their respective countries.



A group photograph taken during the inaugural function of the International Programme



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of Cooperatives



A group photograph taken during the inaugural function of the International Programme



A group photograph taken during the visit to Shree Sevani Service Cooperative Society Ltd., Kamraj, along with society representatives, engaging in insightful discussions on cooperative governance, best practices, and rural financial services.



International Year
of Cooperatives



A group photograph taken during the visit to Surat District Cooperative Union along with society representatives, engaging in insightful discussions on cooperative governance, best practices, and rural financial services.



A group photograph taken during the visit to Shri Sardar Bardoli Taluka Farmers' Cooperative Purchase-Vaichana Mandli Ltd., Bardoli along with society representatives, engaging in insightful discussions on cooperative governance, best practices, and rural financial services.



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of Cooperatives



A view of the classroom session during the International Programme. Participants from India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal are actively engaged in discussions, learning about best practices in cooperative governance, decision-making strategies, and effective management of rural financing institutions.



Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, NCU, presented certificates of participation to the participants, along with a group photograph, during the valedictory session of the International Programme

National Cooperative Union of India

National Centre for Cooperative Education Training

International Year of Cooperatives Report for the month of March, 2025 of NCCE

Report of Diploma Programme (March-2025)

NCCE has been organised programmes for celebrating the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 in which we have provided batches of IYC-2025 to all the participants who obtained training under NCCE. Simultaneously, we have been using IYC logo in Banners, Certificate and training schedules in all programmes.

The details are as under with glimpse of all the programmes organised in the month of March, 2025

- 1) NCCE celebrated IYC with the Review Cum Refresher course for LMs/LCEIs of NCUI Cooperative Education Field Projects conducted from 05-07 March, 2025, at NCCE. In which total 18 Participants were participated from various States.



National Cooperative Union of India
National Centre for Cooperative Education
Refresher Course for LM/LCEIs of NCUI Cooperative Education
Field Projects
From 05 - 07 March, 2025



2) NCCE celebrated IYC with Two Weeks Entrepreneur Development Programme (EDP) for Women Cooperative Instructors, Trainers & Officials in collaboration with National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., (NSIC) conducted from 17 - 28 March, 2025, at NCCE. In which total 28 Participants were participated from various States of India



National Cooperative Union of India
National Centre for Cooperative Education
Two Weeks Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) for Women Cooperative
Instructors, Trainers & Officials
In Collaboration with
National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) Govt. of India Enterprise
From 17 - 28 March, 2025 at New Delhi



3) NCCE celebrated IYC with the Training on “Organic Farming” for the Farmers & Indian Cooperators for India’s Better & Safe Healthy Future in which Professional trainers trained the participants for betterment of Organic Farming in India with different aspects conducted from 25-27 March, 2025, at NCCE. In which total 38 Participants were participated from various States of India.



National Cooperative Union of India
National Centre for Cooperative Education
Training Programme on "Organic Farming"
From 25 - 27 March, 2025 at New Delhi



4) In the wake of IYC-2025 a Leadership Development Programme for Chairpersons/Directors of Fisheries Cooperative of India has been conducted from 10-12 March, 2025 in NCCE, New Delhi in which 41 participants from Telangana, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka were participated.



National Cooperative Union of India
National Centre for Cooperative Education



Leadership Development Programme for Chairpersons/Directors of Fisheries Cooperatives of India
From 10 - 12 March, 2025





International Year
of Cooperatives

NCUI Celebrates International Women's Day 2025 with a Call to "Accelerate Action"

New Delhi, March 8, 2025: In commemoration of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 (IYC2025), the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) celebrated International Women's Day 2025 on Saturday, 8th March at the NCUI Auditorium, New Delhi, reaffirming its commitment to empowering women through cooperatives. Recognizing the essential role of women in economic and social development, NCUI has been actively implementing various schemes and projects across the country to enhance women's participation in cooperatives. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 300 women cooperative leaders and members from national, state, district, and primary-level cooperatives across various sectors.

This year, the United Nations' theme for International Women's Day, "Accelerate Action," underscores the urgent need to drive gender equality, inclusion, and sustainability. The theme calls for decisive steps to empower women and girls globally while celebrating their contributions to various sectors.

The event commenced with Introductory Remarks and a brief overview of the programme by Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI, who emphasized the importance of empowering women through cooperatives and the need for collective action to advance gender equality.

This was followed by the Lighting of the Lamp and Ganesh Vandana, symbolizing wisdom and prosperity. To honor the distinguished guests, a ceremonial welcome with bouquets and shawls was conducted by Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, Chief Executive, NCUI.

The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries who shared their insights on the significance of women's empowerment in cooperatives:

- Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, IAS (Retd.), Chief Executive, NCUI – Delivered the Welcome Speech, highlighting NCUI's ongoing initiatives for women's development in cooperatives.
- Dr. Bijender Singh, Vice President, NCUI – Addressed the audience on the growing role of cooperatives in supporting women entrepreneurs.
- Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICA – Asia Pacific – Delivered the Special Address, underscoring the need for policy and grassroots efforts to bridge gender disparities in cooperatives.

Felicitation of Women Cooperative Leaders

As part of the celebration, NCUI honored outstanding women leaders in the cooperative sector for their remarkable contributions:

- Mrs. Geeta Sanghani, Chairperson, Gujarat Women Credit Cooperative Society
- Mrs. Sridevi Kripasankar, Chairman, Enliven Bot AI Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
- Ms. Mumtaz Patel, D/o Ahmedbhai Patel
- Smt. Neepa Mehta, Gujarat



- Smt. Alpaba V. Chudasama, Gujarat Mahila Credit Cooperative Society, Gujarat
- Smt. Alpa Ben Ramani, Director, Amreli District Cooperative Bank, Gujarat
- Ms. Trupti Khanna, Trustee and Chief Operating Officer, Council for Agriculture and Rural Development, Delhi
- Ms. Sangita Sadhu, Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies & CEO, West Bengal State Cooperative Union, Kolkata
- Smt. Poonam Nara, Additional RCS, Haryana
- Dr. Varsha Kasturkar, Director, IFFCO

Empowerment Initiatives and Cultural Performances

The event also featured a Certificate Distribution Ceremony for trainees who successfully completed the Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) under NCUI's Incubation Centre, reinforcing NCUI's commitment to fostering women entrepreneurs and cooperative leaders.

Adding an artistic dimension, a thematic skit was performed by LiftuPro-Nukkad Natak & Corporate Solutions, addressing critical social issues related to women's empowerment.

Concluding the event, Shri Ved Prakash Setia, Executive Director, NCUI, delivered the Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, guests, and participants for making the celebration a success.

A Call to Action

Throughout the event, NCUI leaders emphasized the need to accelerate gender-inclusive development through cooperatives. The celebration served as a platform to acknowledge achievements, recognize contributions, and reinforce NCUI's commitment to advancing women's empowerment in the cooperative sector.

This International Women's Day celebration at NCUI reinforced the organization's dedication to fostering women's leadership, economic independence, and cooperative growth for a more equitable and inclusive society.



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of Cooperatives



Dr Chandrapal Singh Yadav, President of the ICA-AP, ceremonially lighting the lamp to inaugurate the International Women's Day celebration. Also present on the occasion are esteemed dignitaries, including Dr. Bijender Singh, Vice President of NCUI, Dr Sudhir Mahajan, Chief Executive of NCUI, Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive of NCUI, and Shri Ved Prakash Setia, Executive Director of NCUI.





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of Cooperatives

Ganesh Vandana dance performance could have been presented, adding a spiritual and cultural essence to the event.



Smt. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI, delivering the introductory remarks and providing a brief of the programme during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration



Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, IAS (Retd.), Chief Executive, NCUI, delivering the welcome speech during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration



International Year
of Cooperatives



Dr. Bijender Singh, Vice President, NCUI, addressing the gathering during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration



Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICA – Asia Pacific, delivering the Special Address during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration at NCUI Auditorium, New Delhi



International Year
of Cooperatives



Felicitation of distinguished women cooperative leaders for their outstanding contributions to the cooperative movement during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration



Felicitation of distinguished women cooperative leaders for their outstanding contributions to the cooperative movement during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration



International Year
of Cooperatives



Felicitation of distinguished women cooperative leaders for their outstanding contributions to the cooperative movement during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration



Shri Ved Prakash Setia, Executive Director, NCUI, delivering the Vote of Thanks during the International Women's Day 2025 celebration

Brief Report on One Day State Level Cooperative Conference in the State of Sikkim on 29th March 2025

The United Nations has declared the year 2025 as the *International Year of Cooperative, IYC2025* with the theme: **“Cooperatives Builds a Better World.”**

In alignment with this global initiative and under the guidance and action plan of the Ministry of Cooperation (MoC), the **National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI)** has planned a series of conferences and seminars across India throughout 2025 to highlight the significant contribution of cooperatives to social and economic development.

As part of these celebrations, NCUI successfully organized a **One Day State Level Cooperative Conference on “Promotion and Development of Cooperatives in the State of Sikkim”** on **29th March 2025**, in collaboration with the **Cooperative Department, Government of Sikkim**, and the **Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN)**. The Conference witnessed the participation of over **600 members from various cooperative societies** across the state.

The primary objective of the conference was to deliberate on innovative strategies, success stories, and best practices that can enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of cooperatives, both regionally and globally, in the spirit of **IYC2025**.



"The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, Mr. Prem Singh Tamang-Golay, along with all distinguished dignitaries, hoisting the flag of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 ahead of the inauguration of the One-Day State Level Cooperative Conference in Sikkim."



The conference was **inaugurated** by the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay)** as the **'Chief Guest'** and also graced by **Shri Arun Kumar Upreti, Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation & Rural Development, Government of Sikkim**, as the **'Distinguished Guest'**, and **Shri Dileep Sanghani, President, NCUI**, presided over the conference.



Other dignitaries also graced and enriched the conference : **Shri Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICA-AP, Dr. Bijender Singh, Vice-President, NCUI, Shri K Sivadasan Nair, Vice-President, NCUI, the Deputy Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly; Political Secretary to HCM; Cabinet Ministers; MLAs; Advisors; the Governing Council Members of NCUI, Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, Chief Executive of NCUI, Smt. Savitri Singh, Dy. Chief Executive of**

NCUI, Heads of Departments & Offices, Representatives from various apex organizations and line departments, members and representatives from a wide range of cooperative societies



In his keynote address, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim** emphasized the vital role of the cooperative movement in shaping the future of India's economy. He highlighted the importance of inclusivity, rural empowerment, and resilience through cooperatives. He also endorsed the **Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047** and highlighted the relevance of the forthcoming **National Cooperation Policy 2025**, which aims to further empower cooperatives, especially in rural areas, while focusing on the inclusion of women and youth. He also cited the success story of **Sikkim Milk Union**, an apex cooperative body, as a shining example of how collaborative efforts can lead to growth and sustainability in the cooperative sector.

During the conference, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** announced the **"Best Cooperative Society Award"** in the Sikkim state, with rewards of **Rs. 10 lakhs, Rs. 7 lakhs, and Rs. 5 lakhs** for the top three cooperative societies. He also **launched the SICUN e-commerce portal**, aimed at promoting cooperative products and enhancing market access. The Chief Minister visited the exhibition stalls where various cooperatives showcased their locally produced goods.
