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Sarv Sahkar, Sarv Sakaar

Sahkar Uday



International Year of
Cooperatives 2025

Global Cooperative Conference

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Sahkar Uday

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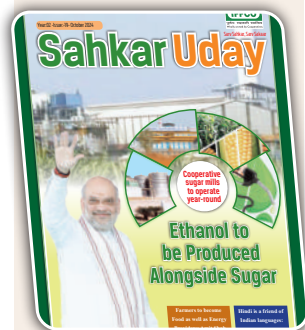
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Cover Story

Global Cooperative Conference: Indian Cooperatives to Gain More Prominence

The Indian cooperative movement is resonating globally, and as a testament to its significance, New Delhi has been chosen to host the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) Global Cooperative Conference and General Assembly 2024.

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NDDB Empowering Farmers and Women, Says Shri Amit Shah



Aligned with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi', the Ministry of Cooperation under the leadership of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah is actively fortifying the cooperative movement in India.

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Home Guards: Strengthening the Nation with Security and Service

From the Editor's Desk

Cooperatives in India hold a significant place on the global stage. Though their roots in the country go back centuries, the cooperative movement formally began in 1904 and has since reached new heights. In 2024, India will host the 'Mahakumbh' of Cooperatives—the Global Cooperative Conference—from November 25 to 30. This prestigious event will bring together 1,500 influential cooperative leaders from over 100 countries. This global conference will be held in India for the first time in the 130-year history of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA). The Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has been entrusted with organizing the conference in New Delhi. The conference theme, 'Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All' reflects Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi'.

India has been a founding member of the ICA, which was established in 1895 and now represents about 3 million cooperatives worldwide, offering them a global platform. The Delhi conference will feature a variety of workshops, discussions and presentations centred on cooperative principles and values, aiming to enhance the role of cooperatives in development, economic stability and social justice. This global conference will also mark the official launch of the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives 2025 and a commemorative stamp will be issued in its recognition. India's cooperative sector is one of the fastest-growing worldwide and by hosting this conference, India's vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi' will gain international recognition.

The Indian cooperative movement has long been a driving force in environmental conservation, setting a powerful example for others. Continuing this tradition, the upcoming ICA conference in New Delhi will be a 'carbon neutral' event. To mitigate potential carbon emissions, 10,000 Peepal saplings will be planted offering a practical environmental lesson to the world. Peepal trees are not only effective carbon absorbers but also hold cultural significance, being deeply rooted in India's heritage. Additionally, all meals served during the six-day global conference will be strictly vegetarian. Hosting the Global Cooperative Conference in New Delhi is sure to bring new dimensions to international cooperatives.

'Sahkar Uday' magazine extends its best wishes for the successful organization of this pivotal event. This issue includes a range of informative and engaging articles, featuring special pieces on ICA's New Delhi event and the Global Cooperative Conference. As always, we are confident that this issue will resonate with you just as previous ones have. ♦♦♦

Thanks and Regards!

'Jai Sahkar'



India is currently focused on achieving rapid development while preserving its rich heritage. The government has placed 'Nari Shakti' at the core of every initiative aimed at building a 'Viksit Bharat'. Over the past decade, the country has been undergoing a massive infrastructure development drive. The government remains dedicated to improving the quality of life for its citizens.

Shri Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister of India

Prime Minister Shri Modi has translated his commitment to the welfare of the poor and the principle of 'Antyodaya' into action. The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of free fortified rice distribution under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana and other welfare schemes until December 2028. This initiative, worth ₹17,082 crore, will benefit 80 crore citizens across the country.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Minister for Home and Cooperation



Since the establishment of the Ministry of Cooperation, significant transformations have occurred in the cooperative sector. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, the government has expedited the development of the nation. Progress in the cooperative sector is playing a key role in ensuring the overall development of the country.

Shri Murlidhar Mohof
Union Minister of State,
Ministry of Cooperation, Gol



Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Government of India is committed to doubling the income of farmers, promoting cooperation, organic farming and 'Shree Anna', while striving for prosperity through self-reliance. In line with these goals, 'Gujco Mart' has been launched in Ahmedabad as the first cooperative supermarket in Gujarat.

Shri Dileep Sanghani
President, NCUI & IFFCO



Cooperatives worldwide are fostering greater opportunities for socioeconomic growth and development. I am pleased to unveil the official logo for the International Year of Cooperation 2025, which will be formally launched at the ICA Global Cooperative Conference in New Delhi.

Dr Uday Shanker Awasthi
MD & CEO, IFFCO

The International Year of Cooperation 2025 will be officially launched at the ICA Global Cooperative Conference, scheduled to take place in India from November 25-30, 2024, with global leaders from across the world in attendance.

Ministry of Cooperation,
Government of India

International Year of Cooperatives 2025

Global Cooperative Conference

Indian Cooperatives to Gain More Prominence

- Global Cooperative Conference will take place in New Delhi for first time in 130 years
- A dozen prominent leaders expected to attend the conference
- Delegates from over 100 countries to be present at the event
- 1,500 international representatives have confirmed participation



Sahkar Uday Team

The Indian cooperative movement is resonating globally, and as a testament to its significance, New Delhi has been chosen to host the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) Global Cooperative Conference and General Assembly 2024. For the first time in its 130-year history, ICA, the foremost global organization of the cooperative movement, will hold its General Assembly in India. The event, set to take place at Bharat Mandapam, will feature a global conference of cooperatives, bringing together 3,000 participants,

including 1,500 representatives from over 100 countries. During this historic gathering, the International Cooperative Year 2025 will be formally announced. The occasion will also highlight the transformative initiatives of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's government in the cooperative sector, which have significantly uplifted the living standards of society's underprivileged sections.

India's latest cooperative initiatives are gaining global attention as a model for transformation. The Modi government's rapid

reforms in the sector have elevated the cooperative movement to new heights. A new ministry was established to invigorate the cooperative sector, and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah was tasked with leading efforts to revitalize the movement. As a result, dormant cooperatives have been revived, and key cooperative institutions reorganized. The Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) were strengthened through updated bylaws and expanded operations. Reforms have improved efficiency across various cooperative sectors,



from sugar and textiles to dairy and fisheries, helping to elevate the standard of living for India's rural and lower-income populations.

Under the leadership of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, several key initiatives from the Union Ministry of Cooperation are now being seen as global models. These initiatives have propelled Indian cooperatives to new heights through collaboration with state governments and have earned global recognition. Given the strengthened position of Indian cooperatives, India will host the ICA General Assembly and the Global Cooperative Conference 2024 from November 25-30 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. This marks the first time in ICA's 130-year history that this prestigious event will be held in India. Seventeen major cooperative institutions, including the world-renowned IFFCO, are spearheading the event.

Giving detailed details of this international level event, Union Cooperation Secretary Dr Ashish Kumar Bhutani said that by hosting this international event, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of '*Sahakar Se Samridhhi*' will be promoted globally. The theme of the conference, Cooperatives Build

India's Stellar Role in World Cooperatives

India has significantly expanded its cooperative sector, so much so that one-fourth of the world's cooperatives, both in terms of the number of societies and the number of members, are based in India. One of the most notable reforms in India's cooperative system has been the implementation of the model bylaws for Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). The ongoing computerization of PACS and their integration into the broader cooperative network is progressing successfully, strengthening the entire cooperative structure. In addition to these reforms, several key initiatives have positioned India as a leader in the global cooperative movement. Notably, the creation of three new national multi-state cooperative societies — National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL), National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) and Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BSSSL) — has further elevated India's role in the global cooperative landscape. As a result, India is now one of the fastest-growing cooperative sectors in the world, drawing attention and interest from other countries.

Prosperity For All, reflects the Prime Minister's vision and aligns with the successful efforts of Shri Amit Shah in advancing the cooperative sector.

The International Year of Cooperatives 2025, as declared by the United Nations, will be officially launched at this event in New Delhi. The conference will also feature exhibitions showcasing Indian cooperative products and services, displayed in 'Haats' inspired by the theme of Indian villages. A commemorative postage stamp



marking the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 will also be unveiled during the conference.

The event will see participation from prominent global figures, including the Prime Minister of Bhutan, the President of the UN Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC), the President of the International Cooperative Alliance, UN representatives and over 1,500 delegates from over 100 countries. Additionally, leaders from India's cooperative movement will be in attendance, making this a significant milestone for India's cooperative sector on the world stage.

India Sets Example in Global Coop Movement

Union Cooperative Secretary Shri Ashish Kumar Bhutani praised the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) for its efforts and highlighted India's achievements in the cooperative sector. He emphasized that India's cooperative movement serves as a valuable learning model for other countries, while India can also benefit from global experiences. Under the leadership of Union Cooperative Minister Shri Amit Shah, India's cooperative movement is reaching new heights. Bhutani also shared details of the ongoing work driving this progress.

Mr Jeroen Douglas, the Director General of ICA, stressed the importance of hosting the ICA General Assembly and the Global Cooperative Conference in India, noting that India has been a founding member of ICA. He acknowledged the significant contributions of India's Union Ministry of Cooperation, IFFCO and other cooperative societies, highlighting that India is playing a crucial role in the global cooperative movement. He also recognized IFFCO as a leading partner in the movement, referring to it as the top cooperative



Key Focus Areas of International Cooperative Alliance

- Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All
- Enabling supportive policy, entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Creating purposeful leadership to ensure prosperity for all
- Revitalizing cooperative identity
- Building prosperous future for all in 21st century

institution in the World Cooperative Monitor for three consecutive years.

Mr Douglas noted that there are approximately 3 million cooperative societies worldwide with over one billion members from nearly every country in the United Nations. Cooperatives have employed over 2.1 billion people globally, making them a key driver of economic and social development. He emphasized that cooperatives are among the most stable and sustainable development models, having reached over one-eighth of the global population in the past 200 years. He also praised India's glorious history in terms of the number of cooperatives and their potential for further expansion.

Addressing global challenges, Mr Douglas warned of the pressing crises such as climate change and biodiversity loss that the world faces today. He suggested that the cooperative model could offer solutions to these global issues. By adhering to the cooperative principles of inclusivity, openness and community care, cooperatives have the potential to guide the world toward solutions for these challenges. He emphasized that the cooperative model's foundation—cooperation among partners regardless of gender, ethnicity, nationality or age—can provide a new direction to the global community, helping to address the crises of our time. ◆◆◆

Global Cooperative Giants to Gather in Delhi Under India's Leadership

Sahkar Uday Team

India's cooperative sector is reaching unprecedented heights and its impact is becoming evident on the global stage. The International Year of Cooperatives 2025, as declared by the United Nations (UN), will be officially launched at the Global Cooperative Conference in New Delhi, with its influence spreading worldwide. Cooperatives are seen as the key to unlocking prosperity for all and 2025 will mark a significant global milestone in celebrating this vision.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, India has introduced an exemplary cooperative model aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperatives. The Ministry of Cooperation has undertaken vital initiatives to boost the cooperative sector, significantly increasing its contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Economic activities in the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) have surged, benefiting those in the lower-income strata of society.

Key Solutions to Global Challenges

The cooperative model is recognized as a powerful solution to address a range of global challenges. Both India and many other countries around the world are embracing this model which has the potential to create a more sustainable and equitable world. The United Nations (UN) has endorsed the cooperative

- The Ministry of Cooperation has undertaken vital initiatives to boost the cooperative sector, increasing its contribution to the country's GDP



During the International Cooperative Year 2025, live programs will be held at the national level to raise awareness about the benefits of cooperation through cooperatives, particularly targeting grassroots communities in rural areas. These programs will provide detailed information to the public, which will be shared through various platforms, including the government website www.cooperation.gov.in, @MinOfCooperatn, MinOfCooperatn, mygov.in, DD Kisan channel and other government and non-government media outlets.

model as a means to tackle pressing issues such as poverty, unemployment and social exclusion.

The International Year of Cooperatives celebrated under the theme 'Cooperatives Build A Better World' is designed to continue and expand these efforts. This initiative underscores the critical role of cooperative societies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. In recognition of their importance, the UN General Assembly has urged all member states and relevant stakeholders to leverage the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 to

highlight and promote the valuable contributions of cooperatives to social and economic development worldwide. Through these efforts, the international community aims to strengthen the global cooperative movement, using its proven model to improve the lives of people everywhere and ensure a more prosperous, inclusive future.

ICA's Role in Developing Global Cooperatives

The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) plays a crucial role in advancing global cooperatives by actively working to expand their

reach, support their development through capacity building, and foster collaborative partnerships. ICA is broadening its efforts to engage youth in the cooperative movement by enhancing the policy framework for cooperatives. The International Year of Cooperatives 2025 was informally launched on July 6, 2024, at the United Nations headquarters in New York, with its official launch in New Delhi.

It has also been decided to observe International Cooperatives Day annually on the first Saturday of July, a tradition that began in 2012 with the first International Year of Cooperatives. The United Nations recognizes the vital role cooperatives play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and there is a call for increased efforts to meet these goals by 2030.

Emphasis on Stopping Carbon Emissions

Dr Uday Shanker Awasthi, Managing Director of IFFCO, a prominent cooperative institution both in India and globally, emphasized the importance of reducing carbon emissions. Speaking about IFFCO's efforts, he highlighted that under the leadership of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, IFFCO's subsidiary, Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative (IFFDC), has been a leading organization in earning carbon credits over the years.

Dr Awasthi announced the planting of 10,000 peepal saplings. He specifically credited Shri Amit Shah for his efforts to increase the number of peepal trees. He said that while achieving carbon neutrality would typically require planting around 4,000 trees, Shri Amit Shah has gone beyond that by planting 10,000 trees for the benefit of all. The focus on peepal trees is due to their effectiveness in absorbing carbon. ♦♦♦

Cooperatives Effective in Mitigating Challenges



Sahkar Uday Team

In 2025, a framework will be developed to help achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through cooperatives, with a thorough discussion on these objectives taking place at the Global Cooperative Conference. Indian cooperatives are actively contributing to advancing the SDGs globally. The conference will focus on key issues aimed at improving living standards and addressing global challenges.

The United Nations has set 17 SDGs, and cooperative societies will play an integral role in their achievement. The main purpose of designating 2025 as the Year of Cooperatives is to advance these goals with the Global Cooperative Conference in India serving as a major platform to strengthen this effort. The UN has set a target of 2030 to meet these goals and the cooperative sector has already been recognized for its crucial role in this process, further underscoring the importance of this upcoming conference.

■ There will be extensive discussion on SDGs in the Global Cooperative Conference

Topics such as ecological balance, stable livelihoods, poverty alleviation and equal access to resources have been included in the scope of cooperatives, reflecting the priorities of the Union Ministry of Cooperation. In 2025, efforts to meet the SDGs and enhance the role of cooperatives will be a central focus. These issues will be prominently discussed at the Global Cooperative Conference. Jeroen Douglas, Director General of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), is confident in the cooperative sector's contribution to the SDGs. The conference will also help raise the global profile of Indian cooperatives.

Reducing Emissions

The Global Cooperative Forum is deeply concerned about the growing

impact of carbon emissions worldwide. In line with SDGs, the focus is on advancing development in an environmentally sustainable manner. In this regard, the Indian Agro-Forestry Development Cooperation (IFFDC) is making significant efforts to maintain ecological balance. Through cooperative-based collective action, IFFDC not only helps conserve forests but has also made notable contributions to carbon credit generation. Additionally, IFFDC is working on livelihood development through 29 ongoing projects across India. One such initiative is the watershed project which spans 16,974 hectares of land across 9,495 villages in nine states. The conserved water from this project is being used for irrigation, benefiting local agricultural activities. Furthermore, IFFDC is running Agri-Horticulture programs in partnership with NABARD, aiming to promote sustainable farming practices.

Community Development and Collaboration

Equitable social development is a core component of the Sustainable Development Goals. The fundamental principles of cooperatives are rooted in community development and collaboration, where members work together for mutual growth and the betterment of their communities. By engaging with local communities and understanding their needs, cooperatives aim to drive meaningful change by connecting them to sustainable livelihoods. The Ministry of Cooperation has been focusing on these efforts since 2021, aiming to fulfill the vision of a developed India by positioning the rural economy as the foundation for national development. This includes initiatives such as Primary Cooperative Credit Societies (PACS), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Common Service Centres, all of which are fostering employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in rural areas. The theme of the Global Cooperative Conference, 'Cooperatives Build Prosperity For All', reflects the values of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) — Peace, Progress and Prosperity — as well as the five key pillars of the United Nations' SDGs: Peace, Partnership, Cooperation, Prosperity and Goodwill. In line with these goals, cooperatives continue to play a vital role in advancing community development and fostering sustainable livelihoods.

Soil Health and Life

IFFCO has recognized the critical importance of soil health within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has introduced the Nano range in the agriculture sector as a part of its efforts to address this issue. After the success of Nano Urea Liquid and Nano DAP, Nano Plus is now emerging as an effective solution for soil conservation. IFFCO Chairman, Dr Uday Shanker Awasthi, emphasized that the nano range of products is suitable for all types of crops and helps maintain soil health. Large-scale training programs are being organized to promote the use of Nano Urea among farmers. Over time, organic fertilizers will gradually replace traditional chemical urea, offering dual benefits. First, India's dependency on imported chemical fertilizers will decrease and second, domestically produced fertilizers will lead to more sustainable crop production. Additionally, soil conservation practices will allow fertilizers to be

Prominent Veteran Cooperative Leaders to Attend ICA Conference

Tsering Tobgay

Prime Minister of
Bhutan

Tshering Tobgay served as the Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly of Bhutan from 2008 to 2013. Before joining active politics, Tobgay was a civil servant. He was the first official to resign from his job to participate in his country's transition to parliamentary democracy. As a proponent of gross national happiness, Tobgay has spoken at various international conferences about conservation, climate change, poverty, democracy and happiness. He likes volunteering, reading, trekking, cycling, jogging, archery, yoga, music and drama.



Ariel Guarco

President of ICA and
Argentine Cooperative
Confederation

Ariel Guarco is a famous cooperative leader of Argentina. He led the development process of the cooperative movement in Argentina and built strong relationships to strengthen the cooperative movement in the Americas and around the world.



Antonio Guterres

Secretary General of
the United Nations

Antonio Guterres is a Portuguese politician and diplomat. He has been serving as the Secretary General of the United Nations since 2017. He is the ninth person to hold this position. Guterres is a member of the Portuguese Socialist Party and was Prime Minister of Portugal from 1995 to 2002.



Jereon Douglas

ICA Director General

The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) Board appointed Jaron Douglas as its new Director General in February 2023. Jaron Douglas replaces Bruno Roelants. He is the 17th Director General of ICA. Before becoming ICA Director General, he served as Executive Director of the global network organization Solidaridad.



Paula Narvaez

Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations

Paula Narvaez is Chile's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations. She was the 79th President of the Economic and Social Council from July 2023 to July 2024. Prior to this, she was the Officer-in-Charge for Guatemala for the United Nations entity gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN-Women).



Abdelfattah MQ Al-Shalabi

Director General of Jordan Cooperative Corporation

Abdelfattah MQ Al-Shalabi has been the Director General of the Jordan Cooperative Corporation (JCC) since 2021. He has actively contributed to the launch of the National Strategy for the Cooperative Movement (2021-2025).



Agnes Mathis

Director, Cooperatives Europe

Agnès is currently the Director of Cooperatives Europe, the organization representing cooperatives in Europe. In 2006, she took up the position of Deputy Director at Cooperatives Europe after being responsible for European affairs at Febécoop (the Belgian Federation of Cooperatives). She was appointed director in June 2016.



used more efficiently, enabling farmers to benefit from healthier, more fertile soil for subsequent crops.

Empowered Women

Gender equality is a cornerstone of the Sustainable Development Goals, and India is working to empower women through cooperative societies. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has emphasized this during his Independence Day speech from the Red Fort, highlighting the role of cooperatives in fostering women's empowerment. Women are becoming self-reliant through cooperative societies, particularly through initiatives like women SHGs and programs such as Drone Didi, which align with the SDGs. Women SHGs are being given significant attention, especially in the operation of drones by IFFCO, which enables women to earn over one lakh rupees. Additionally, the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) organizes skill development programs to train women in various sectors, including dairy, fisheries, handloom, sewing, and embroidery.

Solar Energy

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasize that natural resources should be used responsibly, ensuring that future generations have access to the same resources. The goal is to promote sustainable development that accounts for the long-term impact on resources like energy, water, and air, which are rapidly depleting. Conservation of these essential resources must begin today to secure a sustainable future. In this context, many cooperative societies in India are actively working on energy conservation initiatives. A notable example is the Dhundi Solar Energy Producer Cooperative Society in Kheda district, Gujarat, which is the country's first solar irrigation cooperative. Established in collaboration with the International Water Management Institute, this initiative highlights the potential of solar energy in India's agricultural sector. In recent years, there has been significant progress in solar energy development across India, with schemes implemented in 15 states. These efforts aim to bring solar energy to every corner of the country through cooperative models. Such cooperatives are expected to not only generate employment in rural areas but also allow communities to produce their own electricity, reducing reliance on external sources. Farmers have also benefited from this solar energy initiative, as they can now use electricity generated from solar panels to power tube wells for irrigation. This effort to realize the goals of SDG will definitely be effective. ♦♦♦



Key Accomplishments of NDDB Over Six Decades

NDDB Empowering Farmers and Women, Says Shri Amit Shah

Sahkar Uday Team

Aligned with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahakar Se Samridhhi', the Ministry of Cooperation under the leadership of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah is actively fortifying the cooperative movement in India. This effort aims to boost the rural economy, enhancing the economic conditions of village women and farmers through cooperatives.

Recently, Shri Amit Shah launched a significant initiative worth ₹300 crore in Anand, Gujarat, marking a major step in the government's ongoing farmer welfare activities. Speaking at the diamond jubilee celebrations of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and an event commemorating the birth anniversary of Shri Tribhuvan Patel, Shri Shah acknowledged that under Prime Minister Shri Modi's leadership, numerous initiatives have been implemented to support the cooperative sector.

About 22 state unions and 231 district unions have been established in the cooperative sector. 28 marketing dairies have been formed and 21 milk-producing companies are in operation. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for White Revolution 2.0 has been unveiled incorporating key initiatives aimed at benefitting farmers. He said that the government plans to empower one lakh new and existing dairies contributing to the



- India's success lies in branding cooperative products and preparing them to compete with corporate products
- With vegetable processing by NDDB, Indian farmers' produce will reach global markets, ensuring direct profits for farmers
- NDDB registers 10,000 FPOs
- Launch of Badri Ghee of Uttarakhand and Gir Ghee of Gujarat

expansion of the dairy sector. A major initiative to form two lakh new Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) will further strengthen the cooperative structure across the nation.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah also

highlighted India's remarkable achievements in milk production, noting that India has surpassed the United States with an annual production of 231 million tonnes, securing the top spot globally. India's milk production growth rate stands at 6% compared to the global rate of

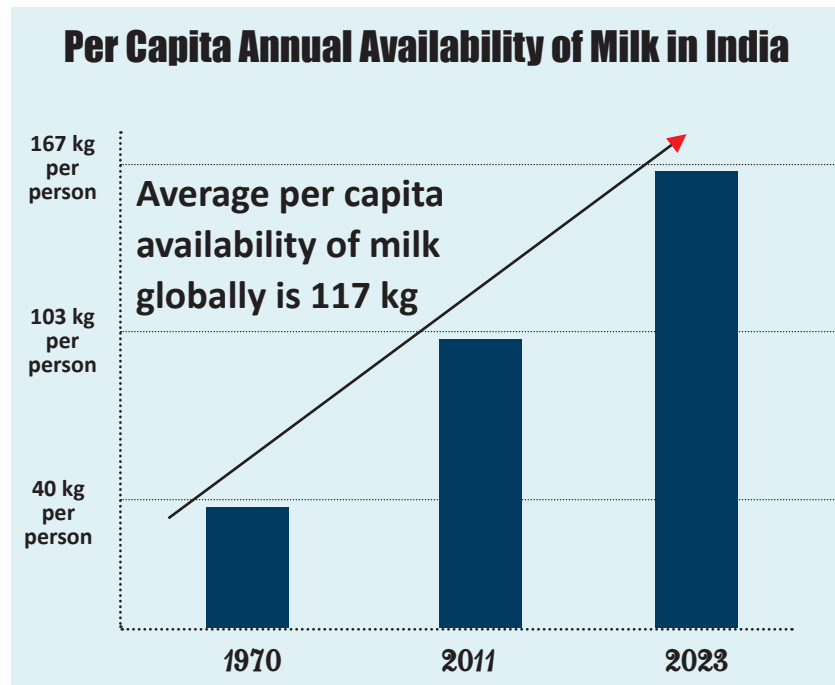
2%. While eight crore rural families are engaged in milk production, only 1.5 crore are part of the cooperative sector. This, according to Shri Shah, means the remaining 6.5 crore families are not receiving fair prices for their milk and are being exploited.

The government is committed to ensuring that all eight crore milk-producing families benefit from fair compensation and can join the cooperative sector. Following NDDB's initiative, the government has also announced that all dairy plants in the country will now be built under the 'Make in India' campaign.

Strengthens Foundation of Cooperatives

Shri Shah highlighted that in its 60-year journey, NDDB has not only empowered farmers and women across the country through cooperatives but also raised awareness about their rights. By promoting rural development and advancing the nation's progress, NDDB has also played a crucial role in making agriculture self-sustaining. Founded by Tribhuvan Das as a small cooperative to uplift poor farmers, NDDB has grown into a massive institution, not just in India but globally, conducting business worth thousands of crores of rupees with two crore farmers. Shri Shah emphasized that NDDB drove the success of the White Revolution by implementing Operation Flood between 1970 and 1996. As a result, milk availability in India grew from 40 kg per capita in 1970 to 103 kg in 2011, and 167 kg per capita in 2023—well above the global average of 117 kg.

Shri Shah also pointed out that Amul, which started with a modest share capital of ₹100, now generates annual revenue of ₹60,000 crores. Shri Shah recalled that in 1964 when the then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri visited Amul Dairy,



he realized that the success of Amul should benefit not just Gujarat but the entire country's dairy farmers. This led to Shastri's decision to establish NDDB. At the time, no one could have imagined that this initiative would grow into such a monumental institution.

NDDB's daily milk sales now total 427 lakh litres, while it purchases 589 lakh litres, with its revenue growing from ₹344 crore to ₹426 crore and net profits reaching ₹50 crore.

Global Market for Indian Vegetables

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Shah announced that NDDB's new vegetable processing initiative will enable the produce of Indian farmers to reach global markets, ensuring they receive fair profits through the cooperative model. NDDB has also registered 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to strengthen this effort. Shri Shah laid the foundation stone for Mother Dairy's new fruit and vegetable processing

unit, a project valued at ₹210 crore. In addition, he launched Badri Ghee from Uttarakhand and the Gir Ghee brand under Mother Dairy. Shri Shah emphasized that the success of cooperatives lies in effectively branding and marketing their products, enabling them to compete with large corporate companies. He highlighted that Amul has reached the top position globally, marking a significant achievement for India. He also mentioned that new schemes would benefit farmers from diverse regions, including apricot farmers in Ladakh, apple farmers in Himachal Pradesh, and pineapple farmers in Meghalaya.

Shri Shah praised Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his visionary decision to implement the Gobardhan Yojana which has had a positive impact on land conservation, agricultural productivity and farmer prosperity. He noted that the scheme is also contributing to environmental sustainability by turning cow dung into gas and fertilizer, while women are benefiting from carbon credit payments. ♦♦♦

India Progressing in Each & Every Sector with Unprecedented Speed: PM Modi



- India shows world new path to digital public infrastructure by democratizing technology
- Infrastructure projects worth ₹9 lakh crore launched
- ₹21,000 crore transferred to farmers' bank accounts
- 15 new Vande Bharat trains flagged off, foundation stone laid for 8 new airports

Sahkar Uday Team

India, a rapidly developing nation and emerging global power is advancing at an extraordinary pace across all sectors, driven by a future-focused approach. The resolution of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047 is not just a government goal but reflects the aspirations of the 140 crore citizens of the nation. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently shared these views at a global conference in New Delhi. He highlighted how the government has fast-tracked

India's economic growth in its third term through streamlined policy-making, swift decision-making and transformative reforms. The Prime Minister emphasized that the vision of 'Viksit Bharat' has become part of the national consciousness, demonstrating how the collective power of the people is being harnessed to strengthen the nation.

To accelerate public welfare and development, the government has rolled out several initiatives in just 125 days. These include sanctioning

three crore new homes for the poor, launching infrastructure projects worth ₹9 lakh crore and initiating 15 major construction projects. The government has also launched new Vande Bharat trains and laid the foundation for eight new airports. In addition, ₹2 lakh crore package has been allocated for youth development and ₹21,000 crore has been transferred directly to farmers' bank accounts. A free healthcare program for citizens over 70 years was also introduced, while 90 crore saplings were planted under a nationwide environmental initiative. Moreover, 12 new industrial zones were approved contributing to India's economic growth, as reflected in the rise of the Sensex and Nifty indices by about 5-7%. India's foreign exchange reserves also grew to \$700 billion. During this period, India hosted major global events including the Global Fintech Festival, the Global Semiconductor Ecosystem Conference and the International Conference on Renewable Energy and Civil Aviation, further cementing its position on the world stage.

Emphasis on Education and Employment

The Prime Minister highlighted that India is forging a path toward progress in order to tackle the challenges of poverty. Over the past decade, 25 crore people have risen out of poverty, 12 crore toilets have been built and 16 crore gas connections have been provided to those in need. Additionally, India has established over 350 medical colleges, built 15 AIIMS,

- Emphasis on Air Travel
- Airport networks being built in small cities
- Over 150 airports built
- Digital Infrastructure Strengthened

created over 1.5 lakh startups and disbursed Mudra loans to 8 crore youth. Emphasizing the importance of continuous progress for India's youth, the Prime Minister said that being one of the youngest countries in the world, India holds vast potential. He stressed the government's dedication to empowering the youth to become a driving force in global development through special initiatives in education, skill development, research and employment. Shri Modi mentioned that the results of these efforts over the past decade are now evident, with significant improvements in research quality.

In the past 8-9 years, the participation of Indian universities in international rankings has risen from 30 to over 100. India's presence in global university rankings has surged by over 300%, while the number of patents and trademarks filed in the country has reached record highs. The Prime Minister stated that India is rapidly becoming a global hub for research and development with over 2,500 companies from around the world now operating research centres in the country. The startup sector too is witnessing unprecedented growth.

Aim to Increase Ease of Living of Citizens

The Prime Minister emphasized that the government's policy-making is centred around improving the lives of the middle class, common citizens, small businesses, MSMEs, youth and women. He explained

“Despite India's minimal contribution to the global climate challenge, the country is taking the lead in addressing it. The government has made green transition a key driver of growth. Sustainability is at the core of India's development planning. Programs like Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme and solar pump schemes for agriculture, the EV revolution, ethanol blending program, large wind energy farms, the LED light movement, solar-powered airports and biogas plants reflect the strong commitment to a green future and green jobs.

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Welfare Focus

- 12 crore toilets built
- Gas connections issued to 16 crore families
- Over 350 medical colleges built
- 15 AIIMS established
- Mudra loan facility to 8 crore youth
- 1.5 lakh startups established



that the government's focus is on enhancing the ease of living for citizens by promoting rapid and inclusive physical connectivity. A key part of this effort is improving air

travel accessibility. Reaffirming his vision of affordable air travel for all, he said that even individuals wearing 'Hawai Chappals' (flip-flops) should have the opportunity to fly. The Prime Minister noted that the UDAN scheme, which has been operational for eight years, has made air travel affordable for the masses. The initiative has led to the creation of a new network of airports in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. To date, around 3 lakh flights have been operated under UDAN, serving 1.5 crore citizens.

Turning to India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), the Prime Minister highlighted how India has introduced a new global model by democratizing technology. The advancements made through the Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile (JAM) trinity have established a robust system for fast, efficient, and disruption-free service delivery. He pointed out that India now records over 500 million digital transactions daily through UPI, showcasing the scale of digital transformation.

The Prime Minister also spoke about the PM Gati Shakti Manch, a platform aimed at removing bottlenecks in infrastructure development. ♦♦♦

India on Track to Become Third Largest Economy in the World



- Under Shri Modi's leadership, India emerges as the fastest growing startup economy in the world
- PHD Chamber must fulfil responsibility of implementing government policies, plans and vision on the ground, conveying industry problems to government

Sahkar Uday Team

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Indian government is making significant strides toward realizing its goal of transforming India into a developed nation by 2047. Currently one of the top five economies globally, India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy by 2027. These remarks were made by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah during the annual convention of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) in New Delhi. Shri Shah lauded the event's theme, 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Marching towards the Peak of Progress' and

emphasized the critical role of PHDCCI as a bridge between the government and the industrial sector. He urged the Chamber to help communicate government policies, plans, and visions, while also bringing industry challenges to the government's attention.

Highlighting the government's resolve, Shri Shah reiterated that Prime Minister Shri Modi aims to make India a fully developed nation by the centenary of its Independence in 2047 and the third-largest global economy by 2027. Over the past decade, the government has launched several key policies and initiatives to achieve these ambitious goals. He credited Modi for ending

the 'Policy Paralysis' that prevailed before 2014, replacing it with a 'Politics of Performance' which has had a positive global impact. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) now recognizes India as a 'bright spot' in the global economy.

Shri Shah further emphasized that the Modi government has taken significant steps to strengthen India's national interests, focusing on areas such as food security, health security and infrastructure development. One of the major initiatives is the world's largest grain storage program, implemented on a cooperative basis. Over the past 10 years, the government has been providing 5kg of food grains free

of charge per person to 80 crore citizens. Additionally, under Shri Modi's leadership, four crore poor families have been given homes, 15 crore households now have access to tap water, over 11 crore people have received free gas connections and more than 12 crore households have been provided with toilets. The government has also eliminated 2,000 outdated colonial-era laws and abolished over 39,000 redundant practices across various sectors. Shri Shah praised Prime Minister Shri Modi for addressing longstanding challenges and steering India towards stability, essential for effective policy implementation, security and sustainable development. He concluded by stating that stability ensures continuity in policies, ideas and overall national progress.

Steps Towards 'Viksit Bharat'

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah outlined several key steps the government has taken to make India a developed nation. He highlighted the country's ongoing infrastructure development and efforts to establish India as a global manufacturing hub. The government has been focused on creating an investment-friendly ecosystem and developing a skilled workforce through various skill development programs. Government efforts are also centred around promoting research and innovation in emerging technologies, including advanced computing, deep-sea exploration, marine economy and space technologies.

Shri Shah emphasized that visionary policies have been put in place from the outset with successful implementation ensuring progress across multiple sectors. Under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, India has become the world's fastest-growing startup

Ratan Tata's Legacy Will Continue to Inspire Industrialists

Paying tribute to the renowned industrialist Shri Ratan Tata, Shri Amit Shah lauded his significant contributions to India's industrial landscape. Addressing a gathering of thousands of industry leaders, Shri Shah described him as a globally respected industrialist who transformed the way businesses operated. When Shri Ratan Tata took over the leadership of the Tata Group, he elevated it to a prominent position both in India and internationally, by adhering to the highest standards of integrity and fully complying with all regulations. Beyond business success, Shri Tata worked to address societal issues using the resources of his trust to improve the country. The legacy of Shri Tata will continue to serve as a source of inspiration for future leaders in India's industrial sector. He likened the Tata Group to a 'pole star' in the Indian business world.

economy and has launched the world's largest digital payment system. The government has built major infrastructure projects such as the world's longest highway tunnel, the highest railway bridge, the Trans-Harbour Link in Mumbai and the underwater metro in Kolkata over the last 10 years. Key infrastructure projects like the Zojila Tunnel, Chenab Railway Bridge and Assam Bridge along with the laying of undersea optical fibre in Andaman-Nicobar and Lakshadweep have significantly improved connectivity. Furthermore, they have opened up new business opportunities in remote areas while also enhancing security.

Additionally, under the Sagarmala project, underdeveloped areas across the country are being better connected and the Vande Bharat Express network has expanded convenient travel options. Shri Shah pointed out that these efforts, along with initiatives such as GST, Digital India, Bharatmala, Sagarmala, PM Gati Shakti and Startup India, have contributed to India's overall

development.

Shri Shah also mentioned the government's focus on modernizing education through the new National Education Policy, which is designed to equip the younger generation with skills that meet the demands of the changing world. On the industrial front, India is making significant strides in semiconductor manufacturing and electric vehicle production, positioning itself as a key player in these emerging sectors. Another notable achievement is the record level of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flowing into the country and India becoming the fourth-largest holder of foreign exchange reserves globally. Shri Shah highlighted that the active participation of all 1.4 billion citizens in the country's development process has driven India's economic growth, contributing to the country's rising global stature. Finally, he proudly mentioned that the entire nation felt a sense of pride as India's tricolour was hoisted at Shiv Shakti Point on the Moon, marking a historic achievement in space exploration. ♦♦♦

India Making Technology Sector Inclusive by Empowering Women: Prime Minister

- India is working towards the goal of making technology sector inclusive, empowering women through technology platforms

Sahkar Uday Team

The number of mobile phone users in India has surpassed 120 crore, with 95 crore people in the country using the internet. India accounts for nearly half of the world's digital transactions. The country has demonstrated that digital connectivity is an effective tool for bringing convenience to every individual. These remarks were made by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the inauguration of the 8th India Mobile Congress (IMC) and the International Telecommunication Union – World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. He emphasized that India is one of the most active nations in the field of telecommunications and related technologies.

Shri Modi pointed out that while mobile phones and telecommunications are viewed globally as tools of convenience, in India they serve as vehicles for equality and opportunity. He explained that telecommunication is bridging the divide between urban and rural areas, as well as between the wealthy and the poor. India has created a digital ecosystem



by democratizing technology and innovations on these platforms have generated millions of new opportunities. Highlighting the transformative impact of the Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile (JAM) trinity, he noted that it has laid the groundwork for numerous innovations. The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has opened new doors for businesses, while the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is transforming the landscape of digital commerce. Shri Modi concluded that India's journey in mobile and telecommunications in the 21st century is a model that the world is studying closely.

Digital India Bringing Significant Changes

Reaffirming his vision for Digital India from 10 years ago, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted that the government has

pursued digital transformation with a comprehensive approach, focusing on four key pillars: affordable devices, universal connectivity, accessible data and a 'digital-first' approach. The government's extensive initiatives have produced significant results. India has successfully reduced data costs by implementing reforms in the telecom sector. Shri Modi pointed out that the price of internet data in India is still 10 to 20 times higher than in many other countries, but emphasized that today the average Indian consumes about 30 GB of data per month.

Making the Technology Sector Inclusive

Prime Minister Shri Modi also underscored India's commitment to women-led development, particularly in the technology sector. The government is working to empower women through

technology platforms, making the tech industry more inclusive. He noted the significant contributions of women scientists to India's space missions and the increasing number of women co-founders in Indian start-ups. He also highlighted that 40% of students in India's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields are women, with the country creating numerous opportunities for women to become technology leaders. Speaking about initiatives aimed at rural women, Shri Modi referred to the government's NaMo Drone Didi program which is empowering women to lead the drone revolution in agriculture. The Prime Minister also mentioned the Bank Sakhi program which is helping bring digital banking and payments to every household thereby raising digital awareness.

Additionally, he acknowledged the critical role played by Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and Anganwadi workers in India's primary healthcare system, where they monitor and manage health services using tablets and mobile apps. The Mahila e-Haat initiative, an online marketplace for women entrepreneurs, was also highlighted as an important step in empowering women. Prime Minister Shri Modi expressed confidence that in the future, every daughter of India will become a leader in technology, further expanding the country's scope of women-led innovation.

Robust Network of Mobile Towers

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted India's transformative progress in connectivity and telecom reforms, noting the construction of a vast network of mobile towers across the country, including in remote tribal, hilly and border areas. This infrastructure has ensured reliable

India's Digital Innovation for Global Welfare

Prime Minister Shri Modi expressed India's eagerness to share its successes in Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) with the world, saying that India's digital ecosystem can play a key role in advancing welfare programs globally. He affirmed India's commitment to sharing its DPI knowledge with other nations, emphasizing that the country's mission is to bring the world together and open new pathways for progress. He called for the establishment of a global framework for digital technology, stressing the importance of international cooperation in addressing cyber threats. Shri Modi urged the creation of global standards for technology that include 'Dos and Don'ts' to ensure the secure use of digital tools. He called for active collaboration through global institutions to build a secure digital ecosystem and secure telecommunications channels. He said, "Security cannot be ignored in an interconnected world," and cited India's Data Protection Act and National Cyber Security Strategy as evidence of the country's commitment to building a safe digital environment. He urged the world to create inclusive, secure and future-ready technology standards that respect the diversity of nations and their needs.



communication and connectivity even in the most far-flung regions. He emphasized that the government has worked to strengthen the mobile tower network nationwide. Additionally, he pointed to India's infrastructure achievements such as the laying of optical fibre, which spans a distance eight times greater than the distance between Earth and the Moon in just 10 years. Public spaces such as railway stations

are now equipped with Wi-Fi and even islands like Andaman-Nicobar and Lakshadweep are connected through undersea cables. Shri Modi also noted that India introduced 5G technology two years ago and today almost every district is connected to it, making India the second-largest 5G market in the world. Looking ahead, India is preparing for 6G technology, positioning the country for future advancements in connectivity. ◆◆◆

Home Guards: Strengthening the Nation with Security and Service

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Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has pledged to build a fully developed India by 2047. To realize this goal, India must progress in every sector while preserving its values, traditions, culture and languages. Service and security are key elements in achieving this vision. These views were expressed by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah at the 14th All India Home Guards and Civil Defence Conference in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. He emphasized the importance of strengthening every link in the chain to reach the target of a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. Civil Defence and Home Guards play a crucial role in ensuring the country's safety and security.

Shri Shah said that similar to the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and National Service Scheme (NSS), it is essential to engage youth from all segments in Home Guards and Civil Defence. He also highlighted the significant contributions made by Home Guards and Civil Defence volunteers during the 1965 and 1971 wars. In the 1965 India-Pakistan war, these organizations, alongside the armed forces and administration, played a vital role in safeguarding infrastructure and evacuating civilians to safer areas.

India Moving Towards Self-Reliance

Shri Amit Shah highlighted the radical changes made in India in recent years, emphasizing that the country is now progressing rapidly. He stressed that training for Home Guards and Civil



- Like NCC and NSS, efforts should be made to involve youth in Home Guards and Civil Defence
- Their contribution should be to Swachh Bharat, tree plantation, water conservation and other awareness programs

Defence should be organized systematically and integrated into the official framework. There is also a pressing need to involve these forces in areas like traffic management, he added. In the next four months, the government plans to introduce a series of updates and enhancements to the Home Guards and Civil Defence charter, aiming to make these organizations more effective and relevant. This, Shri Shah said, will foster a renewed sense of purpose within these groups. He also suggested that Home Guards and Civil Defence should be actively involved in national awareness campaigns such as Drug Free India, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, tree plantation, water conservation, TB Free India, as well as initiatives promoting women's

safety, public health and the fight against malnutrition. Additionally, he called for their participation in campaigns on cyber security, digital fraud prevention, Plastic Free India and Tree Plantation Campaign for environmental protection.

Shri Shah emphasized the need for greater coordination between local law enforcement agencies and Home Guards and Civil Defence, proposing a roadmap to enhance law and order support. He also stressed their potential role in supporting educational initiatives, reducing student dropout rates, ensuring 100% enrolment and improving the overall quality of education. Lastly, he noted that Home Guards and Civil Defence should be included in government programs aimed at boosting employment and promoting self-reliance. ◆◆◆

Namo Lakshmi, Namu Saraswati Schemes to Transform Gujarat's Education Sector



- Fellowships worth ₹116 crore deposited in bank accounts of 10.85 lakh students under Namu Lakshmi and Namu Saraswati Science Sadhana Projects
- Gujarat government brought huge change in youths' lives by raising student enrolment ratio from 67% to 99.8%

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Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Government of India is implementing a new education policy aimed at providing world-class education, technical knowledge and skill development to the country's youth. This initiative is designed to help youth excel in global competition. With its multi-dimensional and all-round holistic approach, the policy ensures that youth across the country, including Gujarat, can compete internationally and progress on par with global standards. These remarks were made by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah during the fellowship distribution ceremony of the Namu Lakshmi and Namu Saraswati Science Sadhana Projects in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Shri Shah emphasized that Prime Minister Shri Modi has set an ambitious goal for India to become a fully developed nation by 2047. He highlighted

that this goal cannot be realized unless the youth of India adopt it as their personal mission to make the country the most prosperous and educated in the world.

The new education policy provides multiple opportunities for students to explore diverse fields. For example, science students can pursue music if they have an interest in it and music students can opt for science education if they so choose. Shri Shah said that because science is more closely linked to employment opportunities, the Narendra Modi Science Sadhana Project was introduced to encourage students to pursue science and technology. Under the Namu Lakshmi and Namu Saraswati Science Sadhana Projects, fellowships totalling ₹116 crore have been directly deposited into the bank accounts of approximately 10.85 lakh students, with the majority of beneficiaries being girls. Shri Shah predicted that these schemes would bring transformative changes to Gujarat's education system in the coming years.

Remarkable Change in Lives of Youth

Shri Shah shared that till a few years ago, Gujarat had a dropout rate of around 37%. However, following the launch of the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Yojana' by Prime Minister Shri Modi, a campaign to enrol children in schools was launched. This initiative has successfully increased the student enrolment rate in Gujarat from 67% to 99.8%, creating a significant impact on the lives of the state's youth. The dropout rate has now been reduced to just 2%. Shri Shah praised Prime Minister Shri Modi for initiating this transformation, with government efforts supporting the complete literacy of Gujarat's students. The Namu Lakshmi and Namu Saraswati Schemes are key incentive schemes that are helping students continue their education through to high school, benefiting not only those in primary school but also those advancing to class 12. ♦♦♦

Government Committed to Structural Reforms for 'Viksit Bharat': Prime Minister



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The Government of India is dedicated to speeding up the pace of inclusive growth, having launched development projects worth ₹15 lakh crore in the first three months of its third term. Over the past decade as the economy has grown equality has also increased. As a result of this inclusive development, 25 crore citizens have been lifted out of poverty. These remarks were shared by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at an economic conference in New Delhi. He emphasized that the Indian economy is undergoing significant changes and is on track for high growth. Shri Modi also highlighted that alongside rapid economic progress, the government is committed to reducing inequality

- Five semiconductor plants will deliver Made-in-India chips to world
- Decisions worth ₹15 lakh crore taken in the first three months of 3rd term of government
- Special package for skilling and internship of youth

and ensuring that the benefits of development reach everyone. The government is guided by the principles of reform, performance and change and is consistently making decisions to propel the country forward. To achieve 'Viksit Bharat', Shri Modi pointed to bold policy shifts, a firm commitment to job creation and skill development, a focus on sustainable growth and innovation, modern infrastructure, improved living standards and

sustained rapid economic growth. He mentioned that numerous large infrastructure projects are currently underway, including the development of 12 industrial hubs and the construction of three crore new homes for the poor.

Advancements in Scientific Innovations

Prime Minister Shri Modi also spoke about India's growing global stature, noting that India is the

youngest country in the world and has the third-largest pool of scientists and technicians globally. Leveraging this capability, India is increasingly recognized as a leader in science, technology and innovation. Currently, India is the fifth-largest economy by GDP and the fastest-growing major economy. Shri Modi also pointed out that India ranks first in the world for fintech adoption and smartphone data consumption. The country holds the second position for the number of internet users and nearly half of the world's digital transactions take place in India in real-time. India also boasts the third-largest start-up ecosystem, ranks fourth in renewable energy capacity and is the second-largest producer of mobile phones as well as the largest manufacturer of two-wheelers and tractors.

India Top Destination for Manufacturing & Service

Referring to the predictions of global institutions like World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Moody's, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted that India's economic performance last year surpassed all predictions, with these institutions forecasting continued growth of over 7% despite global uncertainties. Shri Modi expressed confidence that India will not only maintain this growth rate but also exceed expectations. He attributed this optimistic outlook to the solid foundation built over the past decade through major reforms that have transformed India's macroeconomic landscape. He pointed out that key reforms such as banking sector improvements have bolstered the financial stability of banks and expanded their lending capacities. The introduction of the Goods and

₹1.5 Lakh Crore Investment in Semiconductor Industry

India is making significant investments in cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and semiconductors. The Prime Minister highlighted that the country's AI Mission will boost both research and skills in this emerging field. Additionally, India is investing ₹1.5 lakh crore in the India Semiconductor Mission with plans to establish five semiconductor manufacturing plants. These plants will soon produce 'Made in India' chips for global distribution.

Services Tax (GST) has streamlined India's tax system by unifying central and state taxes, while the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) has fostered a culture of accountability, recovery and resolution within the credit system.

In addition, India has opened up several critical sectors—such as mining, defence and space—to private companies and young entrepreneurs. To attract more global investors, the government has liberalized foreign direct investment (FDI) policies. A key focus has been on modernizing infrastructure to reduce logistics costs and improve efficiency which has resulted in a significant increase in investment in the sector over the past decade. Citing the remarkable growth of India's electronics industry, Shri Modi pointed out that while India was once a major importer of mobile phones, today the country manufactures over 33 crore mobile phones annually. He emphasized that there are now abundant investment opportunities across various regions of India offering high returns for global investors.

India Rising as Global Intellectual Power

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted India's growing

stature as a global intellectual powerhouse and said that over 1,700 global competence centres are currently operating in the country, employing over 200,000 skilled Indian professionals. He stressed that India's vast human resources are being leveraged through a focus on education, innovation, skills development and research, driven by initiatives like the National Education Policy (NEP). Shri Modi pointed out that in the past decade, India has seen the establishment of a new university every week and two new colleges every day. Additionally, the number of medical colleges has doubled in the last 10 years. The government is not only expanding the number of educational institutions but also working to enhance their quality. Shri Modi also referenced a special package for skills development and internships for millions of youth in this year's budget which is aimed at improving their work efficiency. The PM Internship Scheme will provide one crore youth with the opportunity to gain practical experience in leading companies. Furthermore, the government has created a research fund of ₹1 billion to bolster India's research ecosystem. ♦♦♦

NAFCUB: The Cybersecurity Shield of Small Urban Cooperative Banks

Sahkar Uday Team

N AFCUB, the apex body for urban cooperative banks, is set to enhance cybersecurity measures for small urban cooperative banks nationwide. This protective framework will safeguard these banks from cybercriminals and fraudsters. In alignment with Union Minister for Home and Cooperation Shri Amit Shah's vision to strengthen the urban cooperative movement, NAFCUB, in partnership with the Ministry of Cooperation, aims to establish at least one urban cooperative bank in every district. To support this initiative, a task force has been formed by the Union Ministry of Cooperation. Urban cooperative banks are to be viewed as robust as private commercial banks, with planned seminars and workshops on good governance for bank directors to raise awareness and promote best practices.

According to the Reserve Bank of India's 2022-23 report, there are currently 1,502 cooperative banks across the nation. NAFCUB is actively working to strengthen the urban cooperative credit sector, aiming for significant development by 2025. Guided by Union Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah's vision to enhance the cooperative movement, urban cooperative banks will expand strategically, with a goal of establishing one in each district to extend their reach. A task force established by the Ministry of Cooperation will encourage urban credit cooperative societies to transition into urban banks on a broader

Initiatives for Urban Cooperative Banks

- NAFCUB received an initial fund of ₹200 crore from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- Currently, there are 896 urban cooperative banks in tier-one cities, 520 in tier-two, 78 in tier-three, and only six in tier-four cities, with these banks holding deposits totalling ₹10,000 crore.
- Urban cooperative banks are presently operational in states like Manipur and Mizoram. These banks will be developed to emulate the model of Saraswat Bank, the largest urban cooperative bank in India.
- With NAFCUB's establishment, Saraswat Bank is set to expand from a national to an international presence.
- NAFCUB is structured to operate as a Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) for Urban Cooperative Banks, within the guidelines established by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It will play a central role in offering infrastructure and fund-based support to these banks.

scale. NAFCUB has also made extensive preparations to shield these banks from cyber fraud, including the creation of a dedicated IT

department in urban cooperative banks in the coming fiscal year.

While all urban cooperative banks currently use Core Banking Software (CBS), continuous advancements in technology will further integrate with banking operations. NAFCUB plans to offer a low-cost platform for small urban cooperative banks to combat cybercrime, providing essential software at an affordable rate. As a central body, NAFCUB will organize seminars and workshops on good governance for the directors of urban cooperative banks and, in November 2025, will host a major conference in Delhi dedicated to the urban cooperative credit sector. Through these initiatives, advanced technology will be made accessible at minimal cost, safeguarding these banks against cyber threats. ♦♦♦



NAFCUB



Pioneer of Indian Cooperative Movement: Vaikunthbhai Mehta

Sahkar Uday Team

The life of Shri Vaikunthbhai Mehta serves as a remarkable example of selfless dedication to the development of the Indian cooperative movement and village industries. His legacy endures as a prominent leader, mentor and pioneer of cooperatives. Born to Lallubhai and Satyavatiben on October 26, 1891, in Bhavnagar, Gujarat, during the Bombay Presidency, Vaikunthbhai excelled academically, completing his higher education with distinction at the University of Mumbai. He went on to serve as the Chief Executive of the Bombay State Cooperative Bank (now the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank) for approximately 35 years.

At the urging of Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel, Vaikunthbhai Mehta became the first Minister of Finance and Cooperation in the Balasaheb Gangadhar Kher cabinet of the Bombay State from 1947 to 1952. He was also a member of the drafting committee for the Indian Constitution. In recognition of his contributions to the cooperative movement, he was awarded the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal by the British Government in 1916. However, in 1930, he returned both the medal and a gold medal awarded by the government as a protest against its oppressive policies.

In 1954, the Government of India honoured Vaikunthbhai with the Padma Bhushan for his exceptional service to society, making him the first Gujarati to receive the prestigious award. The first Governor-General of India, Shri C Rajagopalachari, famously said, "If anyone can replace Mahatma Gandhi, it is Vaikunthbhai."

“ On one hand, Vaikunthbhai Mehta showed a new path to prosperity for farmers by facilitating agricultural loans through the Bombay State Cooperative Bank, while on the other hand, he made a significant contribution to popularizing Khadi. The cooperative teachings of Vaikunthbhai Mehta, who fundamentally promoted the cooperative spirit through his focus on training within cooperatives, will continue to provide valuable guidance.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home and
Cooperation Minister

Vaikunthbhai, deeply influenced by the social and economic principles of Mahatma Gandhi, was a close associate in the Khadi movement. He was an advocate of Gandhian economics, emphasizing the decentralization of the economy and the importance of rural self-reliance. In addition, Vaikunthbhai made significant contributions to cooperative education and training. In his honour, the Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VAMNICOM) was established in Pune, continuing to inspire and guide the Indian cooperative movement today. ♦♦♦

Indian Cooperatives Set to Play a Key Role in Industrial Revolution

- Blueprint will be developed with help of ULCCS, Kozhikode
- Agenda for industrial growth through cooperatives set by ICA-AP Research Conference



Sahkar Uday Team

Uralungal Labor Contract Cooperative Society (ULCCS) is dedicated to fulfilling Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of '*Sahakar Se Samridhi*' by improving the lives of workers across the country. As the largest cooperative society in India focused on labour, Uralungal Cooperative is committed to uplifting the human resources in the workforce. Recently, the cooperative launched the '*Sakshya*' initiative in collaboration with ICA Asia-Pacific (ICA-AP), aiming to drive the industrial revolution through cooperatives. The initiative seeks to foster both rural and industrial development with the support of cooperative models in the future.

During the 18th International Cooperative Alliance Asia Pacific (ICA-AP) Research Conference held recently in partnership with ULCCS, international representatives of cooperatives gathered in Kerala for discussions. During the conference, experts highlighted the significant role of cooperatives in the forthcoming industrial revolution. In the face of

technological advancements and ongoing industrial transformation, cooperatives are poised to play a pivotal role as partners in this change. This conference came at a crucial juncture, as cooperatives worldwide are adapting to technology, digitalisation and globalization—factors that are reshaping industries and labour markets. Cooperatives offer a sustainable and adaptable alternative to corporate-driven models, emphasizing community development, equitable wealth distribution and equal pay.

Through international dialogue, debates and collaborative sessions, the conference explored how cooperatives can thrive and evolve as key drivers of democratic workplaces in this new industrial age. The event also focused on involving young, progressive students to lead the cooperative movement in the future, with the goal of empowering the next generation. The Central Government has taken steps to increase youth leadership in the cooperative sector, including the establishment of the first-ever National Cooperative University in India.

The conference brought together policymakers, experts, entrepreneurs and cooperative sector representatives to discuss not only the role of cooperatives in the industrial sector but also the challenges and potential opportunities in this field. Cooperatives have already proven effective in rural economies, improving the lives of villagers in sectors such as fisheries, dairy, handlooms and agriculture, and are steadily transforming livelihoods. Expanding cooperatives into the industrial sector will open new opportunities in urban areas as well. With ICA-AP's support, cooperatives will have better access to global markets.

One of the best-suited platforms for such expansion is ULCCS, founded in 1925. It is India's largest labour cooperative society involved in large-scale construction, development and infrastructure projects. Operating on cooperative principles, Uralungal Cooperative is driving positive change in workers' lives through a democratic system that prioritizes their welfare and interests. ◆◆◆

Nari Shakti: Accolades for Women's Contribution to Agriculture in India



Sahkar Uday Team

Women play a crucial role in the agricultural sector, not only enhancing agricultural practices but also significantly strengthening the rural economy. To recognize their contributions, IFFCO organized the 'Mahila Kisan Samman Sammelan', an event aimed at celebrating the achievements of women farmers from across India.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the country's first Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, continuous innovations are taking place in agriculture, with a notable increase in the involvement of women in agricultural

■ IFFCO honours women farmers at Mahila Kisan Samman Sammelan

cooperatives. Women, for example, are now spraying Nano urea using drones and becoming successful entrepreneurs through initiatives such as Drone Didi. At the IFFCO event, Managing Director Dr Uday Shankar Awasthi honoured women farmers for their exceptional contributions. The Director General of Doordarshan, Smt Kanchan Prasad, was the chief guest at the ceremony. Dr Awasthi praised the selected women farmers for their courage in overcoming numerous challenges and their unwavering determination to

work in difficult conditions. Their dedication has inspired other women and made them role models in rural communities. He emphasized the importance of recognizing and encouraging women's significant role in India's agricultural landscape. Dr Awasthi also highlighted that the path to success in any field is often paved with struggles but through hard work and perseverance, victory is achieved. The ceremony commended how women farmers are transforming the rural economy and promoting sustainable farming practices. ♦♦♦

Malaysian Partnership Boost to India's Palm Oil Industry

Sahkar Uday Team

A delegation of six representatives from the Cooperative Institute of Malaysia, who recently visited India, discussed the potential for expanding the use of Nano urea in palm oil cultivation and strengthening ties between Malaysia and India. Malaysia is now considering the adoption of Nano Urea and Nano DAP in its palm oil industry. The Chairman of Plantation Cooperative Berhad, along with other cooperative leaders, visited the IFFCO headquarters in India. The four-day trip was aimed at enhancing Indo-Malaysian cooperation in agriculture. India is a major importer of palm oil from Malaysia and the Malaysian government is exploring ways to increase palm oil production through the use of Nano urea to boost exports to other countries. During the visit, IFFCO officials and representatives from Malaysia held detailed discussions on how Nano urea and Nano DAP could be utilized to improve palm oil yields. This collaboration could pave the way for future partnerships between the two nations.

The Malaysian delegation also visited Telangana where local farmers are using Nano urea for palm oil cultivation. The representatives interacted with these farmers to assess the impact of Nano urea on crop costs and productivity. They were impressed with the results, noting that the use of Nano urea had significantly



- Malaysia to purchase Nano urea for use in palm oil farming
- Delegates from six cooperatives visit IFFCO headquarters

reduced expenses while enhancing production. This experience led the Malaysian delegates to express interest in introducing Nano urea and Nano DAP for palm oil farming in their own country.

Dr Rakesh Kapoor, Joint Managing Director of IFFCO, engaged with the delegation, providing insights into the application of Nano urea and the equipment used for spraying. The visit to IFFCO's facilities and the field tour in Telangana provided the Malaysian representatives with valuable information, further

encouraging them to consider a potential partnership with India for the supply of Nano fertilizers in Malaysia. IFFCO Marketing Director Yogendra Kumar, General Manager Santosh Kumar Shukla and senior officials were also present during the discussions. The Malaysian delegation included Mohd Damanhuri Bin Mohd Jamli, a senior official from Plantation Cooperative Berhad. The visit highlighted the strong potential for collaboration between the two countries in the agricultural sector. ♦♦♦

Government to Strengthen Fishery Cooperatives in Maharashtra

Sahkar Uday Team

The government is actively working to promote fishery resources, particularly in coastal and aquatic resource-rich states, by organizing various training programmes. A key initiative under the Ministry of Cooperation has been the support of fishery cooperative societies, which are now performing more effectively. With the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, efforts are being made to simplify the supply chain, enhance market access and improve credit availability for fishery cooperatives. In Maharashtra, VAMNICOM has launched an important initiative to boost the state's fishery cooperatives. As part of this effort, the Board of Directors of fishery cooperative societies from Thane district were briefed on the government's plans to strengthen the fisheries sector. VAMNICOM, in collaboration with ICAR-Central Institute for Fisheries Education (ICAR-CIFE), will help promote fishery businesses in Palghar, Raigarh, Mumbai and Thane.

The initiative involved 70 Board members from 34 fishery cooperatives in Thane, who participated in a three-day scale-up outreach programme. During this program, representatives were introduced to various government schemes designed to support fishery cooperatives, including those offered by the Union Ministry of Cooperation. After receiving this information, the cooperative members are expected to promote similar initiatives in other parts of Maharashtra. Maharashtra,



- Collaboration between VAMNICOM and ICAR CIFE
- 70 board members of fishery cooperatives participate in 3-day training programme

with its 750 km coastline along the Arabian Sea, has significant potential for fisheries cooperation, particularly in the coastal areas of Ratnagiri, Raigarh and Palghar in Thane. The state ranks 7th in India for fish production, contributing around 5% to the country's total output, with marine fisheries making up 82% of that share. The scale-up outreach programme, held from October 11 to 13, covered topics such as the Matsya Sampada Yojana, government schemes to promote fisheries and agriculture, and financial assistance available for fishery cooperatives. The program, which took place at the Thane District Fisheries Cooperative Federation, also included senior officials from VAMNICOM and

ICAR-CIFE.

Representatives from fishery cooperatives in Mumbai, Thane, Raigarh and Palghar attended the event, learning about government support for the fishery sector. A large delegation of 400 members from the Arnala Fisheries Multipurpose Cooperative Society also participated. Additionally, senior officials from VAMNICOM and ICAR-CIFE discussed other initiatives in the cooperative sector such as the MPACS program and opportunities for cooperative members in fisheries. Outreach programs were also conducted at Marol Bazar Masli Vikreta Koli Mahila Sanstha in Mumbai, a key player in the global dry fish market and supply chain.◆◆◆



Arvind Kumar Mishra

India's Cooperatives: A Model for the World

For a long time, global development models have largely focused on two approaches: capitalism and socialism. While capitalism emphasizes the importance of capital, socialism's excessive state control has often hindered the comprehensive growth of institutions. In this context, cooperatives have emerged as a model that promotes both economic and community development, ensuring equal participation for all individuals. The cooperative movement in India, which has roots stretching back 125 years, stands as a global example of inclusive development today. Indian cooperatives have established successful business models in various sectors such as dairy, sugar, fertilizers, housing and renewable energy. Innovations in technology and active youth involvement have further enhanced the cooperative movement, establishing high standards of transparency and business efficiency.

Among the 300 largest cooperatives worldwide, based on per capita GDP, 15 are from India. Leading these is the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Society (IFFCO) ranked first, followed by the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (Amul) in second. Globally, 30 lakh cooperatives contribute significantly to improving people's quality of life, with 10% of global employment and livelihoods tied to the cooperative sector. India alone is home to 8,02,639 cooperatives across 29 sectors, serving 300 million members and making up 27% of the global cooperative

landscape. This remarkable journey of Indian cooperatives is gaining global recognition. From 25-30 November, the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) will host an event in Delhi organized by IFFCO where India will showcase its best cooperative practices and foster new partnerships to expand its influence on the global stage.

Recent innovations in the cooperative sector have significantly strengthened the Indian cooperative movement. To enhance Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), 32 states and union territories have adopted model bylaws transforming PACS into multi-purpose, multi-dimensional and transparent institutions. This has brought much-needed uniformity to the cooperative sector. PACS has also evolved into an enterprise offering essential public services through Common Service Centres (CSCs), which provide people with access to basic civic amenities. Indian cooperatives are now working on projects aimed at producing and distributing goods and services that support environmentally sustainable development. The central government has also established the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL), a national multi-state cooperative for certified seeds and the National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) to market products from organic farming. Under the Bharat Organics brand, six organic products have successfully entered the market. Additionally, cooperatives are driving the largest food grain storage project in the country and

are involved in the establishment of a biofuel production plant by KRIBHCO in Hazira, Gujarat, promoting renewable energy.

The 2018 report from the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) highlights the presence of 21,493 women cooperative societies in India. The National Dairy Development Board has also launched the Women Dairy Cooperative Leadership Programme (WDCLP), underlining the important role cooperatives play in empowering women in rural India. By 2014, over 1.2 million women were employed in dairy cooperatives across the country, according to the International Cooperative Alliance.

The success of these initiatives is expected to inspire other cooperatives, particularly in the area of water management. The 2015 Paris Agreement set a target to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030 (compared to 2010 levels), a goal that can only be achieved through widespread cooperation. Cooperatives are making significant contributions to addressing climate change and advancing climate justice.

The upcoming Global Conference of the International Cooperative Alliance, organized with the efforts of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, promises to inspire cooperatives worldwide to form knowledge-based partnerships. This conference will also pave the way for achieving sustainable development goals through cooperative efforts. ♦♦♦

Cooperative specialist



As part of the IFFCO 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' tree plantation initiative, Union Minister of Home and Cooperation Shri Amit Shah planted a banyan sapling in Pethapur, Gujarat. IFFCO Vice President Shri Balvir Singh and Marketing Director Shri Yogendra Kumar were also present at the event.



The annual Shri Lal Shukla Smriti IFFCO Literary Award Ceremony organized by IFFCO was held recently. This year the prestigious award was presented to renowned writer Shri Chandrakishore Jaiswal. Several dignitaries, including IFFCO Marketing Director Shri Yogendra Kumar, attended the ceremony.



Union Ministry of Cooperation hosted a special program recently to highlight the achievements of the Union Government over the past 100 days. The event focused on various cooperative initiatives and innovations. Prominent officials from the Ministry of Cooperation, including Dr Uday Shanker Awasthi and Pankaj Kumar Bansal were present at the event.



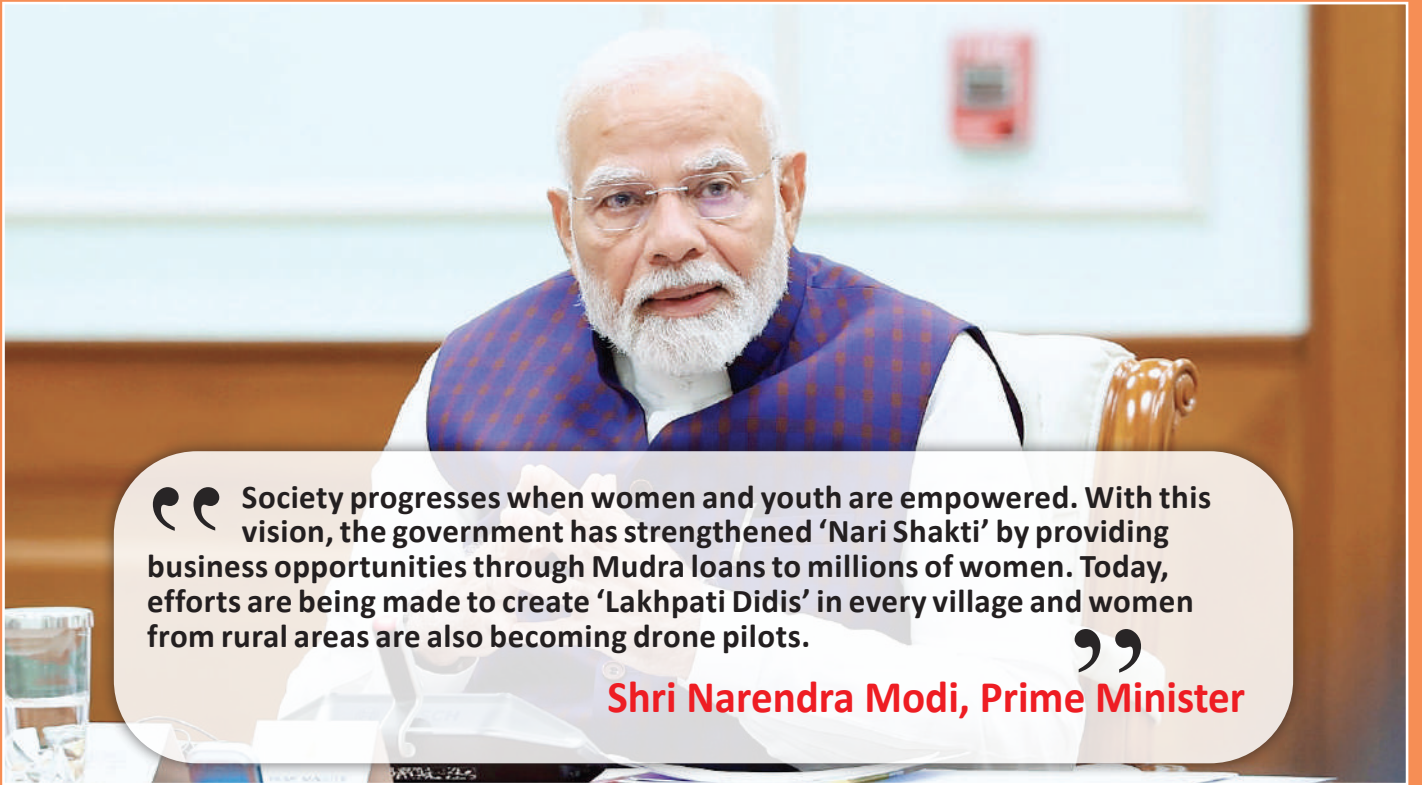
A delegation from major cooperative societies in Malaysia visited the IFFCO headquarters to learn about the various cooperative initiatives led by the Union Ministry of Cooperation in India. The delegates engaged in discussions on the cooperative movement and the various initiatives of IFFCO, including talks about purchasing Nano fertilizers.



IFFCO Jamui, Bihar, organized a large-scale farmers seminar in Mananpur village, Chanan block. 119 participants, including the block agriculture officer, agriculture coordinator, trade board president, fertilizer experts and farmers attended the event. It focused on providing information about organic fertilizers.



The National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) hosted a four-day Cooperative Fair on Entrepreneurship, Arts and Craftsmanship from October 24 to 27 on its New Delhi campus. The fair showcased a spectacular collection of exquisite creations, including handicrafts, Diwali decorations and a variety of delicious dishes created by artisans and entrepreneurs from cooperative societies and self-help groups (SHGs) across India.



“ Society progresses when women and youth are empowered. With this vision, the government has strengthened ‘Nari Shakti’ by providing business opportunities through Mudra loans to millions of women. Today, efforts are being made to create ‘Lakhpati Didis’ in every village and women from rural areas are also becoming drone pilots. ”

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



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