

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 330
ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

Conversion of PACS into Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSK)

330 # SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether there is any plan to convert Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) into the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSK) in the country in a phased manner;
- (b) if so, the number of PACS to be converted into PMKSK as of now;
- (c) the benefits likely to accrue to PACS by doing so; and
- (d) the manner in which income of the PACS will increase through it?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) to (d): The Government has allowed Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) to operate Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs) for ensuring easy accessibility of fertilizers, pesticides and related services to farmers in the country. PACS functioning as PMKSK will help in offering quality agri-inputs, like fertilizers, seeds, farm implements, pesticides, soil/seed testing facilities, etc., to the farmers under one roof, at competitive prices. Through PMKSKs, information on crop related issues & Government schemes is also made available to farmers. Further, regular capacity building of retailers at Block/District level centres is also ensured.

As per report, in 18 States/UTs, 28,648 PACS are currently operating as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs) in the country. The Government aims to operationalise PMKSKs in a phased manner, in all the PACS.

PACS functioning as PMKSKs will serve as "One Stop Shop" for agricultural-related inputs and services for farmers in rural areas. This initiative will provide various benefits to PACS, such as providing stable and additional source of income to them and generating employment opportunities at Panchayat/village Level. Further, PACS functioning as PMKSKs will be able to provide various quality agri-inputs to the farmers at Panchayat/village level itself, thus helping in improving the agricultural productivity.

PACS will be able to diversify their offerings to include a wide range of agricultural inputs and services such as offering quality agri-inputs, like fertilizers, seeds, farm implements, pesticides, soil/ seed testing, etc., in addition to the traditional short-term credit services, thus leading to increased sales and revenues.
