

Visit of Foreign Delegation

Visit of Associate Professor, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia, to NCUI on 03.03.2026

NCUI pleased to host Dr. Paul Thambar, Associate Professor, Monash Business School, Monash University, Melbourne Australia. The recent initiatives and overview of the Indian Cooperative Movement & NCUI's activities was presented by Mr. Ritesh Dey, Executive Director (IR), in the presence of Mr. Ashish Dwivedi, Mr. Rajeev Sharma, Executive Directors, and Ms. Inderpreet Kaur, Assistant Director (IR). The "Coop Kitchen" initiative was highlighted as a model of innovation within the cooperative framework. Dr. Thambar appreciated NCUI's role and commended the initiative, also enjoyed the hospitality of Coop Kitchen. Engaging with global academia continues to enrich the cooperative movement.



Visit of High-level Brazilian delegation to India from 4 to 11 October 2025

The National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) facilitated the visit of a high-level Brazilian delegation to India from 4 to 11 October 2025, led by Mr. Astrogildo Gonçalves Peixoto, Vice-President, OCB Goiás. OCB Goiás integrates the Organization of Brazilian Cooperatives (OCB) and the National Service for Cooperative Learning (Sescoop). The delegation, comprising around 16 leaders from dairy cooperatives of Goiás along with representatives of Brazil's national cooperative system, also visited IFFCO, AMUL, NDDB, and the Mother Dairy Plant, Delhi.

The primary objective of the visit was to strengthen institutional dialogue, promote technical exchange, and foster a long-term strategic partnership between the cooperative movements of Brazil and India, with a special focus on the development of dairy cooperatives.

As part of their programme, the delegation held a knowledge exchange meeting with NCUI at its Headquarters on the afternoon of 6 October 2025. Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, welcomed the delegates and delivered introductory remarks, highlighting NCUI's role in promoting international cooperative collaboration. Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, IAS (Retd.), Chief Executive, NCUI, greeted the delegation and delivered the welcome address. Both the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive extended a warm welcome to the delegates by presenting flowers and shawls.

During the meeting, Mr. Ritesh Dey, Executive Director, NCUI, gave a detailed presentation on NCUI's initiatives, cooperative development efforts, and programmes in the dairy sector. Mr. Astrogildo Gonçalves Peixoto, Vice-President, OCB Goiás, introduced the delegation and shared insights on the Brazilian dairy cooperative movement. Mr. Victor Hugo Rios Cunha, General Manager, OCB Goiás, highlighted potential areas of collaboration between the cooperatives of Brazil and India.

An open discussion followed, focusing on cooperative practices, dairy development, and mutual areas of cooperation. The meeting concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NCUI and OCB Goiás, marking the beginning of a new chapter of partnership. The documents were exchanged between Dr. Sudhir Mahajan and Mr. Astrogildo Gonçalves Peixoto, followed by a group photo session to commemorate the occasion.

Following the meeting, the delegation also visited the NCUI Haat and appreciated the initiative for promoting cooperative products and enterprises. The delegates showed keen interest and purchased several cooperative products, reflecting their support for local cooperative entrepreneurship.

The visit marked a significant step in deepening cooperative ties between India and Brazil and reaffirmed the commitment of both nations to strengthen South-South cooperation and knowledge exchange in the cooperative and dairy sectors.



International Conference/Workshops

Capacity Building Programme on “Enhancing Cooperative Leadership and Governance Guidelines” Organised by NEDAC with NCUI as Knowledge Partner

The Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific (NEDAC) organised a one-day Capacity Building Programme on “Enhancing Cooperative Leadership and Governance Guidelines” on 30 January 2026, with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) as the Knowledge Partner. The programme was conducted in association with the Laxmanrao Inamdar National Academy for Cooperative Research and Development (LINAC).

Addressing the participants, Mr. Manoj Kumar, Director General, LINAC, emphasised that true progress in the cooperative sector begins with “KYC – Know Your Cooperatives.” The workshop brought together representatives from cooperatives, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to discuss strengthening governance and leadership at the grassroots level.

Mr. Ashish Dwivedi, Executive Director, NCUI, and Mr. Ritesh Dey, Executive Director, NCUI, delivered expert sessions on strategic decision-making for sustainable cooperatives and strengthening cooperative leadership and board governance practices. Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Deputy Director, and Mr. Vivek Yadav attended the programme as participants.

A total of 25 participants attended the programme and actively engaged in discussions aimed at promoting sustainable, inclusive, and well-governed cooperative institutions.



The Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting of the NEDAC was successfully convened on 24 Nov 2025 in Colombo. The meeting brought together senior representatives from leading cooperative institutions across the Asia-Pacific (AP) region. Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, IAS (Retd.), Chief Executive, NCUI, participated at this significant regional forum.

The meeting opened with a welcome address by Mr. Pankaj Kumar Bansal, IAS, Chairman, NEDAC, who underscored the growing importance of regional cooperation among agricultural cooperatives to address emerging developmental and climate-related challenges.

The NEDAC ExCom served as a vital decision-making platform for reviewing ongoing programmes, deliberating on strategic directions, and strengthening collaboration to advance sustainable agricultural and rural development. Member organizations also exchanged successful models, innovative practices, and policy insights relevant to cooperative growth in the region.

This year's meeting was particularly notable as it coincided with the global celebrations of the UN IYC 2025. In partnership with the ICA-AP, NEDAC hosted several knowledge-exchange sessions highlighting the transformative role of cooperatives in rural prosperity, food security, and inclusive economic development.

Representing NCUI, Dr. Mahajan contributed meaningfully to discussions on strengthening sustainable cooperative models, boosting regional partnerships, and advancing NEDAC's vision for agricultural development. His participation reinforced India's continued commitment to cooperative-led rural transformation and regional solidarity.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks and networking interactions with ICA leadership and member delegates, paving the way for future collaborations.

As part of the IYC 2025 observance, NEDAC and ICA-AP also successfully organized a seminar on "Furthering Climate Resilient, Smart and Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperatives in AP." The seminar brought together experts & policymakers who discussed innovative approaches, climate-smart technologies, and cooperative-led resilience models aimed at empowering farming communities and strengthening sustainability across the region.



ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting 24 November 2025 | Colombo, Sri Lanka The ICA-Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) Regional Board met today in Colombo ahead of the 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICA-AP, and attended by Mrs. Savitri Singh, Deputy Chief Executive, NCUI. The Board approved the agenda and minutes of previous meetings and received updates from the ICA-AP Women's and Youth Committees on their ongoing initiatives. Regional Director Mr. Balu Iyer presented programme updates, ICA-EU activities, and membership developments. The Board reviewed the ICA-AP Activity Plan 2026, discussed revised ICA-AP Rules to be placed before the Assembly, and considered the proposal from the Women and Youth Committees on voting rights. Preparations for the Regional Board Elections and the 17th Regional Assembly were also reviewed. The meeting concluded with closing remarks from Dr. Yadav, reaffirming commitment to advancing cooperative development in the Asia-Pacific region.



Upcoming Training Opportunities

NCUI in collaboration with Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking (CICTAB), Pune and The Gandhigram Rural Institute (GRI), Gandigram, Tamil Nadu is organizing an International Programme on “Cooperative Governance for CEOs and Senior Executives of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions” from 24 – 27 March 2026 at GRI, Tamil Nadu.

The capacity of the programme is 25 participants and is designed for the CEOs, Board Members and Middle level Managers, Cooperative Trainers and potential Trainers of cooperatives and rural financing institutions. The details of the programme along with prescribed nomination form are attached for your ready reference.

The main objective of the programme is to update and refresh knowledge & understanding of the participants with latest development in the area of governance of cooperatives and rural financing institutions. The programme will refresh the concept and philosophy of cooperative business model with focus on credit cooperatives and to enable the participants in preparing various governance tools such as strategy for development of business of the credit cooperatives by using strategy, decision making process and other management techniques.

Upcoming Training cum exposure visit

The Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific (NEDAC) is organising a Cooperative Study Tour to Manila, Philippines, from 13-18 April 2026.

The programme aims to provide exposure to cooperative development models in the Philippines and facilitate knowledge exchange, networking, and collaboration among agricultural cooperatives in the Asia-Pacific region through stakeholder interactions, knowledge-sharing sessions, policy dialogues, and field visits to leading cooperative institutions.

The registration fee for participation is USD 1700 per participant, which includes accommodation, meals and local transportation during the study visit. However, international airfare, visa charges, travel insurance, airport transfers, and entry tickets to city tours (wherever applicable) will have to be borne by the concerned participant/organization.

In case, if your organisation wishes to nominate suitable person for the above Study Tour to Philippines, it is requested to complete the registration through the following Google Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfYAr5Im_UWjuCR_azmbu6XdxkC6fcSxYvwDOQcYN7UiVrvEQ/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=104789939157197010420

Alternatively, confirmation of participation may also be sent by sharing the required details, including name (as per passport), organization name, designation, contact number, email ID, proof of payment,

food preference, scanned copy of passport, flight details (once booked), and any medical conditions or special assistance requirements, if applicable, with a copy to us.