PIB Headquarters

National Co-operative Exports Limited (NCEL)

"Taking India's Cooperative Strength to World Markets"

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Key Takeaways

- A total of **11,034 cooperatives** have been granted membership by **NCEL** as August 2025
- As of August 2025, NCEL has exported more than **13.49 lakh metric tonne (LMT)** of agricultural commodities worth **Rs.5,403.01 crore** including rice, fres red onion, sugar, baby food, processed food, spices and tea
- NCEL achieved a net profit of **Rs.122 crore** with a turnover of **Rs.4,283 cro** for **2024-25**
- NCEL has expanded the exports of agricultural commodities to **28 countri globally**

Introduction

National Co-operative Exports Limited is a national level multi-state co-operative dedicated to exports. It is an umbrella body that represents the entire co-operative sector of India in overseas markets.

NCEL was approved by the Union Government and formally registered under the **Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002** on **25 January 2023**.

*(The **Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002** governs cooperative societies that operate across more than one state. It allows members to form cooperatives voluntarily and ensures they function democratically. The Act promotes self-help, mutual aid, and the economic and social welfare of members. It also grants cooperatives functional autonomy and addresses related matters.)*

NCEL has been promoted by **5 leading co-operatives - Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative Limited (IFFCO), Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited (KRIBHCO), National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF–Amul) and the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC).** Its initial paid-up capital is **Rs.500 crore** with contribution of **Rs.100 crore** each by the five promoters and authorised share capital is **Rs.2,000 crore**. By linking co-operative products to global markets, NCEL supports the **"Make in India"** vision, strengthens market linkages, and generates more employment opportunities in the co-operative sector.

Promoted by

Amul | KRIBHCO | IFFCO | nafed | NCDC

Source: National Co-operative Exports Limited

NCEL aims to take surplus produce from Indian co-operatives to global markets, ensuring better demand and fair prices. It supports exports by handling procurement, storage, processing, packaging, branding, certification and marketing. Alongside this, it arranges finance, provides technical guidance, builds skills, develops market intelligence and links members with government schemes. In doing so, it strengthens the capacity of co-operatives and expands their presence in international trade. Through NCEL, the cooperative model has been scaled up to the national level, enabling local produce and skills to find markets across the globe under the guiding vision of ***"Sahakar se Samriddhi"***— prosperity through co-operation.

From Inception to Impact

In a short span, NCEL has delivered significant results.

- By August 2025, **11,034 co-operatives** have been granted membership, including **10,793** Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and other cooperatives.

*(**Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)** are village-level co-operatives that provide loans to farmers, recover repayments, and support distribution and marketing.)*

The number of cooperatives that have been granted membership are as under: -

S.No.	Type of Cooperative	Number
1.	PACS & other primary Coops	**10793**
2.	Tehsil/ District Level Coops	**216**
3.	Multi-State Co-op. Societies	**10**
4.	State Level Co-op. Societies	**10**
5.	Promoter Co-operatives/ Organizations	**5**

- As of August 2025, **Exports through NCEL** have already crossed **13.49 lakh metric tonnes (LMT)** of agricultural commodities worth **Rs.5,403.01 crore** including rice, fresh red onion, sugar, baby food, processed food, spices and tea.

Export Summary for the year 2023-2025 (Till August)

S.No.	Year	Quantity (Lakh Metric Tonne)	Value (Rupees in crore)
1.	2023-24	**2.66**	**1,113.13**
2.	2024-25	**10.83**	**4,283.56**
3.	2025 – Till August	**0.00798**	**6.32**
4.	Total	**13.49**	**5,403.01**

- NCEL has expanded its exports to **28 countries**, with key products being: **basmati and non-basmati rice, marine products (especially shrimp), coarse cereals, wheat, fruits and vegetables, animal products, spices and plantation products.**
- NCEL achieved a net profit of **Rs.122 crore** with a turnover of **Rs.4,283 crore** for 2024-25.
- During 2023-24, NCEL paid a **20% dividend** to its member co-operatives. These achievements underscore NCEL's potential to transform India's co-operative movement into a global force.
- NCEL has also signed strategic agreements (MoUs) with **61 importers** from **Senegal, Indonesia and Nepal.**

Objectives and Key Targets of NCEL

Key Targets:

- Act as the **nodal agency for co-operative exports** and sign MoUs with state and UT-level bodies.
- **Link stakeholders to global markets** and create rural jobs through value addition, storage, packaging and transport.
- Promote **exports of agricultural and allied commodities** at internationally benchmarked prices.
- Provide **market research, consultancy, training, certification support, logistics and infrastructure** for co-operatives.
- Build a **knowledge base** and enhance **branding, labelling and packaging** to strengthen global positioning of co-operative products.

Strategies to Expand NCEL's Reach and Market Presence

To meet the export targets, NCEL is adopting multiple strategies to strengthen its market position.

- Signed **Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with state nodal agencies** and framed business plans to connect with PACS.
- Launched a **commodity seminar series**to prepare farmers and cooperatives for exports, with the first held in Madhya Pradesh in July 2025.
- Adopted a **'Whole of Government' approach** with nodal agencies, Registrar Cooperative Society offices and other stakeholders to design commodity-specific strategies.
- Strengthened **branding and digital outreach** through social media, marketing tools and awareness campaigns.
- Rolled out a **BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) Outreach Programme** to boost membership, especially from PACS.
- Enhanced engagement via **Nukkad Natak programmes** and a multilingual **digital newsletter** in 10 languages shared through the website and WhatsApp.

Future Directions for NCEL

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation **Shri Amit Shah** has urged NCEL to explore new export opportunities for **sugar from co-operative sugar mills, aromatic rice from Tripura, organic cotton and coarse grains.** He also highlighted the potential for partnerships with large companies to **export fresh vegetables to Gulf countries** and **special potato varieties.**

An ambitious target of **₹2 lakh crore exports** has been set for NCEL. Shri Shah directed that exports of all co-operative institutions should be routed through NCEL so that a turnover of about **₹20,000–30,000 crore** and net profits can flow back to the co-operatives.

He also suggested setting up **NCEL offices in Africa and Myanmar for pulses imports** and developing a **dedicated website** to help co-operative members understand global demand and showcase their supply capacity.

Conclusion

National Co-operative Exports Limited represents a new era for India's co-operative sector. In just two years, it has built a wide membership, exported millions of tonnes of produce, and shared profits with members. The next stage will involve scaling exports, diversifying the commodity basket, and deepening partnerships across the globe. With government support and a strong foundation built by its promoters, NCEL is poised to become the global face of India's co-operatives.

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