



# ***CICTAB*** ***NEWSLETTER***

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## **About CICTAB**

At the instance of FAO, Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking(CICTAB) was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India as an autonomous institution with its head quarters at Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune in January, 1983.

CICTAB through its member institutions promotes :

1. International cooperation in the establishment and expansion of facilities for training in agricultural banking.
2. Facilitates exchange of experience and information on harnessing of National systems of finance and banking for agricultural and rural development.
3. Prominent activity focus of CICTAB is on programmes and practices relating to rural development with special reference to rural poor in developing countries of the SAARC region.

## **Scope & Functions**

## **Management of CICTAB**

Management of CICTAB is vested with General Council and Managing Committee consisting of representatives from member institutions in member countries.

**Shri Ashish Kumar Bhutani, IAS, Secretary,  
Ministry of Cooperation, Government  
of India & President, General Council, CICTAB**



**Shri Pankaj Kumar Bansal ,IAS, Additional Secretary,  
Ministry of Cooperation, Government of  
India & Chairman, Managing Committee, CICTAB**



**Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking**  
(Promoted by Government of India and Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations)

**Vaikunth Mehta National Institute Of Co-operative Management Campus  
Near Pune University , Pune - 411007, Maharashtra, India**

# Activities of CICTAB : Training Programmes

- **International Programme on "Training Techniques for Trainers of Cooperative and Rural Financing Institutions (Focused on Trainers Training)"**
- **(CICTAB-NCUI-VAMNICOM)**

- **5 – 9 January, 2026 at VAMNICOM, Pune, India**

The International Programme on "Training Techniques for Trainers of Cooperative and Rural Financing Institutions (Focused on Trainers Training)" was conducted from 5 – 9 January, 2026 at VAMNICOM, Pune in collaboration with National Cooperative Union of India & Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune. The programme was conducted in VAMNICOM, Pune.

Dr. Dr.Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, VAMNICOM & CICTAB inaugurated the programme in presence of Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB & CICTAB team.

Total 19 Participants from Nepal had attended the programme.

The broad objectives of the programme were orient the participants about the concept and strategy of HRD for personnel of cooperative and rural financing institutions towards sustained economic development; acquaint the participants with methods of planning, organizing and implementing training programmes and in turn to organize training programmes for junior faculty; acquaint the participants with various training techniques suitable for different training programmes to make the training input effective and relevant.

Understanding different types of training activities, the visits was organised to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati.

Valedictory session was graced by Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB.



Group photo of International Programme on "Training Techniques for Trainers of Cooperative and Rural Financing Institutions (Focused on Trainers Training)"

## Feedback:

CICTAB conducted very useful training programme for trainers in cooperative sector. Earlier we were aware about only few training techniques. By attending this programme we got know the different techniques and use them effectively. Study visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati teaches us the different techniques in agriculture.

Mr. Rabindra Shrestha, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Nepal Federation Of Savings & Credit Cooperative Unions Limited (NEFSCUN) Nepal

- **International Programme on “Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model”**
- **(CICTAB-NDDDB-VAMNICOM)**

- **15th – 17th January, 2026 at NDDDB, Anand**

International Programme on “Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model” was organized at NDDDB, Anand. It was three days programme from 15th – 17th January, 2026 at NDDDB, Anand.

The programme was inaugurated by Ms. Anindita Baidya Deputy Group Head - Cooperative Training, NDDDB, Anand in presence of Shri. Ajitkumar Tandale, Manager - Cooperative Training NDDDB, Anand

A total of 20 participants have attended the programme from two countries viz., India (4) and Nepal 16

The objectives of the programme were: to sensitize the participants to the concept of Co-operative Business Model and to visit and understand the role and functions of Dairy Co-operative sector in India.

Study visits were organised to ANDESAR Milk producers Cooperative Society, Sandesar Village; AMUL Dairy Plant-III and museum; Innovation and Convergence of manure management interventions : Mujhkuva & Slurry Processing Unit, Vasna; ; NDDDB Mrida Limited; AMUL Chocolate Factory, Mogar

Valediction of the programme was graced by Ms. Anindita Baidya, Programme Director & Deputy Group Head - Cooperative Training, NDDDB, Anand



Group photo of the International Programme on “Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model”

## **Feedback:**

**Dairy Development would give the sustainability to the rural poor's. This programme was very informative for villages for their additional income. Cooperatives can promote their members for dairy development model**

**Mr. Lok Praasad Regmi, Manager, Gramin Jagaran Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., Surkhet, NEFSCUN, Nepal**

- **International Programme on “Agriculture and Rural Development through Cooperative Business Model”**
- **CICTAB-VAMNICOM-IFFCO-FMDI**
- **19-22 January 2026 at FMDI, Gurugram, Haryana**

International Programme on “Agriculture and Rural Development through Cooperative Business Model” was organised in collaboration with Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) at Fertilizer Marketing Development Institute (FMDI), Gurugram, Haryana, India. The programme is scheduled from 19-22 January 2026.

A total of 16 participants have attended the programme from two countries viz., India (6), Nepal (10).

Dr RPS YADAV, DGM, FMDI inaugurated the programme in the presence of Shri Tarun Bhargav, Sr.G.M(CD),IFFCO

The objectives of the programme were to sensitize the participants to the concept of Co-operative Business Model and to visit and understand the role and functions of Co-operatives in India.

As a part of study visit the participants visited to Agra and Mathura (visit to IFFCO Bazar Centre); Integrated Farming System (IFS)at IARI,New Delhi and LINAC, GURUGRAM

The valedictory session was attended by Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM; Dr RPSYADAV, DGM, FMDI and Dr D Ravi,Consultant, CICTAB who distributed the certificates.



**Group photo of the programme**

## **Feedback:**

**Programme taught ability to apply cooperative business models to promote sustainable agriculture, enhance farmers’ incomes, and drive inclusive rural development.**

**Mr. Sarad Pokhrel, Service Center Chief, Hariyali Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., NEFSCUN, Dang Nepal**

- **International Programme on “Agri Export Procedure and Documentation for Cooperatives”**
- **(CICTAB-MOC-NCEL-VAMNICOM)**

- **28 - 31 Jan, 2026 at VAMNICOM, Pune**

International Programme on “Agri Export Procedures and Documentation for Cooperatives” was organised in collaboration with Ministry of Cooperation, Govt. of India, New Delhi; National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL), New Delhi and VAMNICOM, Pune at VAMNICOM campus, Pune from 28 – 31 January, 2026.

Total 14 participants from Nepal (10) and India (4).

Dr. D. Ravi Programme Director inaugurated the programme in the presence of CICTAB team.

The objectives of the programme were to familiarize the participants with the properly structured information on export documentation; to sensitize the participants about the knowledge on international marketing and learn export related procedures to enter into an expanding new market and avail the new business opportunities for cooperatives; to provide knowledge on Agri-Export procedures & documentation.

As a part of study visit the participants visited to National Institute of Post Harvest Technology, Talegoan

The valedictory session and certificate distribution was graced by was Dr. D. Ravi Programme Director.



## **Feedback:**

Group photo of the programme

Enhanced understanding of international marketing and export regulations, and developed the confidence to initiate and manage export activities, enabling cooperatives to explore new global market opportunities.

**Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Shahi, Manager, Bheri Karnali Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., Surkhet, NEFSCUN, Nepal**

- **International Exposure visit Programme on Cooperative Business Model (CICTAB-MOC-NCEL-VAMNICOM)**

• **3-6 February 2026 at VAMNICOM, Pune**

“Exposure Visit Programme on Cooperative Business Model” was organised in collaboration with Ministry of Cooperation, Govt. of India and Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VAMNICOM), Pune at VAMNICOM, Pune, Maharashtra, India. The programme was scheduled during 3-6 February 2026.

Total 29 participants from Sri Lanka (21), Nepal (5), Eswatini (1), Mauritius (1), Zambia(1).

Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB inaugurated the programme in presence and CICTAB team.

The objectives of the programme were to sensitize the participants to the concept of Cooperative Business Model; to visit and understand the role and functions of Co-operatives in India; to understand cooperative Governance.

As a part of exposure visit the participants visited to (i) Katraj Dairy (Dairy Cooperative); (ii) Grahak Peth (Urban Consumer Cooperative Store); (iii) Sahakar Maharshi Kashti Vividh Karyakari Seva sahakari Society Ltd., Kashti, Daund; (iv) KVK Baramati; (v) IFFCO State Office, Pune; (vii) Pune District Central Co-op Bank

Ms. Shukla Pathak (IRS), Secretary, National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) graced the valedictory session and distributed certificates to all the participants.



Ms. Meenu Shukla Pathak (IRS), Secretary, National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) graced the valedictory session and distributed certificates to all the participants

## Feedback:

Group photo of the programme

Enhanced understanding of international marketing and export regulations, and developed the confidence to initiate and manage export activities, enabling cooperatives to explore new global market opportunities.

Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Shahi, Manager, Bheri Karnali Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., Surkhet, NEFSCUN, Nepal

- **International Programme on “Skill Development of Trainers in the Area of Promotion and Financing of SHGs/JLGs for Financial Inclusion of Rural Poor Focused on Trainers Training)”**
- **(CICTAB-NABARD-BIRD)**
- **9-13 February 2026 at BIRD, Lucknow**

International Programme on “Skill Development of Trainers in the area of Promotion and Financing of Self-Help Groups & Joint Liability Groups for Financial Inclusion of Rural Poor (Focused on Trainers Training)” as organised at Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD) Lucknow in collaboration with National Bank for Agri. & Rural Development (NABARD), India during 9-13 February 2026 .

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Gyanendra Rout, Faculty, BIRD Lucknow in the presence of Dr. Udit Agrawal, SMS, BIRD Lucknow and BIRD Lucknow team.

Total 20 participants from Nepal (18) and India (2) had participated in the programme.

The objectives of the programme were to sensitize the participants to the concept of Micro finance, SHGs & JLGs and Financial Inclusion as a supplementary credit delivery system/Financial inclusion of rural poor and equip the participants to develop effective linkages between Rural Financing Institutions and SHGs.

The study visits were organized along with the classroom sessions.

Validictory session and certificate distribution was done by Dr. Gyanendra Rout, Faculty, BIRD Lucknow in the presence of Dr. Udit Agrawal, SMS, BIRD Lucknow and BIRD Lucknow team.



Group photo of the Programme

## Feedback:

The programme equips trainers with practical skills to effectively promote, finance, and strengthen SHGs/JLGs, thereby advancing financial inclusion and livelihood opportunities for the rural poor.

Mr. Rajkumar Singh, Board Member, Shree Sagarmatha Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd.,  
NCBL, Nepal

- **International Training program on “Development of Managerial Skills for Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions” (for CEOs and Senior Managers of Cooperative Societies and Federations)**
- **(CICTAB-NCC-DCD-VAMNICOM)**
- **16 – 19 February 2026 at NCC, Colombo, Sri Lanka**

International Programme on Development of Managerial Skills for Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions was organised during 16 – 19 February 2026 at National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCC), Colombo, Sri Lanka in collaboration with NCC Sri Lanka, DDCD Sri Lanka and VAMNICOM Pune.

A total of 29 participants participated in the programme from Sri Lanka (16) and Nepal (13)

Thanni Kumaradasa, SLAS Commissioner, Department of Cooperative Development, Colombo (Chief Guest) inaugurated the programme in the presence of Mr. W.U Upali Herath, Chairman, Faculty, NICO Sri Lanka; Dr. D Ravi Programme Director, CICTAB; Mr. Jayapathma wanninayaka. Director, NCC Director Board; Mr Asanka Thilakarathna CEO, NCC, Sri Lanka; Dr. Sumith Nishantha, GM, Sansasa Federation

The objectives of the programme were to sensitize managerial, financial, and governance capacities so cooperatives and rural finance institutions can operate sustainably, expand outreach, and deliver value to members and clients and to apprise the participants with the various kinds of problems and deficiencies of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions and facilitate to acquire knowledge, skills and attitude for improving management of operational services in Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions.

As a part of study visit the participants visited to El Com Mellawalana Upeksha SANASA Society, Bopit Giriulla, Sri Lanka

The valedictory session was attended by Dr. D. Ravi, Programme Director and Mr Sarath Weerasani Chairman / President NCC, Sri Lanka



study visit to El Com Mellawalana Upeksha SANASA Society, Bopit Giriulla, Sri Lanka

## **Feedback:**

This programme given the comparative study about the consumer stores to the participants.

Mr. Krishna Prasad Ghimire, Manager, Karmath Samudayik Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., NEFSCUN, Nepal

- **International Programme on “Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model”**
- **(CICTAB-NDDDB-VAMNICOM)**

- **18th – 20th February, 2026 at NDDDB, Anand**

International Programme on “Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model” was organized at NDDDB, Anand. It was three days programme from 18th to 20th February, 2026 at NDDDB, Anand.

The programme was inaugurated by Ms. Anindita Baidya Deputy Group Head - Cooperative Training, NDDDB, Anand in presence of Shri. Suneet Kumar, Manager - Cooperative Training NDDDB, Anand

A total of 19 participants have attended the programme from two countries viz., India (3) , Nepal 13 and Sri Lanka (3).

The objectives of the programme were: to sensitize the participants to the concept of Co-operative Business Model and to visit and understand the role and functions of Dairy Co-operative sector in India.

Study visits were organised to ANDESAR Milk producers Cooperative Society, Sandesar Village; AMUL Dairy Plant-III and museum; Innovation and Convergence of manure management interventions : Mujhkuva & Slurry Processing Unit, Vasna; NDDDB Mrida Limited; AMUL Chocolate Factory, Mogar

Valediction of the programme was graced by Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDDB in the presence of Ms. Anindita Baidya, Programme Director & Deputy Group Head - Cooperative Training, NDDDB, Anand



The programme was inaugurated by Ms. Anindita Baidya Deputy Group Head

## **Feedback:**

Dairy Development would give the sustainability to the rural poor's. This programme was very informative for villages for their additional income. Cooperatives can promote their members for dairy development model

Mr. A. N. Ranjan, Cooperative Development Officer, Department of Cooperative Development, Sri Lanka

- **International Training Programme on “Special Refinance Facility from NABARD- Transformation of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society (PACS) as Multi Service Centre (MSC)”**
- **(CICTAB – NABARD – BIRD)**
- **23-25 February 2026 at BIRD, Lucknow**

**International Programme on “Special Refinance Facility from NABARD- Transformation of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society (PACS) as Multi Service Centre (MSC)” at Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD), Lucknow, UP, India under the sponsorship of NABARD, Mumbai (India). The programme is scheduled to be organized from 23-25 February 2026.**

**The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Nirupam Mehrotra, Director, BIRD Lucknow in the presence of Dr. Snehal M. Bansod, Programme Director and BIRD Lucknow team.**

**Total 16 participants from Nepal (11) and India (6) had participated in the programme.**

**The objectives of the programme were to sensitize the participants to the concept of Multi Service Centre of NABARD and to equip the participants to develop effective linkages between Rural Financing Institutions and PACSs.**

**The study visit was organised to Primary Multipurpose Rural Cooperative Society (B-LAMPS) Teliyagarh Village-Kazipur Gadar Development Block-Maya District-Ayodhya.**

**Valedictory session and certificate distribution was done by Dr. D. Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB in the presence of Dr. Snehal M. Bansod, Programme Director**



**Group photo of the Programme**

## **Feedback:**

**The programme equips trainers with practical skills to effectively promote, finance, and strengthen SHGs/JLGs, thereby advancing financial inclusion and livelihood opportunities for the rural poor.**

**Mr. Rajkumar Singh, Board Member, Shree Sagarmatha Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., NCBL, Nepal**

- **International Programme on “Efficient Dairy Business Management and Operations”**
- **(CICTAB-NCDC-LINAC)**

**9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India**

The International Programme on “Efficient Dairy Business Management and Operations” conducted at LINAC Institute, Gurgram, Haryana, India from 9 to 12 March, 2026. Programme was conducted in collaboration with National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi & Laxmanrao Inamdar National Academy for Cooperative Research and Development (LINAC), Gurugram.

Shri Manoj Kumar, Director General, LINAC inaugurated the programme in the presence of Sandeep Gaur, Assistant Director, & Shri Omveer Gurjar, Deputy Director LINAC. A total of 19 participants from India (17) and Sri Lanka (2) participated in the programme.

The broad objectives of the programme were to Explain engineering, sustainability, supply chain, and quality management aspects of dairybusiness operations; Describe cooperative concepts, principles, governance, and challenges in cooperative business development; Illustratefinancial and cost management, projectcosting, risk management, and use of IT tools for appraisal; Elucidate projectidentification, proposal preparation, financial appraisal, implementation planning, and monitoring & evaluation; List out ideal practices for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of dairy cooperative projects One day study visit to Dudhmansagar Dairy, Manesar, Haryana PVR Aqua Fish Farm, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh was organized for the participants on the second day of the training program. During the visit, participants were able to practically watch and learn about various aspects of fish farming being done in Northern India.

Valedictory session of the programme was greased by Shri Manoj Kumar, Director General, LINAC in the presence of LINAC team.



**Group photo of the Programme**

## **Feedback:**

The programme enhanced participants’ understanding of dairy cooperative business operations, project appraisal and management, cooperative governance, financial and risk management, and provided practical exposure to modern dairy Farm.

**Dr. Mhasizokho Lhoushe, Chief Executive Officer,  
The Nagaland State Cooperative Bank, Nagaland, NAFCARD**

- **International Programme on “Cooperative Governance for the CEOs and Senior Executives of Cooperatives & Rural Financing Institutions” (CICTAB-NCUI)**
- **24-27 March, 2026 at Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu, India**

CICTAB has organized an International Programme on “Cooperative Governance for the CEOs and Senior Executives of Cooperatives and Rural Financing Institutions” in collaboration with National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi and Gandhigram Rural Institute at Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu, India during 24th – 27th March, 2026.

The inaugural session of the program was graced by Dr. C. Pitchai Senior Prof. & Programme Director, Dr. K. Ravichandran Senior Prof. of Cooperation, Dr. N. Panchanatham Vice Chancellor, Dr. Siddarth Jain, IAS, Addl. Secretary, MoC/ Administrator (joined online) for NCUI Inaugural Address, Dr. S. Manivel Senior Prof. of Cooperation, GRI given Vote of Thanks.

The objectives of the programme were: To acquaint the participants with the good practices of Governance in Cooperative and Rural Financing Institutions; To sensitize the participants on the value, principles and the mission of credit cooperatives; To equip the participants to develop skill on preparing strategy, decision making, conducting board meeting and relevant management tools and techniques for the effective management of organization.

Total 29 participants from India (7), Nepal (3) and Sri Lanka (19) had attended the programme. Study Visits organised to Pochampally Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society Ltd., The Nalgonda District Cooperative Central Bank Ltd., Telangana State Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd., Telangana State Cooperative Union.

The valedictory session was graced by Dr. K. Dhevan, Dr. D. Ravi Consultant, CICTAB, Pune, Dr. M.Sundaramari Registrar i/c, GRI, Shri. Pankaj Srivastava, IRS, Chief Executive, NCUI, New Delhi, Dr. C. Pitchai Senior Prof. & Programme Director, GRI



**Group photo of the Programme**

## **Feedback:**

Study visits arranged to Pochampally Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society Ltd., The Nalgonda District Cooperative Central Bank Ltd., Telangana State Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd., Telangana State Cooperative Union cooperative was the great exposure.

Dr. Subramanian Siva, Senior Manager, CEO Secretariat, ESAF Swansraya Multi State Agriculture Cooperative Society Ltd.

# INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES SCHEDULED IN APRIL - JUNE 2026

- **Agri Value Chain Financing**  
• 21 – 24 April, 2026 at VAMNICOM, Pune, Maharashtra, India
- **Agriculture & Rural Development through Cooperative Business Model**  
• 27 - 30 April, 2026 at IFFCO FMDI, Gurgaon, Haryana, India
- **Exposure visit Programme on Cooperative Business Model**  
• 12 – 15 May , 2026 at VAMNICOM, Pune
- **Digitalisation in Rural Banks and Cooperatives**  
• 18 - 21, May 2026 at NIBM, Pune, Maharashtra, India
- **“Renewable Energy Management for Cooperatives”**  
• 9 - 12 at VAMNICOM, Pune
- **Dairy Development through Cooperative Business Model**  
• 22 - 25 June, 2026 at NDDDB, Anand



## **Academic Team**

**Dr. Suva Kanta Mohanty, Director, CICTAB & VAMNICOM**  
**Dr D Ravi, Consultant, CICTAB & Faculty, VAMNICOM**  
**Ms Smita Kadam, Research Officer, CICTAB**

## ***Centre for International Cooperation & Training in Agricultural Banking***

**(Promoted by Government of India and Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations),  
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Ms Smita Kadam, Research Officer, CICTAB; e-mail id : [kadam1786@gmail.com](mailto:kadam1786@gmail.com)**

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