

Press Release from Cooperation Department
Inauguration of Cooperative Week Celebration 2026
Gangtok, 29th June 2026:

The Cooperation Department, Government of Sikkim, today formally inaugurated the Cooperative Week Celebration 2026 with the observance of "Shubharambh and Pratigya Diwas", marking the commencement of the nationwide week long campaign celebrating the spirit and contribution of the cooperative movement and commemorating of 5 years of the Ministry of Cooperation.

The programme began with the flag hoisting ceremony by the Chairperson, Cooperation Department, followed by the offering of bouquets and traditional khadas to the dignitaries.

Welcoming the gathering, the PRCS-cum-Secretary, Cooperation Department, highlighted the significance of cooperatives in promoting inclusive growth, rural development and community empowerment in the State.

During the programme, messages from the Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim were telecast, while the message of the Hon'ble Minister for Cooperation was read out by RCS-I.

A cooperative group song was presented to commemorate the occasion and foster the spirit of cooperation and solidarity among participants.

As part of the day's activities, a presentation on GPS Tagging of Cooperative Societies was delivered by the Gangtok District team, showcasing the Department's efforts towards digital transformation and improved monitoring of cooperative institutions.

The programme also featured an insightful talk on cooperatives by Dr. Bhuwan Chettri, who elaborated on the role of cooperatives in socio-economic development and the opportunities presented by emerging technologies and modern cooperative practices.

The gathering further witnessed the screening of informative videos highlighting various initiatives and achievements of the cooperative sector. Share certificates were distributed to members, reaffirming the Department's commitment to strengthening the cooperative movement at the grassroots level.

The event concluded with an address by the Chairperson, Cooperation Department, who encouraged all stakeholders to work collectively towards realizing the vision of a vibrant, transparent and technology-driven cooperative ecosystem in Sikkim. The programme ended with a vote of thanks delivered by RCS-IV.

The observance of Shubharambh and Pratigya Diwas marks the beginning of the week-long celebration being organised from 29th June to 6th July 2026, featuring theme-based activities aimed at promoting awareness, participation, digitization, youth engagement and sustainable development within the cooperative sector.