# Bharat Taxi

***Prelims:*** *Current events of national and international importance | Governance*

## Why in News?

*Recently, Union Cooperation Minister launched Bharat Taxi across 14 cities in Gujarat.*

- **Bharat Taxi –** India's First Cooperative Ride-Hailing Platform.
- **Aim –** To ***end exploitation by private cab aggregators*** and provide fair treatment to both drivers and passengers.
- **Established in –** 2025.
- **Developed by -** Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited, the initiative is supported by the ***Union Ministry of Cooperation and the National e-Governance Division (NeGD).***
- **Statutory Framework** - It is registered under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.
- **Implementation –** Nationwide rollout across all states and cities by 2029.
- **Strategic Backing -** The platform is promoted by 8 apex national cooperative and financial institutions- NCDC, AMUL (GCMMF), IFFCO, KRIBHCO, NAFED, NDDB, NCEL, and NABARD.

## Key Features

- **Core Philosophy** - It operates on the principle of "Sarathi Hi Malik" (Driver is the Owner), turning drivers into primary shareholders rather than independent contractors.
- **Ownership –** Drivers are stakeholders, not service providers; retain full fare under a ***zero-commission model***.
- **Categories –** Services offered in ***two-wheelers, auto-rickshaws, and four-wheelers***.
- **Expansion –** To begin operations in Nagpur, Pune, Mumbai, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Kolkata and target of 500+ cities in 2 years.
- **Indigenisation** – Homegrown cooperative alternative to foreign investment-

based aggregator platforms.

- **Social Security** – Health insurance, accident insurance, retirement savings, and a dedicated driver support system for Sarathis.
- **Safety & Flexibility** – Rapid emergency assistance, verified ride data, live tracking, and freedom for drivers to work on multiple platforms without exclusivity restrictions.
- **Charges** – No platform fee, convenience fee, or commission in-app; 7% service charge at airport prepaid booths for operational expenses.
- **Women Empowerment** – *Bike Didi* initiative with over 150 women drivers onboarded to promote women's livelihood and safety.
- **Sahakar Se Samriddhi –** Part of the larger cooperative movement already involving crores of farmers.

> *Sahakar Se Samriddhi aims to achieve empowerment through decentralized, inclusive and transparent cooperatives to boost farmers, workers, and the rural economy.*

**Reference**

[The Hindu | Bharat Taxi]

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