

BHARAT TAXI THE FIRST DRIVER-OWNED PLATFORM COOPERATIVE FOR MOBILITY IMPLEMENTED IN INDIA

April 2026

In December 2025, the website of the Platform Cooperativism Consortium published [an article informing that in New Delhi, the Bharat Taxi has been launched in India](#), a platform cooperative designed to free commercial drivers from the high commissions charged by private aggregators.

[Bharat Taxi is India's first driver-owned cooperative mobility platform](#). There are no commissions and drivers earn what they deserve, and customers pay fair, transparent fares. The platform operates on an open, government-recognised digital infrastructure, ensuring trust and accountability.



Bharat Taxi, launched in early 2026 by India's Ministry of Cooperation, is the country's first driver-owned, cooperative ride-hailing platform, designed to compete with private aggregators like Ola and Uber. Operating under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002, it features a zero-commission model where drivers (Sarathis) become members by purchasing shares, ensuring they keep their earnings. The area of operation of the Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Ltd shall be Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.

[Bharat Taxi was built by the Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Ltd. in collaboration with NCDC \(National Cooperative Development Corporation\), and is India's first driver-owned ride-hailing service that puts people at the heart of mobility](#). Guided by a cooperative model, fully aligned with the NCDC framework and supported by national institutions, the cooperative aims to empower drivers, ensure transparent fares for riders, and create a trusted, inclusive ecosystem where communities thrive and every journey is seamless and safe.

The service is backed by the Government of India's Ministry of Cooperation and integrated with the National e-Governance Division (NeGD). These names may bring credibility, but the real stars are the drivers themselves. They are the owners of the business. The cooperative will distribute 80 per cent of its profits among drivers, calculated on the distance they travel, while 20 per cent will be kept within the organisation to support operations and future expansion.

[The objective of the Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Society](#) is the socio-economic upliftment of the members through self-help, mutual aid, and cooperative principles. The establishment of a sustainable and democratic taxi service owned and operated by drivers will aim to provide affordable, safe, and efficient services for the public while ensuring fair income, social security, and dignified livelihood for drivers through collective ownership and cooperative principles.



[The article of the Platform Cooperativism Consortium underlines that](#) Bharat Taxi represents one of India's most ambitious experiments in platform cooperativism. While companies like Ola, Uber, and Rapido routinely charge drivers 20–30% commission, Bharat Taxi will operate on a zero-commission model. Drivers keep the full fare and instead pay a small membership fee, daily, weekly, or monthly, to sustain the platform.

The cooperative launched its soft rollout initially in Delhi and in Rajkot, Gujarat. The platform initially registered over 37,000 drivers and the number has grown to more than 51,000 across cars, autos, and bikes in New Delhi and Saurashtra, with ambitions to reach 5,000 more drivers by year-end and 100,000 nationwide by 2030.

[The website of Bharat Taxi underlines the main features of the cooperative](#) service:

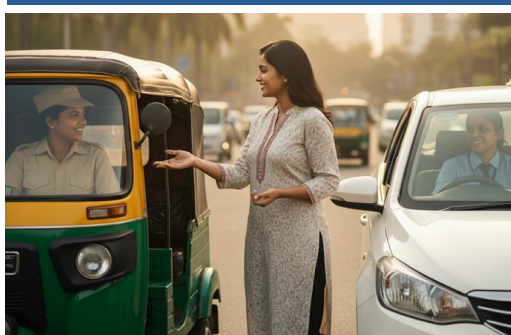
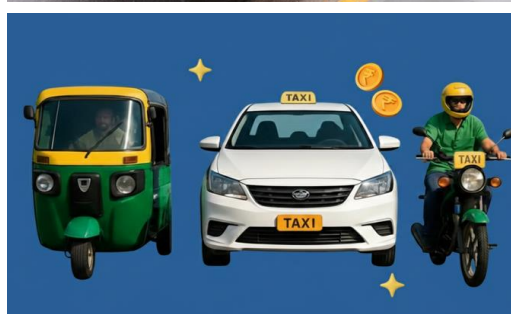
- **Zero-Commission Model.** Drivers keep 100% of their earnings with a small subscription, addressing the pain point of low take-home earnings.
- **Collective Ownership.** Every driver is a co-owner, sharing both the responsibility and the rewards of building a fair, transparent, and people-first mobility platform.
- **Financial Security.** Instant payments of the full fare. Drivers receive legal and financial aid when required, including access to low-interest vehicle loans.
- **Driver Upskilling.** Free training in soft skills and language, and access to support for children's education.
- **Digital Support & Fair Policy.** A multilingual app, 24/7 support, and safety features.
- **Membership and Ownership.** Every driver is more than a member – they are a co-owner shaping the platform's future, with a real voice in decisions and a shared stake in its growth.

Bharat Taxi offers available services including 2W (Bike Taxi), Auto, Economy Cab, Premium Sedan, XL Cab (SUV), Rentals, Out-Station, and Scheduled Rides.

[Bharat Taxi has also prepared a special concept of Sarathi Didi under which, in the future, there will be a separate window for women in the app](#), through which any woman who registers will be picked up only by 'Sarathi Didis' who will arrive and safely take them to their destination. It was stated that this facility will prove to be a very big and practical relief for women. This is not merely a service, but an important step towards women's safety, self-reliance, and dignity.

Bharat Taxi is backed by eight major cooperative institutions, including the National Cooperative Development Corporation, Amul (Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation), NABARD, IFFCO, and the National Dairy Development Board. [Amul's Managing Director, Jayen Mehta, serves as chairman of Bharat Taxi.](#) As India debates the future of work in the gig economy, Bharat Taxi emerges as a significant test case: can a cooperative, zero-commission model scale nationally and compete with entrenched ride-hailing giants? With government backing, major cooperative institutions behind it, and tens of thousands of drivers already enrolled, the experiment has begun.

[The Platform Cooperativism Consortium \(PCC\)](#) is a hub that starts, grows, and converts platform co-ops. It is a hub for research, community building, and advocacy for cooperatives that make the digital transition. The PCC supports the growth and conversion of hundreds of platform co-op businesses with tens of thousands of worker-owners around the world.



To know more

[Article in Platform Cooperativism Consortium](#)

[Bharattaxiapp.com](#)

[By Laws of Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Ltd.](#)

[Article in indiatoday.in](#)

[Article in pib.gov.in](#)

[Bharat Taxi in Instagram.com](#)

[Article in indiatoday.in](#)

[Bharat Taxi in thehindu.com](#)

[Bharat Taxi in economicstimes.indiatimes.com](#)

[Bharat Taxi in pib.gov.in](#)

[Platform Cooperative in Wikipedia.org](#)

[Platform Cooperativism Consortium \(PCC\)](#)

[Platform.coop Blog](#)

[Engaging platform cooperatives build fairer digital economy in ilo.org](#)

[Platform cooperatives and employment in oecd.org](#)

[Platform cooperatives in Cicopa.coop](#)

[CoopCycleCooperativePlatformFederation - IDEASS article 2022](#)

