# CII Special Awards for FPOs 2026: Isha-guided FPOs win national awards for the 4th year in a row

Tamil Nadu & Agriculture · 23 October 2026 · https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/10/23




## News

At the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) 'Special Awards for Farmer Producer Organisations 2026' in New Delhi, three FPOs guided by Isha Outreach won national awards (reported 23 Oct 2026): Thencherimalai FPO, Coimbatore – first in India in marketing; Chenniyandavar FPO, Coimbatore – special recognition in marketing; Ponnad FPO, Kodagu (Karnataka) – first in technology & sustainability. Hundreds of FPOs from across India applied; selection was by a three-stage evaluation. It is the 4th straight year Isha-guided FPOs have won national awards.

## Key facts

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| **Award** | Special Awards for FPOs 2026 – CII, New Delhi |
| **Thencherimalai FPO** | Sultanpet, Coimbatore – first in India, marketing (also NABARD Tamil Nadu 'Best Performing FPO' 2023–24) |
| **Chenniyandavar FPO** | Coimbatore – special recognition, marketing; buys coconuts from about 240 farmers |
| **Ponnad FPO** | Kodagu, Karnataka – first in technology & sustainability |

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| **Isha FPO network** | 25 FPOs in TN & Karnataka; 17,000+ members (≈60% small/marginal, ≈15% women); ₹400 crore+ business |

## Background

- Law: the 'Producer Company' form was added as Part IXA of the Companies Act 1956 by a 2002 amendment; registration is now under Chapter XXIA of the Companies Act 2013. FPOs may also register as cooperative societies.
- Scheme: 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs' – a Central Sector Scheme launched by the PM at Chitrakoot (UP) in Feb 2020; outlay ₹6,865 crore; 5 years of hand-holding per FPO.
- Bodies: Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) – an autonomous society set up on 18 Jan 1994 under the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; NABARD (1982) and NCDC also promote FPOs. CII – industry body founded in 1895, HQ New Delhi.

**Tamil Nadu link:** Isha's first FPO, 'Velliangiri Uzhavan Producer Company' in Thondamuthur block, Coimbatore, began operations in Nov 2013. Thencherimalai FPO, set up at Sultanpet, won NABARD Tamil Nadu's 'Best Performing FPO 2023–24' award. Isha also runs a free soil-testing lab in Coimbatore.


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