

CHAPTER 44

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

44.1 A large segment of the population (65%) continues to depend on agriculture and agriculture related sectors of the economy. As Cooperatives in India came into being as a result of the Government taking cognizance of the agricultural conditions that prevailed during the latter part of the nineteenth century and the absence of institutional arrangements for finance to agriculturists, which had resulted in mounting distress and discontent. Small, local, locally worked institutions, cooperative in form, which would satisfy the postulates of proximity, security and facility for providing credit, were seen as the answer to this situation. Subsequently events during both pre and post Independence period have led to a vast growth of cooperatives covering various sectors of the Indian economy.

44.2 Cooperatives are the best channels to keep the spirit of collectivism and democracy afloat. The presence of a large network of social organizations, like cooperatives, would aid in the generation and utilization of social capital and 'greater the social capital greater would be the possibility of development'. Therefore, cooperatives have a futuristic role of fostering collectivism and preserving the social capital base of the country.

44.3 It is thus clear that cooperatives have a significant role to play in the future setting of our economy. In fact they have a more important role to play in the future compared to their agency role of the past. It is only the presence of a strong and wide network of cooperatives that can make the process of globalization less painful and global integration smooth. It is the cooperatives again who are equipped to work as pressure groups to voice peoples' views in the market.

44.4 Data Source of statistics of Cooperative Society

Earlier detailed information on Cooperative Societies was available in the Publication "Statistical Statements Relating to Cooperative Movement in India" published by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), which was set up to provide re-finance support to Cooperative Banks and to supplement the resources of Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks by the NABARD Act 1981. The publication (Part I) contained information on Credit Societies - State Cooperative Banks (SCBs), Central Cooperative Banks (CCBs), Industrial Cooperative Banks (ICBs), Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Grain Banks (GBs), Primary Cooperative Banks (PCBs), Primary Non-Agricultural Credit Societies (PNACS), State Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (SCARDBs) and Primary Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) whereas Part II contained data relating to Non-Credit Societies: All Marketing Societies (National & State, Central and Primary), General Purpose Marketing Societies, Fruits & Vegetable Marketing Societies (Primary), Specialised Commodities Marketing Societies (Primary), All Processing Societies (National & State, Central and Primary): Sugar Factories, Cotton Ginning and Pressing, Oil Crushing, Paddy Processing, Rice Mills, Milk Supply, Poultry, Live Stock, Fisheries, Weavers, Other Industrial Societies, Spinning Mills, Consumer Cooperative Societies, Housing Societies, Cooperative Industrial Estates, Labour Contract & Construction Societies, Forest Labour Societies

and others. However, though some information is still being maintained and disseminated by NABARD, the publication was discontinued after 2003-04.

Information on State Cooperative Banks, Primary Agriculture Credit Societies etc is presently being compiled by National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, (NAFSCOB). Besides these, some information on various types of cooperatives is available with National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI).

List of Tables in the Chapter		
Sr. No.	No. of Table	Name of Table
1	44.1	Number, Membership and Financial Position of State Co-operative Banks (All India)
2	44.1	Number, Membership and Financial Position of State Co-operative Banks (Statewise)
3	44.2	Number, Membership and Financial Position of Central Co-operative Banks (All India)
4	44.2	Number, Membership and Financial Position of Central Co-operative Banks (Statewise)
5	44.3	Number, Membership and Financial Position of Primary Credit I. Agricultural Credit Societies (Excluding Grain-Banks)(All India)
6	44.3	Number, Membership and Financial Position of Primary Credit I. Agricultural Credit Societies (Excluding Grain-Banks)(Statewise)
7	44.4	Number, Membership and Financial Position of State Co-operative, Agriculture & Rural Development Banks (All India)
8	44.4	Number, Membership and Financial Position of State Co-operative, Agriculture & Rural Development Banks (Statewise)
9	44.5	Number, Membership and Financial Position of Primary Co-operative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks (All India)
10	44.5	Number, Membership and Financial Position of Primary Co-operative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks (Statewise)

Sources & References:

1. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
2. National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Ltd.
3. National Cooperative Union of India
4. Report of the High Powered Committee on Cooperatives (May 2009), Ministry of Agriculture.