

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3602

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017

Cooperative Movement

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian cooperative movement has sustained itself as one of the biggest cooperative movements in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether financial assistance has been provided for the computerization of dairies, storage and cold storage cooperatives as well as sugar, textile and consumer cooperatives, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether cooperative education and training programme is playing a significant role in educating, guiding and providing support to the member organizations for strengthening the cooperative sector as an important component of cooperative development and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the concerted effort made by the Union Government to develop cooperative movement and strengthen the cooperative sector in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

???? ??? ????? ?????? ????????? ??? ????? ?????? (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): The Cooperative Movement in India has a very long history and today it is
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the largest one in the world. Promotion and development of cooperatives in agriculture and rural oriented activities has made significant contribution towards country's economy. A lot of activities/ programmes in agriculture and allied sectors like agricultural inputs, processing, storage and marketing of agriculture produce, supply of consumer goods in rural areas, handlooms, sericulture, poultry, fisheries etc; are undertaken through cooperatives. The reach of cooperative movement in India is from village to national level. About 8 lakhs cooperative societies with about 28 crore members are taking different types of services in the country. The prime focus of cooperative movement is to improve socio-economic conditions of the weaker communities at present the role of cooperative institutions has again spread to intervene and control the market price by removing exploitations from private traders.

(c): Government is providing financial assistance through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for encouraging and helping computerization in the functioning of cooperative societies from primary to National Level and overall development of sugar, textile and consumer cooperatives. An amount of Rs. 446.85 Crores. has so far been provided to NCDC under Central Sector Integrated Scheme on Agricultural Cooperation for development of cooperatives including their computerization.

(d): The Cooperative Education is providing professional and innovative ideas to manage cooperative societies efficiently. It is also playing an important role for popularizing the benefits and system of cooperatives among potential members like children, youth and women so that they can take benefits of cooperatives. It is also providing functional literacy on farm guidance, animal husbandry, fishery, handloom and handicraft and other employment income generating activities which are done by the people, especially weaker sections of the community in different parts of the country. During the 12th plan period NCUI conducted 42,046 programmes and trained 19,04,636 participants and NCCT conducted 10,760 programmes and trained 3,38,404 participants. The trained employees of Cooperative organization have now better understanding of the organization's vision and mission which has led to increased work efficiency.

(e): In the year 2002 a "National Policy on Cooperatives" has been declared by Government with the objective of facilitating all round development of the Cooperative sector in the country. The policy seeks to achieve inter-alia functioning of the Cooperatives based on basic cooperative values and principles, revitalization of cooperative structure particularly in the sector of agriculture credit, reduction of regional imbalances through provision of support measures; strengthening of the Cooperative Education & Training and Human Resources development for professionalization of management of the cooperatives and greater participation of members in the management of cooperatives and promoting the concept of user members.
