

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5001
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014
COOPERATIVE EDUCATION
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cooperative education is necessary for the success of cooperative in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the agencies entrusted with the cooperative education have adequate number of education instructors in proportion to the number of individual members of primary societies, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the timing of cooperative education is affecting the sowing or harvesting operations, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the cooperative education is able to prevent the malpractices prevalent in primary, central and apex level of the cooperative movement, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

- (a): Yes, Madam. Cooperative education is essential for the success of cooperatives. Cooperative education brings awareness about cooperative functioning, their roles, duties and responsibilities and the requirement of the members' active participation to develop cooperatives.
- (b): There are about 97,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) in the country. The Junior Cooperative Training Centres (JCTCs) which are 109 at present and State Cooperative Unions, provide education and training to the members and functionaries of PACS. JCTCs are under the administrative control of the State Governments. However, National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) which is an apex body representing the entire cooperative organizations in the country with the mandate of organizing cooperative education and training programmes, extends financial assistance to share the cost of such programmes being conducted by JCTCs. NCUI also spreads cooperative education through its Education Center in Delhi and 43 cooperative education Field Projects spread over whole of India particularly in cooperatively under-developed States. Through these Cooperative education field projects, different modules of cooperative education are delivered to the primary agricultural societies which form the backbone of the cooperative movement in India.
- (c): Whenever National Cooperative Union of India conducts any programme, due care is taken to ensure that the programmes do not affect the sowing or harvesting operations of the participants.
- (d): It has been found that malpractices in Cooperative Societies occur at various levels and one of the important reasons for this is lack of knowledge and awareness about roles/responsibilities of the stake holders, guidelines, rules, systems, procedures related to the functioning of the cooperatives. Through cooperative educational interventions, required knowledge, skill and awareness are provided to address the issue of malpractices to a large extent.