

Title: Need to streamline the functioning of cooperative societies in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (TIRUPPATTUR): Sir, Agricultural Cooperative Societies and Weavers' Cooperative Societies found all over the country specially in Tamil Nadu are in such a position that they need to be rejuvenated. As part of measures to collect back the loan, authorities report to seizure of household goods which needs to be stopped. New loans are announced and claimed to have been disbursed but are adjusted against the pending loans thereby denying new help to agriculture and weaving activities and this trend needs to be altered. Only when cooperative societies function efficiently, pragmatic loan waiver would be possible increasing productivity while augmenting turnover, receipts and profit margins. To streamline the functioning of cooperative societies timely formal election are a must. Cooperatives, the mass movement must not be undermined and left languishing by leaving it entirely in the hands of officials to be run by them for quite long. The mal-administration, partisan political interventions, mishandling of programmes and financial management of certain State Governments must not eat in to the vitals of cooperative movements which can lead to rural development and prosperity of poor labour class. I urge upon the Union Government to provide Constitutional safeguard to cooperative bodies too for holding timely elections as available to the Panchayati Raj Institutions – and to rejuvenate the cooperative movement.