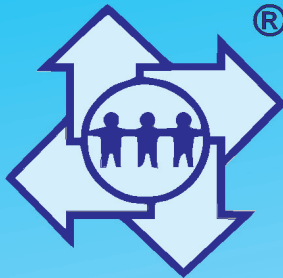


43rd Annual Report

2017-18



Sahavikasa/CDF

Cooperative Development Foundation

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Board of Trustees as on 31.03.2018

1. **Smt K Jayaprada** President; Narsampet Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
2. **Smt A Revathi** Treasurer President; Kothakonda Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
3. **Smt K Dharmavathi** former President; Mandapalli Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
4. **Smt V Bhagyamma** President; Bollikunta Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
5. **Smt T Vajralu** President; Thimmapoor Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
6. **Smt J Devika** President; Wardhannapet Swakrushi Women's Dairy
7. **Smt B Thirupathamma** former President; Garnepalli Milk Collection Centre
8. **Smt G Kavitha** former President; Jeelgula Women's Thrift Cooperative
9. **Smt G Aruna** President; Husnabad Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
10. **Smt A Ramadevi** former President; Shankarapatnam Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
11. **Smt P Aruna** President; Huzurabad Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
12. **Smt P Vijaya** former President; Siddipet Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives

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Cooperative Development Foundation

Warangal, Telangana

43rd Annual Report: 2017-18

(1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018)

In 1975, some volunteers, with an intention to strengthen the cooperative movement, formed Cooperative Development Foundation, (CDF) for the development of cooperative societies. CDF is popularly known as Sahavikasa. This has been registered under Andhra Pradesh Societies Registration Act 2001. Sahavikasa believes that cooperative societies are good instruments for the integrated development, i.e. Social and Economical development, of villages. A team of volunteers, not more than twelve, runs the Sahavikasa. It is a non-profit organisation.

Aim

Sahavikasa works for the promotion of an environment in which cooperatives flourish as decentralised, democratic, self-help and mutual aid associations, effectively harnessing and fostering local resources - in consonance with the Statement of Cooperative Identity, as formulated by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) in 1995, affirmed by the United Nations (UN) in 2001 and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in 2002.

Sahavikasa-Cooperative Act

The concept of cooperation is an integral part of undivided families and traditional rural organisations in India. However, it gained official recognition in India after the introduction of Credit Cooperatives Act 1904 by the then earst while British Government.

Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Societies Act 1964 (APCS Act 1964) was introduced in united Andhra Pradesh. Prior to that, there were two cooperative laws in existence in the state which were introduced one by British Government and the other by the Nizam, prior to independence of India, as some part of the state was under Madras presidency and other part under Nizam's rule. Sahavikasa was strongly determined to bring in a conducive external and internal environment for the cooperatives to flourish

in. With a view to encourage self reliance, self governance and democracy in cooperatives, it requested the government to introduce changes in APCS Act 1964 as to reflect accountability in the Act. Sahavikasa drafted a Model Cooperative Bill on the request of Planning Commission of India. This became a basis for discussion by the Brahmaprakash Committee. AP Government introduced a Bill on the basis of the reports of the Brahmaprakash Committee (1991) and the Ramakrishnaiah Committee (1994). This Bill came into existence as Andhra Pradesh Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies Act 1995 (APMACS Act 1995). This Act can also be termed as a liberal or parallel law. The uniqueness of this Act is it is the first parallel law on the subject of cooperation in the whole of the world and the credit goes to Andhra Pradesh for its Promulgation. This act is also considered to promote practice of cooperative philosophy in its truest sense, to a large extent. CDF played a significant role in the drafting of this MACS Act.

Sahavikasa also encouraged those states in Indian Union, which were desirous of introducing a parallel cooperative law in their respective states, basing APMACS Act 1995 as a Model. For such states, Sahavikasa drafted Referential Bill 2001.

Sahavikasa - Cooperatives:

In the view of Cooperative principles, the purpose of establishing cooperative organisations is the upliftment of their members' living standards - both economic and social, and provide equal opportunities to all, through these organisations. Women in rural areas, by nature are thrifty and have the habit of savings. Sahavikasa ushered the process of formation of thrift cooperatives and associations for women, so that they could come forward and take up the reins. Likewise, Sahavikasa promoted men's thrift cooperatives, paddy farmers' cooperatives and women's dairy cooperatives – in all 543 cooperatives have been promoted in 300 villages. All These cooperatives are commonly known as Swakrushi Cooperatives.

Sahavikasa's activities in fulfilment of its aim during 2017-18:

- Promoted and encouraged Swakrushi cooperatives under MACS Act in its field work area in Telangana.
- Provided training to the representatives of other organisations belonging from the non-field work area - people those who came to study the Swakrushi Cooperative concept and methodology.

Briefly presented in this report are the activities carried out by different divisions in Sahavikasa and the performance of Swakrushi Cooperatives associated with Sahavikasa.

1. Thrift Cooperatives

Women and men in rural areas in Warangal Urban & Rural, Karimnagar, Janagama, Siddipet districts have formed Thrift Cooperatives (TCs) with the help of Thrift Cooperatives Network Division (TCND) in Sahavikasa. TCND extends appropriate guidance and training to the TCs. The main intents of the TCs are as follows:

- To provide an opportunity in rural areas to make compulsory thrift, recurring deposit, fixed deposit and savings account.
- To obtain loans against compulsory thrift, recurring deposit and fixed deposit for financial needs.
- To lead an independent life in old age without support of others by saving one day's earnings in a month.

The financial year of the thrift cooperatives (TCs) and association of thrift cooperatives (ATCs) starts on 1 January and ends on 31 December. As on 31 December 2017, there were total of 536 thrift cooperatives (TCs) comprising 318 women's thrift cooperatives (WTCs) and 218 men's thrift cooperatives (MTCs). There was a total membership of 2,41,025 consisting of 1,44,055 women and 96,970 men. These TCs by having formed into 44 associations of thrift cooperatives comprising 26 associations of women's thrift cooperatives (AWTCs) and 18 associations of men's thrift cooperatives (AMTCs), they are extending services to their respective members.

Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs) in ATCs

Board members of the respective ATCs shall conduct OGMs of ATCs by 30 November in accordance with the byelaws. As such all the ATCs out of 44 have conducted their OGMs. Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in these meetings. They have reviewed the implementation of methods and discussed new methods to be implemented and the problems being faced.

Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in TCs

As on 31 December 2017 there were 536 TCs in 44 ATCs. In accordance with the byelaw TCs have to conduct their AGMs within 3 months after completion of financial year. As on 31 March 2018, 527 TCs have conducted their AGMs. Remaining 9 TCs could not conduct their AGMs due to the following reasons:

1. No transactions were held in TCs.
2. Not discharged duties by the board members of TCs.
3. Not completed final accounts by the accountants of TCs.

Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in as much as 95 AGMs consisting that of 58 WTCs and 37 MTCs. They brought important points to the notice of members in annual reports submitted by the board members in TCs and ATCs. They explained about the methods of swakrushi thrift movement and self-fostering of insurance schemes.

Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in ATCs

44 ATCs were conducted their AGMs by the end of 31 March 2018. Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in these AGMs. Elections for the vacancy for President were held by secret ballot in 2 AWTCs total of 2 ATCs where there were more than 1 contestant. Like wise, elections for the vacancy for Vice-President were held by secret ballot in 1 ATC consisting of 1 AMTC where there were more than 1 contestant.

Elections

Elections for vacancies for Board of Directors were held by secret ballot in 53 TCs consisting of 17 WTCs and 36 MTCs where there were more than 4 contestants as against 4 vacancies in accordance with the byelaws on rotational basis. In the same way, elections for the vacancy for President were held by secret ballot in 46 WTCs and 44 MTCs total of 90 TCs where there were more than 1 contestant. Likewise, elections for the vacancy for Vice-President were held by secret ballot in 27 TCs consisting of 5 WTCs and 22 MTCs where there were more than 1 contestant.

Representatives from ATCs and representatives from Sahavikasa acted as election-officers in the elections of TCs and ATCs respectively by conducting the election process in a democratic way.

Interest Received from Members on Loans, Bonus Paid to Members by TCs

From the inception of TCs, members are gradually decreasing the rate of interest to be paid on loans on the basis of the own funds of the TCs. Likewise, bonus to be paid to members is also changing every year.

Table showing the rate of interest on loan collected from members and percentage of bonus given to members in 2016 and 2017:

Rate of interest on loan	2016								2017							
	No of TCs	Members	Percentage of Bonus						No of TCs	Members	Percentage of Bonus					
			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-20			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18%	87	19,922	0	44	20	13	10	9	74	16,769	18	26	17	7	6	0
12%	454	216,695	4	73	193	173	11	0	462	2,24,256	14	93	182	160	13	0
Total	541	236,617	4	117	213	186	21	0	536	2,41,025	32	119	199	167	19	0

- In 2016, 16% of TCs collected 18% interest on loan whereas it was decreased to 14% of TCs in 2017.
- In 2016, 84% of TCs collected 12% interest on loan whereas it was increased to 86% of TCs in 2017.

Table showing the percentage of Interest given by ATCs to its respective TCs in 2016 and 2017:

Rate of Interest	2016								2017							
	Total ATCs	No of ATCs	Percentage of Bonus						Total ATCs	No of ATCs	Percentage of Bonus					
			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-20			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
11%	44	35	0	19	9	6	1	0	44	28	0	16	10	1	1	0

- In 2016, 35 ATCs out of 44 ATCs earned surplus and paid Interest to its respective TCs. 6 ATCs not given interest on compulsory thrift to its member TCs. The remaining 3 ATCs earned no surplus.
- In 2017, 28 ATCs out of 44 ATCs earned surplus and paid Interest to its respective TCs. 3 ATCs not given interest on compulsory thrift to its member TCs. The remaining 13 ATCs earned no surplus.

- ATCs are collecting 11% of interest on loan when TCs take loans. Whereas in 2017, 1 ATC was able to give interest on compulsory thrift to its member TCs more than 11%. The reasons for this were:
 1. Utilised the funds in giving loans.
 2. Invested the unutilised funds in other organisations as fixed deposits.

Trainings

Methods are formulated to solve the problems faced in cooperatives. These methods are termed as 'Swakrushi Methods'. Trainings are useful in developing the understanding on these methods. Keeping in view of this, Sahavikasa is extending trainings to the representatives of TCs and ATCs. Sahavikasa gave trainings to the representatives of swakrushi TCs and ATCs on computerisation of cooperatives' accounts, etc. This year 3 training programmes were conducted in 3 days at the training centre. The participants were of the opinion that it would become easier to manage the cooperatives with the knowledge on implementation of swakrushi methods by these trainings.

Insurance Schemes:

As the members funds in swakrushi cooperatives are rising, the eligibility on loan is also increasing. ATCs are running Abhayanidhi Scheme and Group Fund Scheme to protect family members of the deceased member, guarantors and cooperatives from loss in cases where a member obtains loan and passes away before he/she fully repays the loan amount. These schemes are beneficial in recovering loan when a member dies.

Computerisation

As on 31 December 2017 a total of 33 ATCs comprising 19 AWTCs and 14 AMTCs got their accounts computerised. In these associations, there were total of 419 TCs consisting of 243 WTCs and 176 MTCs. Among these, total of 385 TCs consisting of 228 WTCs and 157 MTCs got their accounts computerised. A total of 347 TCs consisting of 206 WTCs and 141 MTCs purchased computers and got their accounts computerised and of the 38 TCs comprising 22 WTCs and 16 MTCs got their accounts computerised through their respective association's computers. And the remaining 34 TCs consisting of 15 WTCs and 19 MTCs accounts could not computerised.

To improve the transparency in the accounts of the computerized cooperatives, 31 ATCs comprising 19 AWTCs and 12 AMTCs were introduced computerized receipt

printers. Among these, a total of 328 TCs consisting of 188 WTCs and 140 MTCs are issuing computerized receipts to the members on their transaction along with the dues payable. With this facility, members can know loan outstanding balances of their accounts and this also helps to control the forged loans.

Accounts can be correctly and timely maintained if the accounts are computerised in TCs and ATCs. Apart from this, progress of the cooperatives can easily be evaluated. With this evaluation, planning can be designed to run the cooperatives substantially.

2. Dairy Cooperatives

Introduction:

In our country, agriculture continues to be of great importance. Dairy farming is a part of agriculture. Yield in agriculture decreases when the atmosphere is unfavorable. Because of this, for an alternative to agriculture, people in rural areas are depending on dairy farming for income source. Nevertheless, milk producers are not getting reasonable price to their milk produce. Sahavikasa felt there should be a systematic milk cooperative arrangement to sell their milk produce for reasonable price. The aim of the cooperative dairy is to enhance the economic and social standards of milk producers by procuring, processing and marketing quality milk and, in turn, paying them reasonable price.

Aim:

Women in swakrushi TCs are now taking a loan of up to Rs 35 thousand. There were no facilities turning this loan amount into income generation. Therefore, Sahavikasa conducted a survey keeping in view that the dairy industry could be an income generating source by organising a women dairy. On the basis of survey, Sahavikasa promoted Mulukanoor swakrushi women's dairy in 2002 and Wardhannapet swakrushi women's dairy in 2006.

Mulukanoor Dairy:

In 2002, Sahavikasa for the first time experimentally promoted swakrushi women's dairy in Bheemadevarapally of Mulukanoor Area. After the completion the construction of the dairy plant and formation of the member cooperatives, Sahavikasa handed over dairy assets to board of directors of milk association in August 2002. For the construction of dairy plant, Sahavikasa invested Rs 333 lakhs as fixed deposits. Mulukanoor dairy repaid Rs 290 lakhs out of Rs 333 lakhs of fixed deposits. As on 31.03.2018 the dairy was, yet to repay Rs 43 lakhs of principal amount of fixed

deposits. For working capital, the dairy took 185 lakhs as call deposits and repaid the entire amount.

Wardhannapet Dairy:

In 2006, Sahavikasa promoted second Swakrushi women's dairy cooperative in Illandha of Wardhannapet mandal. With a radius of 70 kilometers from Illandha, Sahavikasa promoted milk centers in 99 villages. On 20 October 2006, Wardhannapet Swarkurshi Women's Dairy started procuring 900 litres of milk in two times i.e., morning and evening from 44 villages from among 80 villages.

- **Investment in Dairy:**

Sahavikasa invested Rs 575 lakhs as fixed deposits in construction of the dairy. As on 1 April 2017 there was an opening balance of fixed deposit Rs 491 lakhs. As on 31 March 2018, there was a closing balance of fixed deposits Rs 441 lakhs. As on 1 April 2017 there was an opening balance of secured loan Rs 237 lakhs. As on 31 March 2018, there was a closing balance of secured loan Rs 237 lakhs.

3. Paddy Cooperatives

In prevailing situations, farmers who cultivate paddy are facing problems in non-availability of good quality seed. Farmers are incurring losses by purchasing adulterated seed. Quality seed is that which contains no wastage in it and has not more than 13% moisture. With a view to provide quality seed Sahavikasa promoted 4 paddy seed growers' cooperatives (PSGCs) in 1999. These cooperatives are at Makdumpuram in Warangal district and at Gangipally, Porandla and In prevailing situations, farmers who cultivate paddy are facing problems in Dharmarajupally in Karimnagar district.

The aim of these cooperatives is not merely to enhance the economic and social standards of the members by producing, procuring, processing and marketing the seed on the basis of self-help, mutual aid and democracy but also to enable thousands of small and marginal farmers in getting good quality seed.

- These cooperatives purchase breeder seed from Agricultural Research Centres, supply it to members and in turn procure raw foundation seed from members. Foundation seed comes when raw foundation seed is processed. Again this foundation seed is supplied to members and truthful raw seed is procured from them. Truthful seed is the outcome when truthful raw seed is processed.

During the year 2017-18 (01.04.2017 to 31.03.2018) 2 PSGCs marketed 12 thousand quintals of quality seed on their respective brand names.

The marketed seed by these PSGCs is utilised by 13 thousand farmers, if it is assumed that an average of one farmer cultivates in 3 acres of land. These farmers are spread over East Godavari and West Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh, and 15 Districts in Telangana; Ballari, Rayachur, Siricuppa, Yadagiri places in Karnataka.

It is 19 years completed from the inception of these cooperatives. During this period, Sahavikasa financially helped these cooperatives in two ways. It helped in form of fixed deposits for construction of godowns and purchase of machinery, and helped in form of call deposits for working capital needs.

These cooperatives are registered under Macs Act. Its financial year starts from 1 April and ends on 31 March. These cooperatives have to conduct their annual general meetings (AGMs) in 3 months from the completion their financial year i.e. on or before 30 June. As on 31.03.2018, the total members in 2 cooperatives were 239, members' funds were Rs 218 lakhs. As on 31.03.2018, there were own reserves allocated were Rs 228 lakhs.

There are two standards of quality seed: 1). Identifying adulterated seed and 2). Recognising moisture percentage. PSGCs are using magnifying glasses for identifying adulterated seed in the raw seed procured from members. If any adulterated seed is identified it should be rejected. If moisture percentage is more than 13 in raw seed it cannot be stored for long period. Therefore, these cooperatives are making use of moisture measuring metres.

During the period under report, surplus earned by Makdumpuram cooperative and Dharmarajupally cooperative is Rs 2 lakh and Rs 2 lakh. These cooperative gave rate difference of Rs 22 and Rs 4 per quintal to the members who supplied seed.

Sahavikasa hopes these swakrushi PSGCs will become model by providing quality seed to farmers.

4. Training Programmes

Training programmes are being conducted at Sahavikasa for representatives of cooperatives under Sahavikasa's field work area and visitors from Sahavikasa's non-field work area who come to study swakrushi cooperatives. During the year 2017-18, the training programmes, workshops and study visits were as follows:

Division	Participants	Programmes
1. Thrift Cooperatives	1225	25
2. Paddy Cooperatives	24	1
3. Administration & Finance	406	21

Latest training equipment is being provided for convenience for those who conduct training programmes. During the year 2017-18 on an average of 4 programmes were conducted per month and it was occupied for 4 days per month with 34 participants each.

5. Administrative Activities

During the year 2017-18, the Board of Trustees met 4 times, wherein the trustees gave advice and guidelines on Sahavikasa activities and took decisions. Manager met with Development Officers every month and shared activities of their respective divisions, discussed the remedial measures taken and gave advice and guidelines for carrying out Sahavikasa's activities meaningfully and expeditiously.

Sahavikasa conducted 'Annual Convention of Swakrushi Cooperators' with all the presidents of thrift cooperatives, dairy cooperatives and paddy cooperatives under Sahavikasa's field work area. In this convention, the cooperators shared their experiences in carrying out the cooperatives.

6. Sahavikasa's Deposits in Cooperatives

Sahavikasa is providing financial assistance to dairy cooperative in form of fixed deposits for construction of building and purchase of machinery and in form of call deposits for working capital needs. Wardhannapet women's dairy cooperative is repaying fixed deposit amount in monthly installments to Sahavikasa.

At the end of the year, there were fixed deposits of Rs 43 lakhs and Rs 678 lakhs in Mulukanoor women's dairy cooperative and Wardhannapet women's dairy cooperative respectively. There were total deposits of Rs 721 lakhs in 2 women's dairy cooperatives.

7. Financial Activities

During the year 2017-18 of the total expenses of Sahavikasa met from its own activities.

Sahavikasa's expenditure during the year was Rs 69 lakhs was used for Sahavikasa's activities. During the year, Sahavikasa's income was Rs 44 lakhs and excess of expenditure over income was Rs 25 lakhs.

Monthly internal audit was done under supervision of Sahavikasa's Board of Trustee for ensuring transparency in accounting and in order to serve as a check for detecting errors. The annual statutory audit was done by CA Raju Koyyala, Chartered Accountant, Warangal. Financial returns were filed with the Department of Income Tax and the foreign contributions return was filed with the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

Cooperative Development Foundation, Warangal

Concise Balance Sheet as on 31-03-2018

31.03.2017	Liabilities	31.03.2018	31.03.2017	Assets	31.03.2018
1	2	3	4	5	6
5,00,21,708	1. Capital Fund	5,11,19,047	2,34,88,016	1. Fixed Assets	2,35,14,866
5,70,00,000	2. Cooperative Revolving Fund	5,70,00,000	7,70,89,160	2. Investments & Deposits in Cooperatives	7,21,14,160
1,68,00,000	3. Cooperative Education Fund	1,68,00,000	5,72,05,375	3. Investments & Deposits in Banks & Other Institutions	6,32,95,375
3,72,52,309	4. Other Funds	3,76,28,086	26,89,298	4. Other Receivables	32,04,870
44,762	5. Payables	74,194	30,24,805	5. Cash & Bank balances	28,69,931
23,77,875	6. Corpus Fund	23,77,875			
16,34,96,654	Total	16,49,99,202	16,34,96,654	Total	16,49,99,202

Concise Income & Expenditure Statement: 2017-18 (From 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2018)

2016-17	Expenditure	2017-18	2016-17	Income	2017-18
1	2	3	4	5	6
55,57,449	1. Fieldwork, Training etc.	58,70,071	-	1. Interest from Cooperatives Workshops, etc	-
6,63,552	2. Administration	7,08,058	6,00,422	2. Consultancy Fee	1,78,100
4,22,615	3. Depreciation	3,75,777	-	3. Training Fee	-
-	4. Excess of Income over expenditure	-	20,37,862	4. Interest from Banks & Other Institutions	17,12,394
			28,24,311	5. Miscellaneous Income	25,98,963
			11,81,021	6. Excess of expenditure over income	24,64,449
66,43,616	Total	69,53,906	66,43,616	Total	69,53,906

Note: Audited, detailed statements of Receipts & Payments, Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet will be made available immediately on request.

Sahavikasa Staff

(as on 31.03.2018)

Thrift Cooperatives Network Division

1. K Lakshman, Manager
2. G Rajasree, Development Officer
3. Ch Sumalatha, Development Officer
4. Ch Ravinder, Development Officer
5. P Naveen, Development Officer
6. P Kavitha, Development Officer
7. S Vijay Kumar, Computer Officer
8. G Swapna, Desk Officer
9. Ch Mohan, Development Assistant
10. D Eshwar, Development Assistant
11. M Radhika, Development Assistant
12. N Manjula Pallavi, Development Assistant
13. U Bhaskar, Development Assistant
14. J Raju , Development Assistant
15. A Jyothi, Development Assistant
16. M Shirisha, Development Assistant
17. L Sravanthi, Development Assistant
18. P Rajesh, Computer Assistant
19. G Kiran, Computer Assistant
20. D Thirupathi, Computer Assistant
21. N Srikanth, Desk Assistant

Administration & Finance

22. B Sumalatha, Accounts Officer
23. Ch Srinivas, Administrative Assistant
24. P Shobha Rani, Office Attendant
25. I Murali, Office Attendant/Driver
26. T Swaroopa, Office Attendant
27. M Lalitha, Office Attendant

Statement on the Cooperative Identity

Definition

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

Values

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility, and caring for others.

Principles

The cooperative principles are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice.

1st Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership: Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.

2nd Principle: Democratic Member Control: Cooperatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote), and cooperatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

3rd Principle: Member Economic Participation: Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4th Principle: Autonomy and Independence: Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

5th Principle: Education, Training and Information: Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

6th Principle: Cooperation among Cooperatives: Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7th Principle: Concern for Community: Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

[Approved by the 31st International Cooperative Congress and by the General Assembly of the International Cooperative Alliance, held at Manchester, England, on 20-23 September 1995]

Field work area of Swakrushi Cooperative Movement

