

One Day Conference

on

**Opportunities and Challenges before
Co-operatives For Northern States**

on

12.08.2017

at

RICM, Chandigarh



NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNION OF INDIA

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Report on one day conference
on
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FOR NORTHERN STATES**

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One day conference on opportunities and challenges before Co-operatives for northern states comprising of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi was organised on 12-08-2017 by National Cooperative Union of India at Regional Institute of Cooperative Management Chandigarh which was attended by prominent co-operators, leaders and officials of the concerned states and other part of the country. The chief guest of the function was Dr Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) & Chairman NCUI and KRIBHCO.

At the outset, Shri Kulwinder Singh Bhaikera, Chairman, Management Committee, RICM Chandigarh welcomed all the guests by presenting the bouquets.



*Shri Kulwinder Singh Bhaikera, Chairman, Management Committee,
RICM Chandigarh welcoming President, NCUI*

The program was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by all the distinguished guests, followed by Saraswati Vandana.



Dr Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and President, NCUI lighting the lamp to inaugurate the Zonal Conference

The proceeding of inaugural session was started with the welcome address by Shri Mohan Kumar Mishra, Executive Director, NCUI/Secretary, NCCT. In his address, he introduced all the distinguished guest to audience and threw light over the objective of the conference.



Shri Mohan Kumar Mishra, Executive Director, NCUI and Secretary, NCCT giving introductory speech

Sh. N. Satya Narayana, Chief Executive, NCUI was the next speaker who had presented a brief picture of co-operative movement of all the northern states covering all the sectors and also suggested what a lot could be done to further strengthen the movement of the respective states.



Shri N Satya Narayana, Chief Executive welcoming Shri D V Deshpande, Director, BIRD

Sh. D.V. Deshpande, Director, BIRD, Lucknow gave a brief description of what NABARD has done for the upliftment of co-operative especially PACS. He made special mention of C.PEC, and its achievement in the area of training of personal associated with co-operative bank and societies.



Sh. D.V. Deshpande, Director, BIRD, Lucknow speaking on the occasion

“Doubling the farmers income in the next 5 year is the main target for the central govt. and co-operative can play an important role in achieving this target” were the keywords of Shri J P Mishra, Adviser(Agriculture), NITI Aayog. He further urged co-operative that they should increase their loaning in allied Agri activities like dairy, poultry, fisheries etc. as the farmers in their relatively free time can engage themselves in these activities and thus can increase their income.



Shri J P Mishra, Adviser(Agriculture), NITI Aayog speaking on the occasion

Shri D.S. Thakur, Chairman, HIMCOFED & Member Governing Council NCUI, while mentioning the great contribution of Sh. Mia Hira Singh for establishing first Cooperative Society of the Country; also called for youth (through a turnaround story) to convert challenges into opportunities.



Shri D.S. Thakur, Chairman, HIMCOFED & Member Governing Council NCUI speaking on the occasion

Shri G.D. Bakshi, General Secretary, J&K Cooperative Union gave a brief description of the present situation of J&K State and suggested that there is enough potential for expanding Poultry, Tourism & Fruit Processing Cooperatives in the State for that sincere efforts are required.



Shri G.D. Bakshi, General Secretary, J&K Cooperative Union speaking on the occasion

Shri Rameshwar Chauhan, Chairman HARCOFED has briefly mentioned the steps taken by Haryana to make the Cooperatives Self-Reliant. Efforts are on to concentrate over Non-Fund based Income activities, especially by the PACS, he added.



Shri Rameshwar Chauhan, Chairman HARCOFED speaking on the occasion

Shri Gurpratap Singh Khushalpur, Director LABOURFED Punjab & Member Governing Council, NCUI, while speaking on the achievements of Credit, Marketing & Dairy Cooperatives etc. of Punjab State, said that there is a need to pay attention on Tourism & Construction Cooperatives to give a further boost to Cooperative Movement of Punjab State.



Shri Gurpratap Singh Khushalpur, Director LABOURFED Punjab & Member Governing Council, NCUI speaking on the occasion

Shri K.S. Bhaikera, Chairman Management Committee RICM Chandigarh presented a Brief Report of RICM's Training Activities and future plan.



Sh. K.S. Bhaikera, Chairman Management Committee RICM Chandigarh speaking on the occasion

The Chief Guest of the program Dr Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) expressed concern over the pathetic condition of the farmer. He said that 60-65% of rural population is purely dependent on agriculture and 35% of the total population is directly or indirectly associated with the co-operatives .But it is quite painful that nothing is talked about the co-operative in parliament. He suggested that there should be a separate ministry for co-operatives.



Dr Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) & President, NCUI speaking on the occasion

Dr Bijender Singh, Vice President, NCUI, in his presidential address emphasised role of quality training and education for further improvement of cooperatives. He suggested to follow Gujarat and Kerala pattern to become viable.



Dr Bijender Singh, Vice President, NCUI speaking on the occasion

The vote of thanks was presented by Dr K N Sinha, Director (GCP) NCUI. He expressed sincere thanks and gratitude to Chief Guest and other guests for their valuable suggestion and guidance.



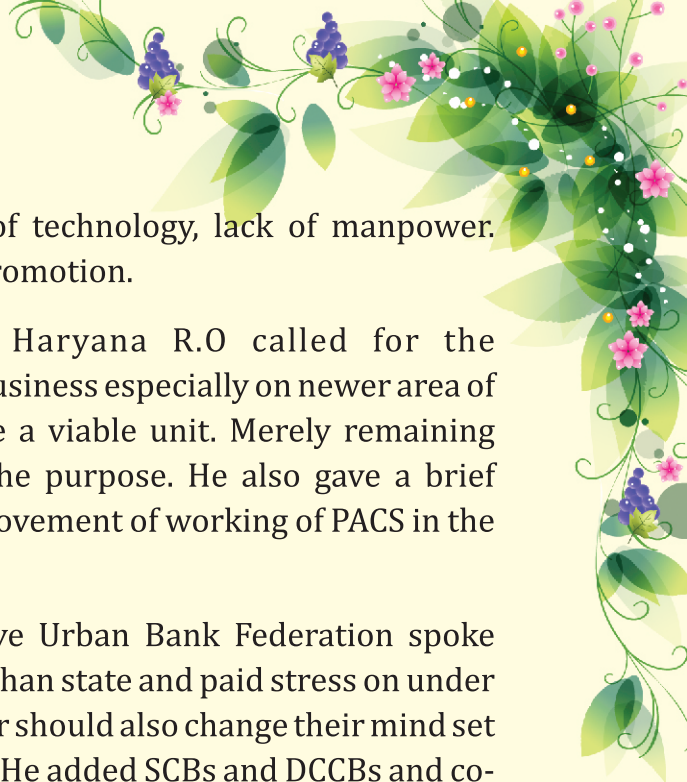
Dr K N Sinha, Director (GCP) NCUI presenting vote of thanks

Technical Session –I

After the inaugural function, technical sessions were started. Theme of the 1st session was “**Problems, challenges and achievements of co-operatives**” in northern states, where in following resource persons presented their papers/views under the chairmanship of Sh. J.P Mishra, advisor, NITI Aayog.

1. Sh. Munishwar Chandra, Retd. Add/RCS, Punjab.
2. Sh. Harmesh Kumar, DGM NABARD Haryana Regional Office.
3. Sh. M.L. Sharma, CEO, Rajasthan Co-operative Urban Bank Federation, Jaipur.
4. Sh. Sitaram Thakur, Sr Faculty, ACSTI, Shimla.

Sh. Munishwar Chandra threw light over the journey of achievements of co-operative in Punjab State followed by problems of co-operatives in Punjab, mainly lack



of professionalism and slower rate of adoption of technology, lack of manpower. However steps are being taken of recruitment and promotion.

Sh. Harmesh Kumar, DGM NABARD Haryana R.O called for the co-operation to pay attention on diversification of business especially on newer area of finances. He told that only then PACS can become a viable unit. Merely remaining confined up to agricultural loaning won't serve the purpose. He also gave a brief description of what NABARD had done for the improvement of working of PACS in the recent past.

Sh. M.L. Sharma CEO Rajasthan co-operative Urban Bank Federation spoke about the status of co-operative movement in Rajasthan state and paid stress on under staffing in PACS in Rajasthan. The existing manpower should also change their mind set and concentrate over the enhancement of business. He added SCBs and DCCBs and co-operative department should also co-operate them in their endeavour positively.

Sh. Sita Ram Thakur gave a brief picture of movement of Himachal Pradesh. In Himachal, about 90% PACS are running in profit, as they have timely changed themselves as per changing environment. New experiments are on, which will further improve the financial position of the PACS. Personnel working in PACS are getting handsome salaries as compared to other northern states.

In the end J.P. Mishra chairman of the session summed up the views of speakers and thanked all of them including audience.

Technical Session –II

The second session was on “**Status of co-operative education and training in northern states**”, chaired by Sh. N Satya Narayana, CE, NCUI/DG NCCT. The following were speaker in the session.

1. Sh. S.C Pradhan, Principal CTC Delhi
2. Sh. Adrash Dogra, DGM, H P State Cooperative Bank Ltd
3. Sh. Preet Mohender Singh, DGM Finance, The Punjab State Coop. Agricultural Development Bank Ltd.
4. Sh. Balvinder Singh, Sr. Faculty Member, ACSTI, Jalandhar, Punjab

Sh. Pradhan presented a glimpse of co-operative movement of Delhi NCR along with status of training. He suggested that training imparting agencies should



concentrate more on practical/workable contents to ensure immediate benefit of the training. All the syllabus of long/short duration programs be reviewed and given a new shape with more emphasis of practical aspects.

Sh. Adrash Dogra, DGM H.P State Co-operative Bank Ltd. gave a brief description of technology adoption by the bank as the H.P State Co-operative Bank is front runner in adoption of technologies, almost all the PACS have been provided with computer and training of PACS personnel is on. He suggested that training institute should impart training using the software of cooperative organisation, then only the training will be more fruitful.

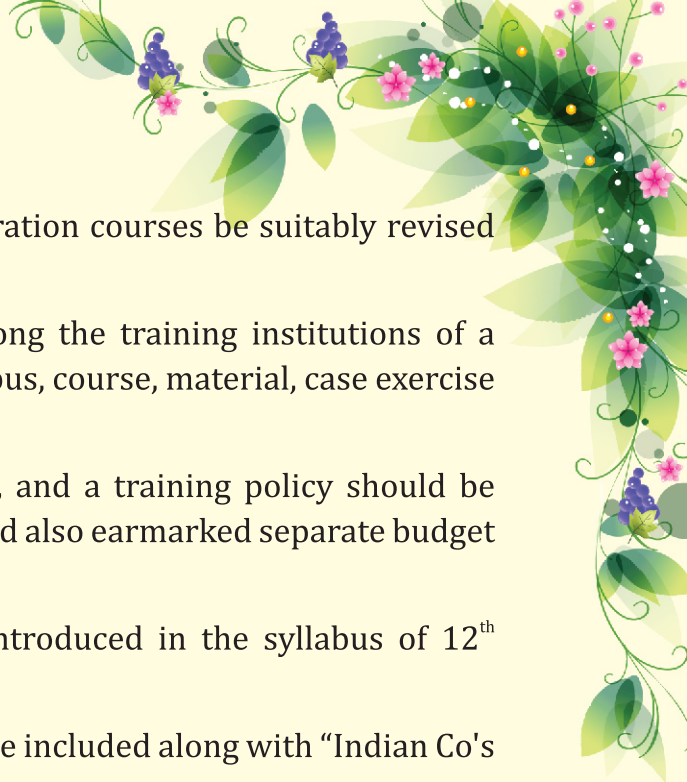
Sh. Preet Mohinder Singh, DGM, Finance, Punjab State Coop. Agricultural Development Bank Ltd mainly focused on present status of Training & how it can be further improved. He stressed on to work more on feed back of the participant, which is not seriously looked into by most of the training Institutions. Programme Contents should be reviewed periodically as per need. He called for the user organisation to take training of employees with a bit seriousness and provide Training needs to the Institutions enabling them to design an effective Training programme & thus improve the productivity of work force.

Sh. Balwinder Singh, Sr. Faculty Member ACSTI Jalandhar, Punjab, also thrown light on Need-Based Training by carrying out workable T.N.A. exercise, but it is only possible when user organisation will actively cooperate with Training Institutions.

In the end of session, Chairman Sh. N. Satya Narayana summed- up the views of speakers and thanked all speakers & audience

Major Recommendations

- (1) More focus should be onto granting loan to allied agricultural activities like Dairy Poultry, Fisheries, Piggeries etc. as farmers can do this business simultaneously with the main agricultural activities.
- (2) Available resources should be utilized in more productive manner to ensure better productivity.
- (3) There is a great need of a Separate Ministry for Co-operation in centre.
- (4) In the syllabus of Training programmes, more emphasis should be on practical



aspects. Syllabus of different long/short duration courses be suitably revised with more thrust on “Skills Development”.

- (5) There should be proper Co-ordination among the training institutions of a particular area in terms of exchange of syllabus, course, material, case exercise & case studies etc.
- (6) Training at all levels needs to be imparted, and a training policy should be formulated by all the states. State Govt. should also earmarked separate budget for Training of Co-operative Personnel.
- (7) “Co-operation” as an optional subject be introduced in the syllabus of 12th commerce, by all State Education Boards
- (8) In universities, state Co-op; law should also be included along with “Indian Co's Act 1956” or “Commercial law subject”.
- (9) NCUI Field Projects should be strengthened.
- (10) Enhancement of women participation.
- (11) More funds should be allocated to State Coop. Unions by State Governments.

Valedictory Session

In Valedictory session, Sh. D.V Deshpande, Director, BIRD was the Chief Guest & Ms Poonam Nara, M.D HARCO fed, Chandigarh was Guest of Honour.

At the outset, Deepak Nagar Deputy Director, presented a summary of the entire deliberations of the conference along with major recommendations /suggestions by Hon'ble speakers.

Ms Poonam Nara in her address presented a brief note of HARCO fed's initiative in imparting training & education and contribution of RICM, Chandigarh in imparting need based quality training.

Chief Guest Sh. D.V. Deshpande, Director BIRD Lucknow, in his address rated the conference quite successful & also suggested that this types of conference be organised at regular intervals which will not only improve the quality of training but also be able to inject fresh energy among trainer's fraternity.

The conference came to an end with the vote of thanks by Sh. R.K Sharma, Director, RICM, Chandigarh to all distinguished guests.

