

Co-Operative Movement and Working Together

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Introduction

The word Co-operation is derived from the Latin word 'Co-operai' which means working together. It is the basis of the social life of human civilization. All organization of the society ranging from family to nation, are built upon the strong foundations of co-operation. Level of co-operation can be local, regional, national or international. There was no period in human history when people decided to work without co-operation. At present the word co-operation has gone beyond its general sense meaning of 'working together'. Now it represents a comprehensive concept. In its technical sense it denotes a special method of doing business. It is linked generally with an economic organization. Therefore, co-operation is not merely a feeling of human being but it stands for a deliberate organization of human beings for the attainment of their common economic requirements, 2012 has been officially declared as the international year of co-operative by the UNO with the objectives of increase public awareness about cooperatives, Promote the formation and growth of co-operatives and establish **appropriate policies** to co-operative formation and growth. In December 2010, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2013 as the United Nations International Year of water co-operation. This foundation that has at present 92 countries and more than 100 crores of membership was founded in a small town in England in the 19th century, with the intention of social development through mutual support.

Genesis of Co-operative movement

Co-operative organization is essentially an organization of persons who join together on voluntary basis for economically considered as an organization of economically weaker sections of the community who associate together with a view to safeguard their interest from the exploitation by the stronger sections. Co-operative movement has made considerable progress in all the developing countries like India. Co- operation created human values and also tries to secure better standard of living to its members.

Co-operative movement originated first in England. Cater on it has been introduced in Germany and Italy. It is from these countries that the movement spreads to almost all other parts of the world. The person behind this remarkable idea was Robert Owen father of Co-operation born in 1771, into a poor family in Wales. Owen from his nine years onwards worked in a mill to support his family. Later he became the owner of the mill. He was very loyal and kind. He did not believe in the accumulation of wealth. His chief concern was human happiness which he believed; he immediately set upon reinforcing the laws for their welfare. He set up labour colonies and labour exchanges of their needs.

Dr. William King was a follower of Owen. Like Owen he argued that poverty decrease and crime were chiefly the result of existing economic and social condition. Dr. King's ideas were lighted through, his monthly magazine called 'The Co-operator'. He held that the remedy for the workers goodness is co-operation. The workers suffered because they worked for others. Unless they worked for themselves they would not enjoy the whole product of their labour. But this could not be possible unless they had capital. As individuals they could not obtains the required capital. Co-operatively they could raise enough capital by accumulating small savings.

Rochdale pioneers and Success story

During the 18th century Roched was back ward textile town with a population of above 25000. Most of the people were hand loom weavers. They ware leading a happy and contented life till the advent of the industrial revolution. When the power driven machineries were introduced the weavers faced with so many problems. Many of them thrown out of employment. The conditions of the work and wage cut were introduced. More over inadequate housing high rent, low quality of goods have created the life miserable. To face the situation, workers united and formed 'weavers union'. As the first step a strike was arranged in 1824. It miserably failed then they thought of a solution. As a result they laid the foundation stone for the consumers store in England.

Twenty eight flannel weavers at Rochdale joined together and contributed on pound each as share capital and organized a society in 1844. The main objectives of the society were to make purchases of essential consumer goods like butter sugar, candles flour etc. and distribute them among the members as reasonable prices. The shop opened only in the evenings and the members themselves worked as salesman by turn. Their aim was to improve their economic and social conditions by self help and mutual help. These weavers who started the Rochdale Equitable society are called Rochdale Pioneers. Thus, this foundation which began with a consumer store and office in a conjoined room in rochdale later in 1867 went on to purchase the nearby land and establish a vast supermarket and also set up outlets in England. The increasing popularity of this foundation began to influence the other nations too. In Germany, F.W. Raiffeisen (1818-1888) was established for the village farmers and schulze Deli TZSCH (1808-1883) for petty shop keepers and hand labourers. In Italy, the foundation started by a social worker. These Co-operative Societies spread instantly into the countries namely France.

International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)

ICA is a worldwide confederation of co-operative organizations it was founded by the International Co-operative Congress (ICC) held at London in 1895. now its head quarters at Geneva.

Co-operative Flag

The Rainbow flag was instituted in on the occasion of the 1st international Co-operative Day celebrations in the United Kingdom. From then, the flag obtained international recognition and is considered the symbol of co-operation all over the world. The flag is made up of all the colors of Rainbow namely Violet, Indigo, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange and Red the flag should be hoisted with red at top.

Co-operative day and week

Most of the countries in the world celebrate the first Saturday of July every year as the Co-operative day. This is done at the request of ICA. As a majority of states in India will be having rainy season in July, in India

Co-operative day is being celebrated in the first Saturday of November every year. India is having a large number of different types of Co-operative societies. In the place of one day the NCVI decided to celebrated one week as Co-operative week from the first Saturday. Subsequently with the demise of our first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who was an exponent of the Co-operative field the co-operators in general wanted to link his birthday with the Co-operative movement. There upon the NUCI decided to celebrate Co-operative week from November 14 every year.

Origin and Growth of the movement in India

Indian Co-operation has emerged as a –turmoil and dissatisfaction which prevailed during the last quarter of the 19th century and worked as a direct consequence of the Industrial revolution. The revolution led to the decay of cottage industries and growing pressure on land, making agriculture an uneconomic venture; greater mobility of rich people from villages to towns and of capital to new channels of investment; the growth of middlemen acting as parasites to the disadvantage of small producers; new debt legislations which changed completely the borrowing and the lending system; the change in the method of payment of land revenue from king to cash, throwing the cultivators into the clutches of the money lenders etc. all these destroyed the self-sufficient economy of the villages. The need for providing cheap credit facilities to the farmers went on becoming strong and the idea of starting co-operative credit societies was hatched in 1892. The Madras Govt. sent Sir Frederick Nicholson for studying the co-operative movements in European countries. Nicholson's report was received in 1899 and it was brought to the notice of the Govt. of India. Nicholson remarked, "Find Raiffeisen". Meanwhile, some 200 co-operative societies and Nidhis in up and Madras and already come into existence. In 1903 their membership and working capital stood at 36000 and Rs. 75 lakh respectively. The Govt. of India appointed in 1901 a committee under the president ship of Sir Edward Law to study the question of starting co-operative credit societies in India. This committee also recommended the establishment of co-operative societies on the Raiffeisen model.

Conclusion

Co-operation as an instrument for removing disparities in the distribution of wealth has proved very effective, because profits earned by the societies are distributed among all the members not on the basis of capital invested by them but on the basis of use they have made of the society. It would be seen that co-operation plays a very crucial role in the social development of nation. It puts all social tensions and disturbances to an end with the help of the spirit of love, affection and brotherhood, it improved the standard of living of the people by providing them proper education and training and by inculcation among them a spirit of co-operation.

“The twentieth century” according to Arnold Toynbee. “will be remembered not as the age of the atomic bomb, or...but as the first age in history in which man thought in practical to distribute all the benefits of civilization of all men. “The social importance of co-operation can, therefore, not be exaggerated.

References

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Revised cost estimates of Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle project for completing the scope of development programme and experimental flight

The Union Cabinet today gave its approval for revised cost estimates of Rs.2962.78 crore (against the original provision of Rs. 2498.00 crore) for completing the scope of the development programme of Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV Mk-III) and to carry out an experimental flight called LVM3-X.

The additional fund requirement is Rs. 464.78 crore to complete the scope of the project including one experimental flight called LVM3-X and two developmental flights called GSLV Mk-III D1 and GSLV Mk-III D2.

Development of the GSLV Mk-III launch vehicle is expected to augment the capacity of the Indian space programme to launch 4T class satellites to Geo-synchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) and thereby significantly reduce the demand-supply gap of transponders in the country.

The indigenous development of the GSLV Mk-III will facilitate launching of four ton class of communication satellites to Geo-synchronous Transfer Orbit, benefiting all sections of the society, including remote and far-flung areas of the country.

These technological innovations pushed India into the league of Super powers of the world.

Background

The Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV Mk-III) project was approved in 2002 with an outlay of Rs. 2498 crore. The GSLV Mk-III Launch Vehicle Programme involves a major leap in technological complexity as compared to the ongoing Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and GSLV programmes. The original financial sanction needs to be revised, considering the cost escalation in the project elements, modifications in design, new elements etc. required to complete the scope of the project including two development flights. The scope of the project is also required to be augmented to include an experimental flight (Launch Vehicle Mark-III - Experimental: LVM3-X) to validate the critical atmospheric regime of the flight.

The Experimental flight of GSLV Mk-III (LVM3-X) with flight versions of Solid Stages (S200), Liquid Stage (L110) and a passive cryogenic stage (C25) is planned in 2013-14, to validate some of the new systems and flight sequences, hitherto not demonstrated in PSLV/GSLV flights. The first development flight (GSLV Mk-III D1) with an operational cryogenic stage is planned in 2016-17. The second development flight (GSLV Mk-III D2) is planned after one year of GSLV Mk-III D1 flight in 2017-18.