
**WORKING OF MILK PRODUCERS' CO-OPERATIVES
IN MAHARASHTRA**

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FOREWORD

The dairy industry in India has achieved significant progress over the last several years through the Operation Flood Programme which was launched in 1971. Almost all the states and most of the high potential milksheds have been covered in this programme.

An issue which is causing considerable concern is that of the economic viability of the units. In terms of the economic viability, out of 96 milk co-operatives in the State of Maharashtra, only 25 are presently economically viable. The present investigation is a comparative study of the working of the milk producers' co-operatives in the districts of Jalgaon and Kolhapur in this state.

The study reveals that the Kolhapur Milk Producers' Co-operative is more efficient and organised than the Jalgaon Milk Producers' Co-operative. Various problems faced by these milk co-operatives in their efficient functioning are discussed in the report. The issues such as milk procurement, procurement pricing, marketing of milk and the relation between the cost of production and the price of milk have also been discussed.

It is hoped that the findings of the study presented in this report will be useful to those who are interested in understanding the functioning of the milk co-operatives in Maharashtra, particularly to the policy-makers and the managers.

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February 26, 1996

PREFACE

Cooperatives as well as organised processing and marketing are relatively new to the Indian dairy economy. Until the dawn of independence, dairy production and trade were almost entirely in the household sector. In 1930 and 40s, there were isolated efforts towards forming cooperatives in many parts of India. The golden era of cooperative movement began after India had won freedom. The National Dairy Development Board was set up to make the ambitious project of dairy development a success. Besides this, the Operation Flood Project was taken up to balance the demand and supply of milk throughout the country and to help the rural people in making additional income. In Maharashtra, the Operation Flood Project was launched initially in Jalgaon and Kolhapur districts only. Subsequently, 19 more districts in the state were included for assistance. The progress of the Operation Flood Programme all over the state has been quite commendable. Before the implementation of the programme both the production as well as the per capita milk consumption was too low. The position at present has undergone a distinctive change. Apart from the increase of milk production and its per capita consumption a great number of village milk cooperative societies have come up. However, still the performance of many of the milk cooperatives in the state is dismal.

With the above background, the present study entitled 'Working of Milk Producers' Cooperatives in Maharashtra' was undertaken at the initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. It deals with the analysis - as to how the Operation Flood Programme i.e. replicating the ANAND model programme taken by the NDDB is achieved in the state.

The study has been divided into six chapters. The first chapter includes various national level policies and programme on dairy development, status of dairy development in Maharashtra, rationale of the study, objectives of the investigation and methodology for the selection of the districts, villages and sample households. The second chapter examines the functioning of various milk cooperative unions in sample districts. It includes discussion on organisational growth, milk procurement and techno-economic performance of milk cooperative unions. Some background information on all the villages selected from sample districts and the primary milk cooperative societies situated therein is provided in the third chapter. As a prelude to the better understanding of the findings of the analysis of the household data, chapter four traces the major impact of milk cooperatives on beneficiary households. The fifth chapter revolves round a comparative performance of the sample cooperative milk unions and also identifies various problems faced by these unions and suggests various alternative strategies in remediation. Finally, chapter six contains summary and conclusion of the entire study.

In the conduct of the present investigation I had fruitful discussions with Shri K. D. Shah, Regional Dairy Development Officer, Pune; Dr. D. K. Toke, Manager (Animal Husbandry), JMPU; Shri P. A. Patil, Procurement Manager, KMPU; Dr. R. A. Patil, Procurement Manager, Shri Warna Sahakari Dudh Utpadak Prakriya Sangh Ltd., Kolhapur and also with the Managing Directors of the respective district level sample milk unions. I am thankful to all of them and their colleagues for their cooperation and facilities extended in the conduct of the present study. In particular, I am thankful to Shri Bangale and Shri Joshi, Dairy Development Officers of Jalgaon and Kolhapur districts, respectively for their keen interest in

the study and also to Dr. B. P. Patil, Assistant Procurement Manager, KMPU, who introduced us to the dairy officials of KMPU.

I am also grateful to the village officials of cooperative milk societies as well as farmers of the selected areas for their kind cooperation and hospitality during our field work.

I am greatly indebted to Professor D. C. Wadhwa, Director of our Institute for his keen interest in the study and providing all the necessary facilities in carrying out the present investigation. I wish to place my gratitude and indebtedness to Dr. R. S. Deshpande, Officiating Registrar of this Institute for his sincere guidance, exemplary suggestions and useful comments at all the stages of this study.

I hereby extend my hearty thanks to the field investigators, Shri S. S. Dete, Shri S. B. Kate and Shri V. G. Kasbe for their assistance during data collection and tabulation work.

It gives me great pleasure in extending my grateful thanks to all the members of the computer centre and in particular to Smt. A. A. Kher, Smt. A. A. Chandrachud and Shri M. M. Marathe who took pains in processing and analysing the data on the computer.

I will be failing in my duties if I do not express my sincere thanks to the typists, particularly to Shri S. K. Athale, Shri V. N. Inandar, Smt. M. S. Marathe and Shri A. V. Moghe who did painstaking typing.

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ABBREVIATIONS

JMPU	Jalgaon District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union
KMPU	Kolhapur District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union
CMS	Chalisgaon Milk Scheme
Sangh	Shri Warna Sahakari Dudh Utpadak Prakriya Sangh Ltd. at Warnanagar
NDDB	National Dairy Development Board
MRSDM	Maharashtra Rajya Sahakari Dudh Mahasangh Ltd.
AI	Artificial Insemination
OF	Operation Flood
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
IRDP	Integrated Rural Development Programme
NPC	National Productivity Council
WB	White Butter
WMP	Whole Milk Powder
SMP	Skimmed Milk Powder
mlpd	million litres per day
AFC	Agricultural Finance Corporation
ARDC	Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation
Extension Area	Area Covered Under Milk Co-operative Infrastructure
Control Area	Area Not Covered Under Milk Co-operative Infrastructure

ERRATA

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
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44	4	convetional	conventional
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120	31	breads	breeds.
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164	17	behavious	behaviour.
170	8	reluctan	reluctance
189	21	due the	due to
209	3	Agarwal (1984)	Agarwal (1994)

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