

CHAPTER - VI

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PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES OF
COOPERATIVE DAIRY SOCIETIES.

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CHAPTER - VIProblems and difficulties

In the last chapters a discussion about the development of cooperative dairy societies has been made. Generally, all dairy societies have made satisfactory progress and helped in solving economic and social problems in Walwa Taluka. But, still the dairy societies face some problems which came in the way of their rapid progress. The main problems faced by the cooperative dairy societies, while successfully and profitably discharging their duties, are,

1) Inadequate management charges -

The government of Maharashtra has been paying six paise per litre of milk to dairy society as management charges. The transport rates are settled according to distance covered. The transport rate is one paise per litre-kilometer only. The salary, ice and other management expenditures have been increasing. The rates offered are fairly old and need an upward revision.

2) No proper roads -

Good roads are necessary for milk transportation. Better Vehicles like Tempo, Truck can be used, if there are proper roads. There are eight main roads for milk transportation in Walwa Taluka. Out of these eight roads, four roads are macadamized and other four are rough. Out of these four roads,



two are in the process of being mac^aadamized. The milk federation has to use rough roads and cause delay. In the rainy season, many times, these roads became unusable. Because of rough roads milk spills from cans and there is a great deal of loss to dairy federation.

3) Earely collection of milk
(Morning and evening) :

Due to the earely collection of milk by milk federation, the acceptance of milk begins quite earely in the morning by the dairy societies. Dairy societies are compelled to finish the milk collection work before 6.30 a.m. in morning session and before 5 p.m. in evening session. Then only they can supply milk to milk federation in scheduled time. This causes a bit of inconvenience to the society as well as to the milk producer. These societies collect milk in a hurry. It is not possible to test the milk of all members, some milk is of low quality and it is inadvertantly accepted.

4) Increase in prices of cattle Feed and Fodder-

The prices of cattle feed and fodder have been increasing year after year, whereas, the prices of milk have not increased to that extent. In the last 10 years the prices of cattle feed and fodder have increased by more than 250 percent, but prices of milk paid by ^{the} Government have increased by 133 percent only in the same period. So, this business has not remained profitable from the view point of landless or small farmers.

5) Faulty method of milk testing :

Milk is tested soon after the milk collection. Payment of milk is made according to the quality of milk supplied and it makes testing of milk necessary. The milk sample is supposed to undergo Fat, S.N.F., lactometer tests and adulteration tests. The dairy societies continue to complain against no tests or improper tests which account for possible losses.

6) Cut throat competition among societies :

In Walwa Taluka up to the end of 1986-87, 58 villages were having one cooperative dairy society. There were 125 dairy societies in 82 villages altogether, resulting in unnecessary duplication and ~~x~~ weakening of some societies. But the government, despite this fact, continues to give permission to start new dairy societies. This government policy creates cut throat competition amongst the cooperative societies. Government is not adopting any firm policy in this regard. This happens out of political influencialism.

7) Malpractices in the society :

A number of visits were paid to the dairy societies. It was found that number of milk producers were meeting the milk testing authority and were requesting upgradation of the quality of milk in the register. Bogus entries are made in the register. Adulterated milk has to be seized and no payment for such milk

can be made. There should be a separate column in the register for such information. But, it has been found that a number of alterations are made in this column. So, some producers are providing milk of low quality and receiving payment for good quality of milk.

8) Milk handling loss by the federation :

The milk collecting process of the milk federation at dairy society is fairly rapid. The milk is collected by the societies in cans, the persons of the ~~the~~ federation are in hurry to accept the milk in their own cans. They do not take adequate care to see that all the milk in the cans is poured out in to their cans properly. This results in losses for the dairy societies. Such reported short collection varies from 100 to 200 mlg. per can per time.

9) Faulty method of accepting milk from society :

Many milk societies from different villages have complained that the work of accepting milk is carried at such speed by the federation that the society persons can not verify the results, particularly that of quantity. This results in loss for dairy cooperative society. There will be a difference of 1 to 2 litres, per can, in the measurement.

10) Lack of discipline while accepting milk :

There is no discipline at the societies while collecting milk from producers and supplying that to federation. A Number of

people crowd at the palces of milk collection. There should be a proper method for accepting milk in the societies. The milk collection work should be finished before arrivial of federation vehicle. The milk producers should be made to stand in queues and then their milk should be accepted.

11) Lack of trained persons :

Dairy business is a technical business. For success of dairy society trained and experienced persons are required. Trained persons expect more salary. Dairy societies can not offer good salary due to inadequate profits. Owing to these facts dairy societies are managed by untrained persons without any technical knowledge of dairy business which ultimately results in inefficiency and loss.

✓ 12) Party politics in dairy society :

Accotding to the principles of cooperation, cooperative society should be run by the members for their benefit on democratic principles. But actually, the dairy societies are controlled by political leaders. They use dairy society for their own political advantage. Interest of society members is not guarded properly. This situation hampers the progress of dairy society.

13) Excess expenditure on ice :

The geographical distance among the dairy societies, Taluka milk federation and Government milk plant is great. More time is required for transportation of milk up to government

milk plant, which results in more use of ice for maintaining quality of milk. Many times the vehicles of federation do not come to dairy society within scheduled time. So, taluka milk federation requires more ice. The cost of ice is increasing day by day. Much portion of the management charges received from government milk plant is spent on the purchase of ice. As a result there is more expenditure on ice.