

CHAPTER – IV

DAY TO DAY WORKING

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CHAPTER - IV

DAY TO DAY WORKING

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The main object of the establishment of the labour co-operative society is to develop the economic condition of their members. The Maharashtra Government gives the grants for their development. In Maharashtra labour co-operative societies were registred in 1948. But the real development started after 1970 when the Government increased the limit of works to be assigned to labour co-operatives to Rs. 1 lakh without inviting tenders. Over the period of time this limit has been increased to Rs. 5 lakhs. Today the societies having 'B' class are allotted works upto Rs. 2.50 lakhs each and 'A' class societies are allotted the works upto Rs. 5 lakhs each.

Labour co-operative societies are given works by the Executive Engineer and District Deputy Registrar concerned. When works are sanctioned by inviting tender the labour co-operative societies are given preference even though their tender is above 5 percent than other tenders. But this concession is not given in case of construction of national highway roads. The labour co-operative societies are not required to pay the earnest money for the work upto Rs. 1 lakh. They are also not required to give the security deposit when the cost of the tender is less than Rs.1 lakh and this doesn't include provision of material like cement, timber, steel, G.C.I. Sheets etc. However, when the tender includes the provision of material the labour co-operative society is required to pay 50 percent of the society deposit. This amount of security deposit is upto 1 percent of the total cost of the work or minimum of Rs.100. This procedure is followed in case of works granted without inviting tenders. But when the works are granted by inviting

tenders the labour co-operatives have to pay security deposit as required in case of private contractors.

The labour co-operatives are not required to give the solvency certificate but they have to give a certificate as to their efficiency and financial viability. This certificate has to be obtained from the district federation as well as the District Deputy Registrar. When work is allotted to a labour co-operative society it can obtain necessary finance from the banks on the basis of the certificate of grant of work issued by the Executive Engineer.

4.2 ALLOTMENT OF WORK

The labour co-operative societies are allotted works on the basis of their class. At present 'A' class societies are allotted works of Rs. 5 lakhs without inviting tenders. 'B' class societies are allotted works upto Rs. 2.50 lakhs without inviting tenders. These societies can be given work up to minimum Rs. 20 lakhs and maximum of Rs. 30 lakhs in a year. The works are allotted by the works allotment committee headed by the District Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies. The other members of the committee are the P. W. D. department, Irrigation department and two representatives of federation of labour co-operatives. The works of Public works department, Housing department, Electricity board, Public health department and the departments of Zilla Parishad, Municipalities and other semi-government agencies are given to the labour co-operatives. The equipment and machinery required for completion of works is purchased by the labour co-operatives concerned.

Table 4.1
Availability of work

Provider of work	Share in total work (percent)
Private Institutions	3
Semi - Government Institutions	14
Government Agencies	83

Source - Field work.

Primary labour co-operative societies get the works mainly from the government agencies. The proportion of work received from the private institutions is very less, almost negligible as seen from Table 4.1. Government agencies providing work to labour societies include the public works department, all co-operative societies, all state corporations, all municipal corporations. They do not obtain much works from the open market.

Table 4.2
Completion of Work

Time taken	Percent
Before scheduled time	1
Within scheduled time	82
After scheduled time	17
Total	100

Source - Field work

Table 4.2 shows the time taken for completion of work by the societies. As seen from the Table 82 percent works were completed within the scheduled time. In 17 percent cases there was delay but it was insignificant. 1 percent works were completed even before their scheduled time.

4.3 EXECUTION OF WORK

Labour co-operative societies obtain labour and transportation contracts from different government agencies such as the district department of supplies, central warehousing corporation, Maharashtra state warehousing corporation, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers, public works department, public health department, irrigation department etc. They also undertake private labour contracts and perform these contracts. The labour and transportation contracts are spread over different places in the district and outside the district. The materials, equipment required for these works are either purchased or obtained on rental basis. These works are completed with the help of members of the society.

4.4 WORKING CONDITIONS

The works of labour societies involve a lot of manual work. The labourers have to load or unload the materials from trucks, railway wagons and stack them in the godowns, work in stone quarries, construct roads, buildings. These works require heavy physical efforts. The labourers have to work in very awkward conditions. They have to work under the conditions of severe heat, colds and rain. They also do not get adequate safety equipment to protect themselves from various physical hazards.

4.5 WELFARE ACTIVITIES

Labour societies have not only provided work to the members but also have implemented a number of schemes for their welfare. They have set up provident fund for the members. They give leaves with pay, medical facilities and bonus to the members. They have introduced pension scheme for the members. They also provide educational aid in the form of text books, note books, school uniform to the children of members every year.

4.6 GOVERNMENT AID

The labour co-operative societies are formed by the labourers – the economically weaker section of society. They, therefore, require assistance from the government. At present the state government contributes to the share capital of the primary labour co-operative societies. They also get grants for the purchase of tools and equipments and managerial grants for a period of three years. These amounts are, however, meager and need to be increased. The primary societies get financial assistance from the district federation for the purchase of trucks. The federation gives a financial grant for a period of two years and grants for technical assistance for a period of three to five years. The labour societies are granted works upto Rs. 5 lakhs without tenders. In case of works granted by inviting tenders a price increase of 5 percent over others is allowed. The societies are exempted from the payment of security deposit for works upto Rs.1 lakh. They are not required to pay the earnest money for the works upto Rs.1 lakh. These societies are exempted from the submission of the solvency certificate. The machinery, other equipment and the stone quarries available with the government are provided to these societies on preferential basis.