

CHAPTER – II
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CHAPTER - II

METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

In India about 50% of the population belongs to labour class. Most of these are unskilled and less educated or even ill-literate, Labourers are found to be poor because many times they do not get sufficient work to earn their livelihood and hence they have to seek work elsewhere. Labour co-operative societies are established for providing the work for the labourers. They undertake labour contracts, earn the labour charges and distribute them in equal proportion among all the members.

It is during the first and second five year plans of the country the process of establishment of labour co-operatives was given proper encouragement and support by the government. "The main object of the co-operation is to free the labourers from the exploitation private contractor. The other objectives behind the establishment of labour co-operative was to make the provision of work to the unemployed labourers, to make the provision of fair wages and thereby to improve the standard of living of such labourers."

To improve the lot of the poor labour force co-operatives are only the best instrument, because of their characteristic features of democratic management and service motive. These labourers, therefore, have to look forward only to co-operation in order to save themselves from the exploitation of middlemen and the private contractors.

The number of the labour co-operatives in Maharashtra is fairly large to show the quantitative growth. However, in qualitative terms the working of labour co-operatives is not seen to be encouraging one.

2.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The present study attempts to critically examine the development, working, the problems and the future of labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur.

2.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- i. To know the procedure of registration and general regulatory framework of labour co-operative societies.
- ii. To understand the actual working of labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur.
- iii. To examine the accounting and auditing of labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur.
- iv. To understand the organisation and management of labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur.
- v. To see how far and in what way the government has provided guidance and assistance to labour co-operative societies.
- vi. To assess the role of the federation of labour co-operative societies.
- vii. To evaluate the working of labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur on selective basis and suggest measures for their improvement.

2.4 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

There are twenty-six labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur city. Out of these societies eight have been selected by using random sample method for the present study.

2.5 COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF DATA

The primary data was collected by administering a questionnaire. Interviews were also conducted of the office bearers of these societies to obtain the additional information required for the study.

The secondary data was collected from the records of the societies. The annual reports and other published material was used to collect secondary data. The records available with District Registrar of Co-operative Societies, federation of labour co-operative societies were also consulted.

The data collected was processed by using simple statistical tools like classification, tabulation, averages, percentages, graphical representation etc.

2.6 PRESENTATION OF DATA

The data is presented in 7 Chapters as below.

1. Development of labour co-operative societies
2. Methodology
3. Establishment organisation and management
4. Day to day working
5. Account and audit
6. Role of federation
7. Conclusion and suggestions

2.7 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Due to the constraints of time and resources, the scope of the present study is limited to the labour co-operative societies in Kolhapur city only. The performance of the selected societies is considered for a period of 5 years from 1996-97 to 2000-2001. The researcher had mainly relied on the primary data which can not be claimed completely free from bias.