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**PROGRESS AND PERFORMANCE OF PRIMARY AGRICULTURE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN INDIA**

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**GURU NANAK KHALSHA COLLEGE**  
**KARNAL**

**ABSTRACT**

*As per 2011 census, about 68.8 per cent of the population resides in rural areas, depending directly or indirectly upon agriculture for their livelihood. There are so many problems in agriculture but agriculture credit is a major problem in rural area. In many developing countries, it has been found that the rural credit market is imperfect in nature. There are substantial variations in the availability of formal credit in rural urban locations (Laha and Kuri, 2011). Primary agriculture co-operative societies are the major part of rural area; they are providing the source of money to the farmer, which will easily available for the cultivation of farm. This paper is evaluating the performance of these agriculture co-operative societies and describing the progress of primary agriculture cooperative societies during the year of 2000-01 to 2011-12 in India.*

**KEYWORDS**

Livelihood, Agriculture, Co-operative credit and Performance.

**INTRODUCTION**

Agriculture is the mainstay of the Indian economy because of its high share in employment. The contribution of this sector to the gross domestic product (GDP) is however declining very rapidly and is presently about 13.68 percent (in 2011-12) and this sector is also showing deceleration in growth rates. Therefore, it is very important for this sector to achieve higher growth rates and also be an engine of growth, so that growth in other sectors and overall growth rate of the economy can be achieved. Agriculture is a backbone of Indian economy. As per the census, about 68.8 percent of population resides in rural area and depending directly or indirectly upon agriculture for their livelihood. The contribution of this sector to the gross domestic product (GDP) is however declining very rapidly and is presently about 13.68 percent (in 2011-12) and this sector is also showing deceleration in growth rates. Therefore, it is very important for this sector to achieve higher growth rates and also be an engine of growth, so that growth in other sectors and overall growth rate of the economy can be achieved. The primary agricultural credit co-operative societies are considered to be the pillars of the entire cooperative edifice. The PACS continue to be the main source of agricultural credit to the farmers in rural areas (S.S.Kalamkar). The agricultural sector of India has grown up since independence but after green revaluation in agriculture got an express speed for its development. Up to mid-sixties, owing to various constraints, not only low value crops were dominating in the cropping pattern but production and productivity of crops were also very low. The situation has totally changed after the introduction of Green Revolution in Indian agriculture, which was introduced during the mid-sixties. Though there are so many problems arise in agriculture after independence. Like water resources was very limited, seed qualities was not good, availability of fertilizer was less than the requirement etc. but after green revolution impression of those main problems was decreasing by plan by plan. Over all in many problems, there was a significant problem of credit for agriculture. More than seventy five percent agriculturist was receiving the credit from money lenders for their agricultural cultivation. The rate of interest was very high and so the people couldn't survive their economic position. Farmer wanted some method for to solve this problem. Reserve bank of India was set up in 1935. RBI started special department for the development and growth of Co-operative credit Societies. Credit is very important to the agriculture. India has only four month rainy season in a year. During that time the credit deliver a significant role for the cultivation of agriculture. In many developing countries, it has been found that the rural credit market is imperfect in nature. There are substantial variations in the availability of formal credit in rural urban locations (Laha and Kuri, 2011). On the basis of farmers' background of economy no one will be ready for to provide the credit. Because there is no surety of repay the loan by the farmer, because the income from agriculture is not guarantee of farmer. In this situation farmer can get the credit from the primary agriculture credit co-operative society. These societies are working for farmer, by the farmer. In 1912, the Co-operative Societies Act was enacted which permitted the registration of non-credit co-operative societies as well. These societies are affiliated by the District Co-operative Central banks. And the district Central co-operative banks are affiliated by the State Co-operative banks. Primary agriculture cooperative credit societies are providing the short and medium term loans for the farming purposes. This paper is evaluating the performance of these agriculture co-operative societies in India.

**METHODOLOGY**

For to this purpose of paper secondary data have used of bank record and government statements. The reference year have decided of 12 years from 2000-01 to 2011-12. This paper is evaluating the performance of primary agriculture co-operative societies in the term of deposits, demand of money, supply of money and in many other indicators.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Primary agriculture Co-operative credit societies are those credit societies which establish for the welfare of farmer only. These establish by the farmer for the farmer.

**MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETIES**

1. For the membership of Co-operative credit societies member should be belong to located village of Co-operative societies.
2. The work of co-operative societies should limited to its village only.
3. The liability of Co-operative credit societies be should unlimited.
4. Co-operative credit society is liable for to the deposits and loans in its account.
5. Loan repayment schedule can be deciding by the co-operative society as per the significance purpose of the loans.
6. Primary Co-operative credit societies provide the loan only for medium and short term purpose.

FIGURE 1: NUMBER OF PRIMARY AGRICULTURE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES DURING THE PERIOD OF 2000-01 TO 2011-12

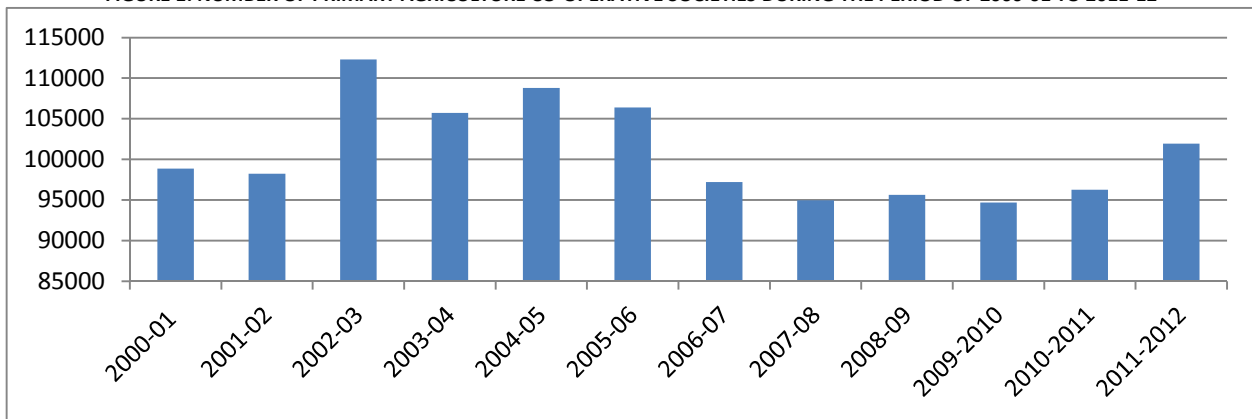
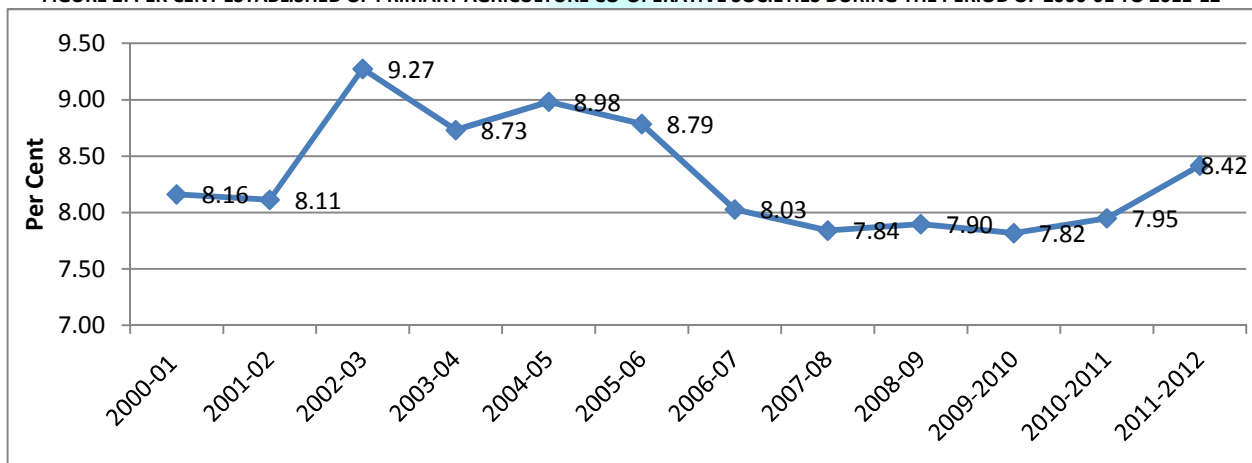


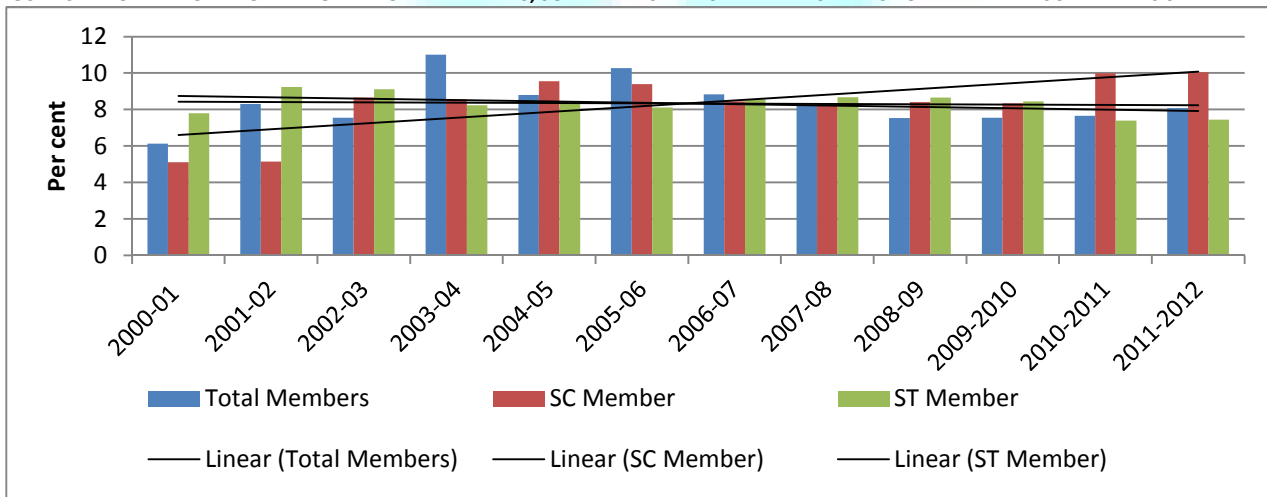
FIGURE 2: PER CENT ESTABLISHED OF PRIMARY AGRICULTURE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES DURING THE PERIOD OF 2000-01 TO 2011-12



Source: National Federation of State Co-operative bank Ltd.

Above Graph are indicating the performance of established PACs in terms of number of credit societies. The 2000-01 year was a little bit good year compare to 2011-12. In 2001-02, 8.16 percent PACs was established which was little higher than the 8.42 percent established number of PACs during the 2011-12. Maximum number of PACs established in 2002-03 with the percentage of 9.27 compare to other years. About the poor year 2007-08 highlighted with the percentage of 7.84.

FIGURE 3: INFORMATION REGARDING THE TOTAL MEMBERS, SC MEMBERS AND ST MEMBERS. YEARS TOTAL MEMBER SC MEMBERS ST MEMBERS

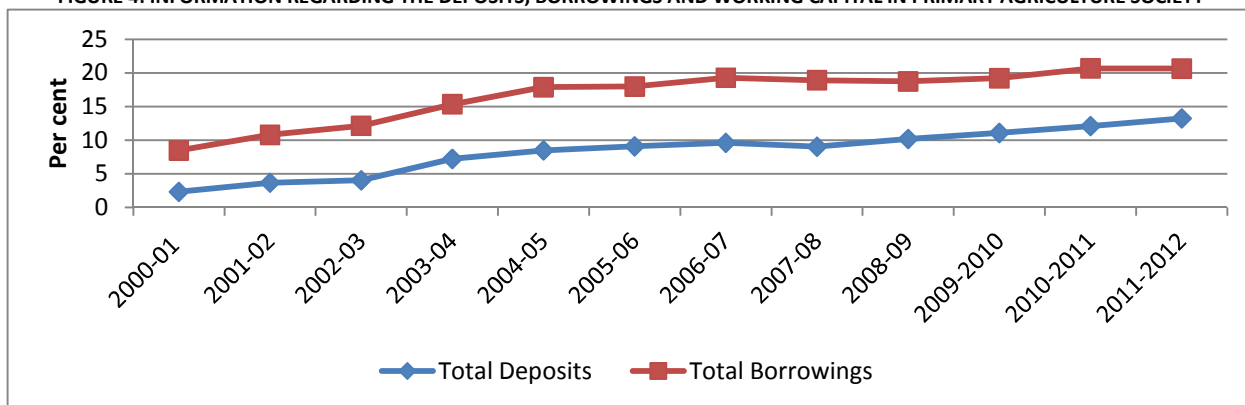


Source: National Federation of State Co-operative bank Ltd.

Figure 3 displaying the performance in terms of category wise membership of members in primary agriculture co-operative societies. Total number of members has increased from 6.13 to 8.08 respectively in 2000-01 to 2011-12. Followed by that SC and ST categories member also increased from 5.11 to 10.05 and 7.79 to 7.45 respectively in 2000-01 to 2011-12 years. Maximum number of member has increased in 2003-04 with percentage of 10.98. In SC and ST category in 2002-03 the significant growth found with percentage of 8.56 and 8.23 respectively.



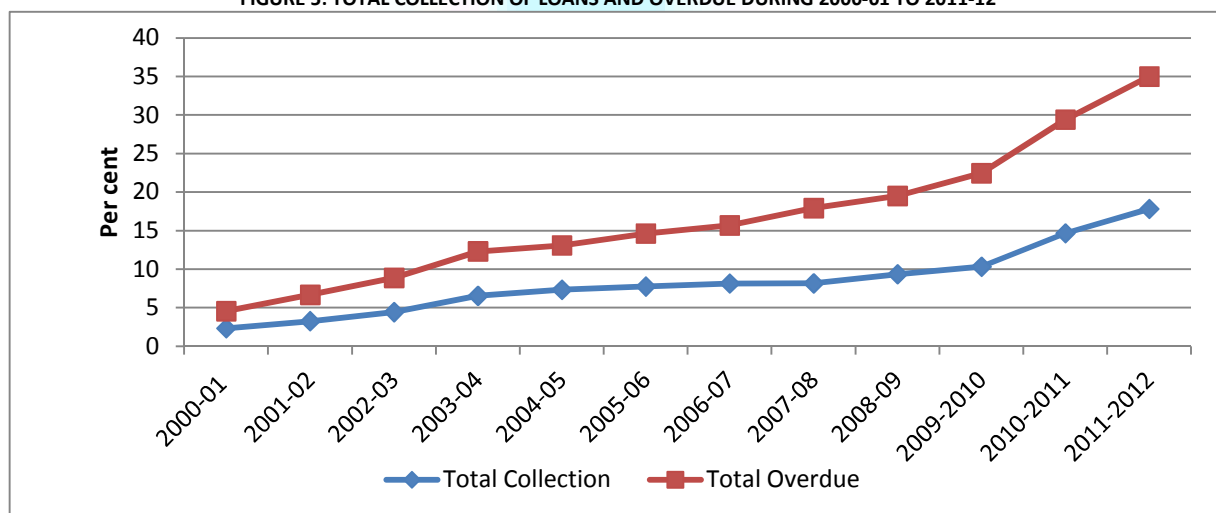
FIGURE 4: INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEPOSITS, BORROWINGS AND WORKING CAPITAL IN PRIMARY AGRICULTURE SOCIETY



Source: Source: National Federation of State Co-operative bank Ltd. (NAFSCOB)

Figure above are Covering the information regarding the deposits, borrowings and working capital of the primary agriculture co-operative societies in India. During the ten year of 2000-01 to 2011-12 total deposits has increased from the 2.32 percent to 13.23 percent. Similarly, total borrowings also increased from 6.14 percent to 13.44 percent. About the working capital there was significant progress found in respective era of 2000-01 to 2011-12 with percent growth from 6.17 to 7.43.

FIGURE 5: TOTAL COLLECTION OF LOANS AND OVERDUE DURING 2000-01 TO 2011-12



Source: Source: National Federation of State Co-operative bank Ltd. (NAFSCOB)

Figure 5 depict the year wise percent share of total collection and total overdue. Total collection was 5.41 percent in 2000-01 which increased till to 17.81 percent in 2011-12. Total collection was greater than the total overdue in 2000-01 with percentage of 2.23 and 17.18 respectively.

**FINDINGS & CONCLUSIONS**

Agriculture Co-operative Credit societies are working positively. Though there is negative direction found in the establishments in number of societies but the total numbers of members are increased during the twelve years of 2000-01 to 2011-12. There is significant thing found that the SC membership are rapidly increased in that decade. Increasing number of members in Primary Agriculture Co-operative credit societies are indicating, that the farmer are getting awareness about the societies motivate and its benefits and so the farmer are like to take a membership in those societies. So the total numbers of members are increased by 8.13 percent to 10.28 percent during 2001-02 to 2009-10 respectively. Though it is not significant growth but it is showing farmers positive attitude about the PACs. Total borrowing, total deposits and working capital also increased. It is indicating the positiveness of primary agriculture societies in view of farmer’s response. Farmer are depositing there money in society and they have a belief in the process of primary agriculture co-operative societies. Though the farmer is repaying their loans but the overdue are increasing. That means even farmer are repaying the loans but not in time or not in before the due date. So the over dues are increasing. It is shown that the primary agriculture co-operative societies are rapidly developing. So these societies are getting popularity in the farmer, so even the number of societies is decreasing but the member in societies are increasing. Overall the performance of primary agriculture co-operative societies has shown not much better but good performance in the scene of progress and development.

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