

International Co-operative Alliance

The International Cooperative Alliance is an independent non-governmental organization which unites represents and serves co-operative organizations in the world.

The Alliance was founded in London in 1895. The Alliance members are national and international cooperative organizations in all sectors of activity including agriculture, banking, credit and saving, industry, insurance, fishing, social housing, health, public services, consumer services and tourism.

In 1946 the Alliance was the first non-governmental organization to be accorded consultative status with the United Nations. Nowadays it is one of the 41 organizations which appear in Category I on the list of organizations which enjoy consultative statute before the Economy and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

The Alliance has four regional offices in: America, Europe, Africa and Asia. ICA's Headquarter is in Brussels, Belgium.

The main objective of the Alliance is to promote and to strengthen independent co-operatives all over the world. By means of international, regional and national activities. The Alliance also tries:

- ▶ to encourage and defend the values and principles of the co-operative movement;
- ▶ to stimulate mutually beneficial relations between its member organizations;
- ▶ to favor the economy and social progress of people, thus contributing to security and international peace.

Other objectives of the Alliance are:

- ▶ To promote a worldwide cooperative movement based on mutual self-help and democracy.
- ▶ To promote and defend co-operative values and principles.
- ▶ To facilitate the development of economic relations and other mutual benefits among its member organizations.
- ▶ To promote human sustained development and to encourage the economic and social progress of the individual.
- ▶ To promote gender equity in all the activities within the cooperative movement and in decision making processes.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNION OF INDIA, (NCUI)

The National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) is an Apex Cooperative Organisation in India representing the entire cooperative movement in the country.

Its objectives are to promote and develop the cooperative movement in India, to educate, guide and assist the people in their efforts, to build up and expand the cooperative sector and serve as an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with cooperative principles.

It was established in 1929 as All India Cooperative Institutes Association and was rechristened as National Cooperative Union of India in 1961

The National Cooperative Union of India has travelled a long way since then to now emerge as the sole representative of the Cooperative movement in the country. Being the apex organisation of the Indian cooperative movement in the country, the NCUI is committed to lend dynamism and vibrancy to the cooperative sector in the twenty first century. To make the voice of cooperation as strong as ever is the NCUI's supreme motto.

National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC): It was established by an Act of Parliament in 1963 as a statutory Corporation under Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. It's headquarter is New Delhi.

Functions:

Planning, promoting and financing programmes for production, processing, marketing, storage, export and import of agricultural produce, food stuffs, certain other notified commodities e.g. fertilisers, insecticides, agricultural machinery, lac, soap, kerosene oil, textile, rubber etc., supply of consumer goods and collection, processing, marketing, storage and export of minor forest produce through cooperatives, besides income generating stream of activities such as poultry, dairy, fishery, sericulture, handloom etc.

NCDC Act has been further amended which will broad base the area of operation of the Corporation to assist different types of cooperatives and to expand its financial base. NCDC will now be able to finance projects in the rural industrial cooperative sectors and for certain notified services in rural areas like water conservation, irrigation and micro irrigation, agri-insurance, agro-credit, rural sanitation, animal health, etc.

Loans and grants are advanced to State Governments for financing primary and secondary level cooperative societies and direct to the national level and other societies having objects extending beyond one State. Now, the Corporation can also go in for direct funding of projects under its various schemes of assistance on fulfilment of stipulated conditions.

Organisation & Management:

The Management vests in 51 member widely represented General Council to give shape to its policies and programmes and Board of Management with 12 members to cater to day-to-day activities. Besides its Head Office, NCDC functions through 18 Regional/State Directorates. The Managing Director is the Chief Executive. Various functional divisions look after the programmes. The field offices play an important role in project identification/formulation and oversee its implementation. NCDC is endowed with in-house technical and managerial capabilities in the areas of Cooperation, Organisation & Methods, Financial Management, Management Information Systems, Sugar, Oilseeds, Textiles, Fruits &

Vegetables, Dairy, Poultry and Livestock, Fishery, Handlooms, Civil Engineering, Refrigeration and Preservation to help cooperatives to identify/formulate projects and successfully implement them.

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED):

NAFED was established in 1958, New Delhi as its headquarters. It is an apex organisation for cooperative marketing in India.

Objectives of NAFED:

- 1) to organise, promote and develop marketing, processing and storage of agricultural, horticultural and forest produce,
- 2) to distribute agricultural machinery, implements and other inputs,
- 3) Undertake inter-State, import and export trade, wholesale or retail as the case may be and
- 4) to act and assist for technical advice in agricultural production for the promotion and the working of its members and cooperative marketing, processing and supply societies in India.

In addition to these objectives, the NAFED may undertake one or more of the following functions/ activities :

1. to facilitate, coordinate and promote the marketing and trading activities of the cooperative institutions in agricultural and other commodities, articles and goods;
2. to undertake or promote on its own or on behalf of its member Institutions or the Government or Government Organisations, inter-state and international trade and commerce and undertake, wherever necessary, sale, purchase, import, export and distribution of agricultural commodities, horticultural and forest produce.
3. to undertake purchase, sale and supply of agricultural products, marketing and processing requisites, such as manure, seeds, fertiliser, agricultural implements and machinery, packing machinery, construction

requisites, processing machinery for agricultural commodities, forest produce, dairy, wool and other animal products;

4. to act as warehouseman under the Warehousing Act and own and construct its own godowns and cold storages;

5. to act as agent of any Government agency or cooperative institution, for the purchase, sale, storage and distribution of agricultural, horticultural, forest and animal husbandry produce, wool, agricultural requisites and other consumer goods;

6. to act as insurance agent and to undertake all such work which is incidental to the same;

7. to organise consultancy work in various fields for the benefit of the cooperative institutions in general and for its members in particular;

8. to undertake manufacture of agricultural machinery and implements, processing, packing, etc. and other production requisites and consumer articles.

9. to set up storage units for storing various commodities and goods, by itself or in collaboration with any other agency in India or abroad;

10. to maintain transport units of its own or in collaboration with any other organisation in India or abroad for movement of goods on land, sea, air etc.;

11. to collaborate with any international agency or a foreign body for development of cooperative marketing, processing and other activities for mutual advantage in India or abroad;

12. to undertake marketing research and dissemination of market intelligence;

13. to subscribe to the share capital of other cooperative institutions as well as other public, joint and private sector enterprises if and when considered necessary for fulfilling the objectives of NAFED.

Agricultural Finance & Cooperation

14. to arrange for the training of employees of marketing/processing/supply cooperative societies;
15. to maintain common cadres/pools of managerial/technical personnel required by the marketing/processing/supply cooperative societies;
16. to establish processing units for processing of agricultural, horticultural and forest produce and wool;
17. to undertake grading, packing and standardisation of agricultural produce and other articles;
18. to acquire, take on lease or hire, lands, buildings, fixtures and vehicles and to sell, give on lease or hire them for the business of NAFED.
19. to advance loans to its members and other cooperative institutions on the security of goods or otherwise;
20. to guarantee loans or advances or give undertakings to any Society or Company in which the Federation has a shareholding or financial involvement as a promoter to be able to assist its development or expansion or for starting any industrial undertaking by such societies/companies;
21. to guarantee loans or advances or give undertakings on behalf of any such society or company as mentioned above to any financing institutions;
22. to do all such things or undertake such other business or activities as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of any or all of the above objects.