



CO-OPERATION, FOOD AND CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

CO-OPERATION

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Chapter -1

CO-OPERATIVES

1.1. Introduction

Significance of Co-operatives can be best understood by the fact that the United Nations has declared this year (2025) as the International Year of Co-operatives.



UN International Year of Co-operatives 2025, focuses on the theme, “Co-operatives Build a Better World,” underscoring the transformative role co-operatives play in promoting social inclusion, economic empowerment and sustainable development.

The UN SDGs recognize co-operatives as crucial drivers of sustainable development. The International year of Co-operatives aims at showcasing the ability of Co-operative enterprises in addressing the world's most pressing challenges such as reducing inequality and alleviating poverty.

Immediately after enactment of the first Co-operative Credit Societies Act in 1904, the First co-operative credit society in the Country was started at Tirur, Tiruvallur District in Tamil Nadu. A series of co-operative societies with various objectives were started in Tamil Nadu immediately thereafter.

In Tamil Nadu, the co-operative societies have been taking various initiatives till today to guide the Co-operative movement of our country.

Although there are various types of Co-operatives to the extent that there is no

sector without Co-operative movement, the Co-operative institutions in Tamil Nadu can be categorized into the following categories:-

1. Co-operative Credit Societies.
2. Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies.
3. Consumer Co-operative Societies.
4. Special Purpose Co-operative Societies.
5. Member Education, Staff Training, Public Awareness and Running Educational Institutions by Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union.

The Tamil Nadu Government is constantly planning and implementing various programs so that the services of Co-operatives can reach people from all walks of life.

1.2. ORGANISATIONAL SET -UP

The Principal Secretary, Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department is the

Secretary of the Department in the Secretariat. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is the Head of the Department of Co-operation.

The Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies are State level Officers working under the control of Registrar of Co-operative Societies looking after the subjects viz. Consumer activities, Finance and Banking, Marketing, Planning and Development, Integrated Co-operative Development Project, Election etc.,

The Joint Registrars of Co-operative Societies are the district-level officers who are looking after the subjects in the Head office, viz., financial and banking, consumer co-operatives, statutory and training, law and monitoring and the Co-operative Societies activities in all districts.

The Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies are working under the control of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies in the Head Office and in Concerned Districts, looking after the subjects, viz., Registration of new Societies, monitoring the function of all co-operative institutions.

The Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies (PDS) are working under the control of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, looking after the subject of Public Distribution System activities. Co-operative Sub-Registrars are working under the control of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, looking after the subject of Public Distribution System activities and other Co-operative Activities, such as monitoring the functions of co-operative Institutions.

1.3. Organization of Co-operative Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors of Primary Co-operative Societies is elected directly by the members of the societies. The Board of Directors of Central and Apex Co-operative societies are directly elected from among the delegates of member Primary Co-operative Societies and member Central Societies respectively.

In the case of Primary Co-operative Societies, the total number of elected board of directors is 11, which includes Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes -2, Women -3 and General -6.

In the case of Central and Apex Co-operative Societies, the total number of elected Board of Directors is 21, which includes Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes-4, Women-6 and General-11.

Chapter- 2

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT STRUCTURE

2.1. Credit Co-operatives:

A Co-operative Bank / Society is a financial entity which belongs to its members, who are the owners as well as it's customers. It is often established by the people belonging to the same locality or professional community having a common interest.

It is formed to promote the upliftment of all sections of the society, in particular, the financially weaker sections and protect them from the clutches of money lenders who provide loans at an unreasonably high rate of interest to the deprived people. The Co-operative structure is designed on the principles of Cooperation, Democratic decision making and Voluntary and Open Membership.

Co-operative Credit Societies play an important role in freeing the public from the

clutches of high interest charging money lenders and other financial institutions by fulfilling their financial needs at a reasonable interest rate and uplifting their standards of living while encouraging saving and investment habits among the public.

2.2. Types of Co-operative Credit Societies:

The Co-operative Credit Societies are broadly classified as Rural and Urban Co-operatives. The Rural Co-operatives are further classified into Short-Term Co-operative Credit Structure (PACCS, FSCS & LAMPS) and Long-Term Co-operative Credit Structure (PCARDB). The Urban Co-operatives consist of Urban Co-operative Banks, Urban Co-operative Credit Societies and Employees Co-operative Thrift and Credit Societies which cater to the needs of Urban / Semi Urban population and employees of Government / Public and Private sector enterprises. The Co-operatives are the

only kind of financial institutions, which are easily accessible for a common person.

2.3. Short Term Co-operative Credit Structure:

The Short-Term Co-operative Credit Structure is a 3-tier Structure that encompasses Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies at the village level (grass root), Central Co-operative Banks at the district level and the Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank at the state level. These Co-operative societies / Co-operative Banks are the most vital institutions of formal credit which benefit the farmers particularly Small and Marginal Farmers and other non-farming communities.

2.4. Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank (TNSACB):

The Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank started its business in November 1905 as an Urban Co-operative Bank and is currently

operating in Chennai with 51 branches. The bank is registered under the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Act, 1983 and follows the regulations of the Reserve Bank of India and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

The Bank acts as a lighthouse in the business activities of District Central Co-operative Banks and the Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies. The bank holds the pride of being the first State Apex Co-operative Bank in India to celebrate its centenary.

Among the various funds maintained by the Apex Co-operative Bank, Primary Co-operative Development Fund (PCDF), Agricultural Credit Stabilization Fund (ACSF) and Deposit Guarantee Fund (DGF) deserve special mention. The Primary Co-operative Development Fund is utilized for the infrastructural development and the financial needs of the

Primary Co-operative Societies. The Agricultural Credit Stabilization Fund (ACSF) is used for the uninterrupted credit disbursement. The Deposit Guarantee Fund (DGF) helps in the repayment of the deposits to the depositors in situations where they cannot be repaid due to unforeseen situations. Thus, the Co-operative banks have gained the trust of the public.

As a confederation of Central Co-operative Banks, it plays a significant role in providing agricultural and non-agricultural credit. Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank provides Cash Credit to the Central Co-operative Banks for Short Term Loans for Seasonal Agricultural Operations (STSAO), Farm / Agricultural Medium Term Loans and Working Capital Loans for Weavers Co-operative Societies. Besides, the Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank also grants loans to the Co-operative Sugar Mills on Consortium basis

along with the District Central Co-operative Banks.

In the recent National Federation for State Co-operative Banks (NAFSCOB) awards ceremony held at New Delhi on 26.11.2024, Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank received a special recognition award for the exemplary performance in short-term Co-operative credit operations for over 100 years.

The Performance of Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank during the last three years:-

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Year	Member Share Capital	State Government Share	Deposits	Borrowings
1	2021-2022	494	20	12,820	13,530
2	2022-2023	540	20	12,487	16,376
3	2023-2024	611	20	11,517	16,968
4	2024-2025 (As on 31.01.2025)	827	20	12,023	18,544

2.5. Central Co-operative Banks:

The Central Co-operative Banks are the federation of Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies, having areas of operation in one or more districts. Salem Central Co-operative Bank was the first Central Co-operative Bank established on 06.01.1909. At present, 23 Central Co-operative Banks are functioning in Tamil Nadu. They finance Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies and other Co-operative institutions in their area of operation subject to the norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India and NABARD and provide refinance through Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank. In Tamil Nadu, 23 Central Co-operative Banks provide various banking services to the public through their 933 branches.

Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Bank and the Central Co-operative Banks offer modern

banking facilities such as IMPS (IMMEDIATE PAYMENT SERVICE), ATM, RUPAY DEBIT CARDS, UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE, CTS (CHEQUE TRUNCATION SYSTEM), AEPS (AADHAAR ENABLED PAYMENT SYSTEM), MICRO ATM, RTGS (REAL TIME GROSS SETTLEMENT) & NEFT (NATIONAL ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER), AML (ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING) SYSTEM, MOBILE BANKING, NET BANKING, QR CODE, on par with Scheduled Commercial Banks:-

In the recent National Federation for State Co-operative Banks (NAFSCOB) awards ceremony held at New Delhi on 26.11.2024, the Salem District Central Co-operative Bank has been awarded a certificate for the completion of 100 years of Credit and Banking Service.

The Performance of Central Co-operative Banks during the last three years:-

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Year	Member Share Capital	State Government Share	Deposits	Borrowings
1.	2021-2022	1721	62	35,759	12,355
2.	2022-2023	1898	62	39,754	13,330
3.	2023-2024	2261	63	41,100	18,011
4.	2024-2025 (As on 28.02.2025)	2445	62	42,695	21,788

2.6. Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies:

Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies are institutions that cater to the economic needs of their members residing within the defined area of operation of that Co-operative society. 4,456 Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies with 225 branches cover 12,620 village panchayats provide credit to people for agricultural and non-agricultural activities.

Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies are the symbolic representation of the Co-operative movement as they provide a wide range of services including credit to all rural people. They operate on the basis of democratic principle by linking the members of the society with the management of the Co-operative credit structure. Apart from meeting the various credit needs of the weaker sections, mainly small and marginal farmers and farmers of scheduled caste / scheduled tribes, these societies also provide non-credit services like fair price shops, Pharmacies, petrol-diesel retail outlets, Agro-service centres, Agri Clinics etc.

In the recent National Federation for State Co-operative Banks (NAFSCOB) awards ceremony held at New Delhi on 26.11.2024, Poondi Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit

Society of Madurai was honoured with the third prize for its outstanding performance in 2022-23.

2.6.1. Transformation of All Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies into profit-making societies:

Around 2000 Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies, the affiliated societies of the DCCBs, which were functioning with a current year loss have been extended financial support by the parent institutions (DCCBs) with a view to improve their financial position through the following measures:-

- i) Of the affiliated Societies by way of interest rebate, soft loans, Joint Ventures etc., through the "Member Support Programme"
- ii) To increase the credit flow of the societies by providing various services to the members under PACS as MSC Schemes etc.,

- iii) Relaxing the conditions for collecting deposits from members.

Thus, the number of loss-making societies have come down from 2000 to 950 in the last four years. All the Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies will be transformed into profit-making Societies before the end of the financial year 2025-2026.

Initiatives taken for the upliftment of farmers:

2.7. Kisan Credit Card - Crop Loan:

Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies issue short term crop loans to farmers to meet the expenses incurred towards crop cultivation at 7% interest under Kisan Credit Card scheme. Crop loans are provided to tenant cultivators and landless agricultural labourers as well. The interest on loans need not be paid by the farmers who repay their loan on or before the due date for which the Government has

taken the burden of the farmers and repay the interest due to the Co-operatives. Crop loans are sanctioned for different crops based on the extent of cultivation and the Scale of Finance approved by the State Level Technical Committee. These loans are provided without collateral upto Rs.2 lakh as per RBI guidelines and with collateral security up to Rs.3 lakh. Crop loan includes cash and kind portion viz., fertilizers, pesticides and seeds.

It is significant to note that for the first time in the history of the Department of Co-operation, crop loan disbursement has crossed Rs.15,000 crore milestone in the year 2023-24 and the actual disbursement being Rs.15,543 crore. During the year 2024-2025, the PACCS have disbursed Rs.15,692 crore to 17,37,460 farmers.

2.8. Kisan Credit Card - Animal Husbandry loans (KCC-AH):

Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies (PACCS) extend loans at 7% interest to the Animal Husbandry sector for allied agricultural activities from 2021 to meet the working capital needs of the farmers. Interest is not charged on the farmers who repay their loan promptly and the same is reimbursed by the Government. The maximum credit limit for working capital loan for Animal Husbandry activities is Rs.2 lakh within the overall limit of Rs.3 lakh for KCC.

During 2023-24, 4,53,305 farmers were benefited by availing loans to the tune of Rs.2407 crore. During the year 2024-2025, 4,43,734 farmers have benefitted by availing loans to the tune of Rs.2,645 crore.

Initiatives taken for the upliftment of weaker sections:

2.9. Loans to Self-Help Groups:

The Self-Help Group (SHG) movement has grown over the years from providing financial assistance to poor people to becoming a movement of social empowerment. It is also an important component of the Government's policy decision to mitigate poverty particularly among rural women.

In order to enhance the quantum of financial assistance to Self Help Groups, the maximum credit limit for Self Help Groups has been enhanced from Rs.10.00 lakh to Rs.12.00 lakh and from Rs.12.00 lakh to Rs.20.00 lakh in the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively. Further in the current financial year (2024-25), the credit limit has been increased from Rs.20.00 lakh to Rs.30.00 lakh. During 2023-24, Self Help Group loans to the tune of Rs.4,875 crore has

been disbursed to 76,871 Self Help Groups. During 2024-25, Self Help Group loans to the tune of Rs.4,063 crore has been disbursed to 53,757 Self Help Groups.

2.10. Loans to Destitute Widows and Deserted Women:

To improve the socio-economic well-being and provide financial independence and self-reliance, the Co-operative Institutions are extending loans to Widows / Destitute women at a lower interest of 5% per annum.

During the year 2023-24, 5,843 Widows and Destitute women were benefited by availing loans to the tune of Rs.23 crore. During 2024-25, 5,923 Widows and Destitute women have benefited by availing loans to the tune of Rs.26 crore.

2.11. Loans to Differently Abled:

To improve the conditions of the differently abled persons, Co-operative Credit institutions provide interest free loans (i.e., no interest is

charged on prompt repayment) which promote their social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the hardships of disabilities and enhancing their economic potential.

During the year 2023-24, 12,874 Differently-abled persons were benefited by availing loans to the tune of Rs.62 crore. During 2024-25, loans to the tune of Rs.65 crore have been disbursed to 12,672 beneficiaries.

2.12. Tamil Magal Scheme:

To honour the women who work tirelessly for the family, 8 lakh 35 thousand bank accounts have been opened in Central Co-operative Banks to receive monthly entitlements from Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam. A small portion of the amount obtained through this scheme is deposited under the Recurring Deposit scheme called 'Tamil Magal' so that a substantial amount is available at a nominal interest by the end of the year, which will help the family to meet the

expenditures like education fees, books, dress to their children which is an indirect benefit out of this scheme. 31,928 'Tamil Magal' Recurring Deposit Accounts have been opened in Central Co-operative Banks.

2.13. Folk Artist Loan:

This loan product aims to improve the financial and socio-economic status of the Folk artists. During 2023-24, loans to the tune of Rs.8 crore has been disbursed to 2,018 Folk Artists. During 2024-25, loans to the tune of Rs.11 crore has been disbursed to 2,447 Folk Artists.

2.14. Siragugal Scheme:

The transgenders are marginalized in the Society and they face many obstacles in accessing basic credit facilities. Therefore, with a view to improve the livelihood of the transgenders, the "Siragugal Scheme" was launched in November 2024 to provide credit

support of up to Rs.1,00,000 at a nominal interest rate of 5%.

Loans to the tune of Rs 84 Lakh has been disbursed under the scheme to 101 Transgenders as on 28.02.2025.

Government Schemes:

2.15. Crop Loan Waiver 2021:

To implement the KCC crop loan waiver scheme announced in 2021, the State Government has released Rs.4,200 crore and the interest amount of Rs.176 crore to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Also, from the financial year 2021-22 to 2024-25, the government has released Rs.7,180 crore as rebate to be given to the cooperative institutions and Rs.1,643 crore as interest on the outstanding rebate for the cooperative institutions.

2.16. Jewel Loan Waiver Scheme 2021:

The Government waived off jewel loans of up to 40 grams per family so that the genuinely poor people could benefit from the Jewel loan waiver subject to specific eligibility. So far, jewel loans worth around Rs.4,918 crore for 11,83,091 beneficiaries have been waived off and the beneficiaries have been given waiver certificates.

2.17. Women Self Help Groups Loan Waiver Scheme 2021:

To promote the economic empowerment of women, the State Government has waived loans given to Women Self Help Groups by the Co-operative institutions to the tune of Rs.2,117 crore extending benefits to 10,56,298 members of 1,01,897 groups.

2.18. Special Loan Settlement Scheme 2023 for Non-Farm Sector Loans and other long-pending cases:

Co-operative Societies and Co-operative Banks in Tamil Nadu are providing various types

of loans to the public. To reduce the interest burden on the borrowers and strengthen the financial position of the Co-operatives by recovering the long-standing arrears the Special Loan Settlement Scheme 2023 is being implemented.

2.19. Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme (AABCS):

Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme (AABCS) has been implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu from 01.04.2023 to promote the economic development of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs. Under this scheme, capital subsidy is being provided for loans taken by entrepreneurs to start or improve their business. Also, interest subsidy is provided for loans for the purchase of machinery and equipment.

Through the District Central Cooperative Banks, loans to the tune of Rs.52 crore have been issued to 86 entrepreneurs under this

scheme. The vehicles purchased under this scheme were handed over to the beneficiaries by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in Chennai on 06.12.2024.

2.20. New Entrepreneur cum Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS):

New Entrepreneur cum Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS) is being implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu to support and encourage the first-generation entrepreneurs to start their own businesses. Under this scheme, capital subsidy and interest subsidy on loans are being provided. Through the District Central Co-operative Banks, loans of Rs.8 crore have been provided to 13 entrepreneurs under this scheme.

2.21. Tamil Nadu Co-operative State Agriculture and Rural Development Bank :-

The main objective of Tamil Nadu Co-operative State Agriculture and Rural Development Bank is primarily to lend to the Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks and to mobilize deposits. It inspects and monitors the Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks for their development.

Tamil Nadu Co-operative State Agriculture and Rural Development Bank aims to increase jewel loan business at Regional level and Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank level. The deposit outstanding and jewel loan outstanding for during the financial year 2024-2025 is Rs.321 crore and Rs.1,507 crore respectively.

Performance of Tamil Nadu Co-operative State Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (comparison with previous years performance)

(Rs in Crore)

Year	Deposits outstanding	Loan Outstanding
2021-22	196	833
2022-23	202	924
2023-24	215	1,121
2024-25	321	1,507

2.22. Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks:-

There are 180 Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks functioning in the state.

These banks are providing jewel pledged medium term loans from their own funds and borrowings from Tamil Nadu Co-operative State Agriculture and Rural Development Bank due to non availability of refinance from NABARD. The deposit outstanding and jewel loan outstanding

in during the year 2024-2025 is Rs.163 crore and Rs.1,416 crore respectively.

Performance of Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (comparison with previous years performance)

(Rs in Crore)

Year	Deposits outstanding	Loan Outstanding
2021-22	72	813
2022-23	82	935
2023-24	99	1070
2024-25	163	1416

2.23. Urban Cooperative Credit Structure

Tamil Nadu State Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies at the state level and Urban Co-operative Banks and Urban Co-operative Credit Societies at district level are the main components of the Urban Co-operative Credit Structure. They function with the objective to meet all financial needs of the Urban and Semi- Urban population.

2.24. Tamil Nadu State Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies :

The Tamil Nadu State Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies has been functioning from the year 1988, with the main objective to develop Urban Co-operative Banks and their members in the State. Now the Urban Credit Societies and Employees Coop. Thrift and Credit Societies are also enrolled as a member of the federation. At present there are 125 UCBs and 1 Urban Co-operative Credit Society and 4 Employees Coop. Thrift and Credit Societies that are enrolled in Federation. The Federation assists the member banks and societies in implementing best management practices, imparting training to the staff members and aiding the member banks to adopt modern banking technologies. The Federation acts as a guiding body for all Urban Co-operative Banks in Tamil Nadu in matters of compliance with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines and

Circulars. Through Project Monitoring Cell, the Federation plays a crucial role in implementing Core Banking Solutions in all member banks ensuring the best customer service. The Federation maintains Urban Co-operative Banks Development Fund (UCBDF) constituted out of contributions from member Banks. With this Fund the Federation provide financial assistance to weak Urban Co-operative Banks to meet their Capital Adequacy Norms.

2.25. Urban Co-operative Banks

With the objective to cater all Banking and Credit needs of the people residing in Urban and Semi-Urban areas, 126 Urban Co-operative banks are functioning with 190 branches across the state. Big Kancheepuram Urban Co-operative Bank in Kancheepuram District is the first Urban Co-operative Bank registered on 08.10.1904. The Urban Co-operative Banks mobilize deposits and extend credit facilities such as housing loan,

Business Loan and other non-farm sector Loans, including Jewel Loans to meet the immediate needs of the public.

During the year 2023-24, the Urban Co-operative Banks have disbursed loans to the tune of Rs.7,949 crore to 8,31,981 members. As on 31.03.2025 these banks have disbursed loans to the tune of Rs.8,581 crore to 8,22,976 members during the year 2024-25.

More than just satisfying the banking needs of the public, the Urban Co-operative banks indirectly play a vital role in social upliftment by lending loans to petty traders and self help groups. During the year 2023-2024 about 18,714 petty traders and 12,891 self help group individuals have been benefited through Urban Co-operative Banks.

As a step to provide modern banking services to customers, the Urban Co-operative Banks have adopted Core Banking Solutions with

the guidance of Tamil Nadu State Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies.

Performance of Urban Co-operative Banks (Rs.in Crore)

Financial Year 2024-25	Members	Share Capital	Deposit Outstanding	Loan Outstanding
31.03.2025	18,97,522	364	10,317	6,837

2.26. Urban Cooperative Credit Societies

Due to growing urbanization and changing needs of the Urban and Semi urban Populations the erstwhile PACCS functioning in the areas were converted into Urban Co-operative Credit Societies. At present, 119 Urban Co-operative Credit Societies are functioning with 150 branches across Tamil Nadu. Kulasekarapattinam Urban Co-operative Credit Society in Thoothukudi District is the first Urban Co-operative Credit Society which was registered on 05.02.1922

These societies mobilize deposits from the public and extend loans to small traders, artisans and persons belonging to middle income groups for housing, business and other Non farm sector activities.

During the year 2023-24, Urban Co-operative Credit Societies have disbursed loans to the tune of Rs. 2133 crore to 2,56,754 members. As on 31.03.2025 these banks have disbursed loans to the tune of Rs.2,985 crore to 3,12,766 members during the year 2024-25. Out of this, loans to the tune of Rs.8 crore have been given to Petty Traders in the urban areas.

Performance of Urban Co-operative Credit Societies

(Rs.in Crore)

Financial Year 2024-25	Members	Share Capital	Deposit Outstanding	Loan Outstanding
31.03.2025	4,37,333	58	1974	2092

2.27. Employees Cooperative Thrift and Credit Societies:

In Tamil Nadu 1,695 Employees Co-operative Thrift and Credit Societies are functioning for the benefit of the Employees of State and Central Government, Government undertakings, Corporations and Private Organizations. Their main objectives are to cultivate the habit of savings among the employees and to provide loans at reasonable rate of interest. These societies are functioning with 9,63,512 members with share capital of Rs.2,545 crore and working capital of Rs.15,235 crore as on 31.03.2025. These societies have collected Fixed Deposits and Thrift Deposits to the tune of Rs.5,812 crore. These societies have issued loans to the tune of Rs.12,347 crore during the financial year 2024-2025(up to 31.03.2025).

2.28. e-Sevai Centres:

There are 4,448 e-Sevai Centres functioning in Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies and other Co-operative Institutions throughout Tamil Nadu with the main objective of providing Government services to the public, especially the rural people in remote areas. e-Sevai Centres provide income services such as Community Certificate, Income Certificate, Birth / Death Certificate, Patta / Chitta and other certificates. It provides service to avail many welfare schemes such as Girl Child Protection Scheme and Marriage Assistance Scheme provided by the Social Welfare Department. It also provides services of paying various taxes and fees, like electricity bill, urban property tax, drinking water tax and sewage water disposal fee. In addition to these services, the Centres also offer a number of other private services such as life insurance premium payments and

electronic ticket booking. Thus, various services are provided at one place in a timely manner, which reduces the time and cost for the public who have to otherwise approach various Government Offices. Transparency of services has increased the credibility among the common public. Therefore, public approach these e-Sevai Centres and getting benefits.

Now, CSC and e-Governance services India limited, in collaboration with NPCI provide digital pay services linked with Aadhaar number enabled payment services to customers like cash withdrawal, balance enquiry, money transfer and payout.

During the Financial year 2024-2025, 35,11,018 services have been offered by the e-Sevai Centres to the public and an income of Rs.12 crore was earned by the Cooperative Societies.

Chapter- 3

CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING SOCIETIES

In Tamil Nadu, Co-operative Marketing Societies operate in a two-tier structure. The state level apex institution is the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Marketing Federation (TANFED) and at the taluk/block level, there are 115 Agricultural Producer Co-operative Marketing Societies affiliated to TANFED. The Thanjavur Co-operative Marketing Federation serves as a regional federation for agricultural producer Co-operative marketing societies in the Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts. For other districts, the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Marketing Federation serves as the apex federation.

3.1. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Marketing Federation (TANFED):

The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Marketing Federation (TANFED) was established in 1959 and operates with 18 regional offices. TANFED distributes chemical fertilizers and other agricultural inputs through Agricultural Producer Co-operative Marketing Societies and Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies as a Wholesaler of fertilisers in Tamil Nadu. It holds 25% market share in the State's chemical fertiliser distribution, ensuring the availability of fertilisers to the farmers at the right time.

The fertilizer mixture unit was set up in 1971 at Pamani, in the Thiruvarur district with a daily production capacity of 150 MTs. This unit produces mixture granules, marketed under the brand name "Pamani." TANFED's mixture fertilizer units are also located in Madurai, Vellore, Trichy and Dindigul districts.

TANFED procures vermicompost from the Greater Chennai Corporation, Co-operative sugar mills and distributes to farmers at nominal price. In 2021, a crop specific micronutrient unit was established at Eriode in Dindigul district under the brand name "Pamani" for 5 crops Paddy, Banana, Sugarcane, Coconut and vegetables. The Eriode fertilizer mixture unit also manufactures neem cake, neem seed powder, bio-pesticides, bio-fertilizers for distribution through PACCS. During 2024-25 Rs.3 crore quality seeds, 4,67,464 MTs of fertilizers worth Rs.838 crore were distributed to farmers through Co-operative Societies.

TANFED functions as the state representative of the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED) for the implementation of the Government's Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme for agricultural produce. It does market intervention

to stabilize the rising price of essential commodities like Tur dal, Onion, Coconut etc., As a retail dealer of Indian Oil Corporation, TANFED operates 9 petrol and diesel outlets across the State.

3.2 Thanjavur Co-operative Marketing Federation (TCMF):

Thanjavur Co-operative Marketing Federation, started in 1941, is functioning as Regional Federation for the 12 Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies in Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam Districts. The Federation, in addition to distributing fertilizers and agricultural implements to farmers, also issues jewel loans to its members. This Federation owns 11 Godowns with a total capacity of 6,600 Metric Tonnes. The turnover of the Federation During the year 2024-25 is Rs.154 crore.

3.3. CO-OP Mart App:

A mobile application to market and deliver the Co-operative products like Honey, Edible Oil, Turmeric Powder, Masala Items, minor millets, flour and bio-fertilizer through online has been launched to provide quality, fair priced consumer goods of Co-operatives to the public.

3.4. Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies (APCMS):

There are 115 Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies functioning in the State with the primary objective of marketing the Agricultural Produce of the members to get them remunerative price, distributing Fertilizers and other Agricultural Inputs in time to increase their agricultural productivity. They provide infrastructure facilities like Auction Yards, Drying Yards, Godowns, processing units to their farmer members to fetch remunerative prices for their produce. Most of the Marketing Societies act as

lead Societies for lifting the essential commodities from the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation Godowns to the Fair Price Shops under the Public Distribution System. They also run Fair Price Shops under the Public Distribution System. The aggregate business turnover of Agricultural Cooperative Producers marketing societies during 2024-25 stands at Rs.4591 crore.

3.5 Business Activities of Agricultural Producers Cooperative Marketing Societies (APCMS)

(i) Marketing of Agricultural Produce

Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies provide a platform that connects farmer members with traders to sell their produce at a remunerative price in a transparent manner. During 2024-25 Co-operative Marketing Societies have marketed Rs.1,009 crore worth of agricultural produce.

(ii) Linking of Credit with Marketing

It helps the Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies to recover the loan dues besides assisting the farmers in selling their produce at a remunerative price. During 2024-25 Co-operative Marketing Societies have recovered loan amount to the tune of Rs.9 crore.

(iii) Linking of Marketing with Consumer Cooperatives

During 2024-25, Co-operative Marketing Societies along with the Consumer Co-operatives have marketed Rs.135 crore worth of value-added agricultural produce. They run Super markets to sell essential groceries, Co-operative products and vegetables. And they run pharmacies to sell medicines at discounted prices to the farmers and public at large.

(iv) Issue of Produce Pledge Loan

To prevent the distress sale of agricultural produce during the harvest season and to meet their financial needs, Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies have issued Produce pledge loans to the tune of Rs.133 crore during 2024-25.

(v) Processing and Value addition to Agricultural Produce

Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies are having processing units like oil expellers, rice mill, ginning, pulses drying, chilly grinding, oil crushing units, etc. These processing units add value to the farm produce and enable the producers to get better prices for their produce. Rice, Pulses, Turmeric Powder, varieties of Masala powder and Oil items are manufactured and marketed by Cooperative Marketing Societies in the brand names of "Arthanareeswara", "Mangalam", "Marutham", "Amirtham", "Pasumai", "Mullai", "Arooran",

“Thiruvadhigai”, “Azhiyar”, “Vaigai”, “Thunai”, “Thillai Nataraja”, “Pennagaram”, “Padmagiriswarar”, “Arusuvai”, “Muruga” , “Maduram”.

3.6. Nilgiris Co-operative Marketing Society (NCMS)

Nilgiris Co-operative Marketing Society started in 1935, with Nilgiris District and Mettupalayam Municipality of Coimbatore District as its area of operation. The society functions with the primary objective of marketing the Agricultural Produce of the farmers, mostly tribals to ensure them getting remunerative prices and provide agricultural inputs to the members.

It has a Potato Auction Yard and a Fertilizer Mixture Manufacturing unit at Mettupalayam. It produces chemical fertilizers which are suitable for the crops grown in the Nilgiris. The turnover of the society during 2024-25 is Rs.162 crore.

3.7. Large Sized Multipurpose Co-operative Societies (LAMPS)

In Tamil Nadu, 39 Large Sized Multipurpose Co-operative Societies are functioning with an objective to uplift the standard of living of tribal population. Distributing agricultural inputs, Increasing farm productivity, Procurement of Agricultural produce mainly millets, providing storage and processing infrastructure facilities, increasing income by providing integrated credit facilities and distribution of essential commodities to the Tribal and Non - tribal people living in the Hilly areas are the main objectives of Large Sized Multipurpose Co-operative Societies. The 1st LAMP Society was established in Sathyamangalam in 1958. It is the Largest LAMP Society in Tamil Nadu. Mullai Honey from Sathyamangalam LAMPS, Oriland coffee/pepper from Kolli Hills LAMPS are the popular products processed and marketed by LAMPS. During

2024-25, the total business turnover of LAMPS stood at Rs.438 crore.

In order to support and coordinate the various activities of 39 LAMP Societies, a State Level LAMPS Co-operative Federation as Apex Society was started on 01.11.2022.

3.8. Warehouses

4045 godowns with a capacity of 5,45,800 MTs are in use in the Co-operatives to enable the farmers to store the produce during the harvest season and sell it at a reasonable price. To avoid distress sale the Co-operative institutions offer Produce Pledge Loan.

During 2024-25, 4,630 farmers have pledged 89,804 MTs of agricultural produce worth Rs.343 crore. Rs.216 crore has been given to them as a Produce Pledge Loan. 7,912 farmers have benefited by renting produce worth Rs.171 crore. During 2024-25, a godown with a

capacity of 1000 MTs is under construction in Ramanathapuram district by TANFED.

3.9. Registration with Warehouse Development Regulatory Authority :

Out of 1349 positive net worth Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies and Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies, 1173 warehouses are registered with Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA). Tamil Nadu has been awarded by the WDRA for registering the largest number of godowns under Co-operatives for the Years 2022 and 2023.

3.10. Co-operative Printing Press

In Tamil Nadu 26 Co-operative Printing Presses are functioning at district level with 12,000 members and paid up share capital of Rs.3 crore. These Printing Presses fulfill the printing needs of the Co-operative institutions. Further, they also undertake printing orders from

Government, Quasi Government Organizations, Local Bodies and individuals. During the year 2024-25, they have achieved a business turnover of Rs.67 crore.

3.11. Special type of Co-operative Societies

In Tamil Nadu, the following Special types of Co-operative Societies are functioning under the control of Registrar of Co-operative Societies. These societies have been started with specific objectives to cater the needs of members belonging to the same profession/trade etc., and their economic empowerment.

Sl. No.	Type	No. of Societies
1	Co-operative Canteen	14
2	Salt workers Co-operative Societies	09
3	Barber Co-operative Societies	05
4	Co-operative Washerman Society	01
5	Labour Contract Co-operative Societies	63
6	Engineering Construction Co-operative Society	03

7	Advocates Co-operative Societies	04
8	Health Co-operative Society	01
9	Physically Handicapped Co-operative Society	01
10	Tamil Nadu Waste Paper collectors' Co-operative Society	01
11	Tamil Nadu Artist Co-operative Society	01
12	CMDA Koyambedu Shopping Complex Employees and Traders Co-operative Service Society	01
13	Tamil Nadu State Accounting and Taxation Services Co-operative Ltd	01
14	Madurai Town Riksha Drivers' Co-operative Society	01
15	Poonamallee Cattle Feed Producers & Co-operative Sales Society	01
16	Trichy District Physically Handicapped Welfare Co-operative Society	01
17	Technology Solutions Service Co-operative Society Limited	01
18	Tamil Nadu Green Energy Service Co-operative Society Limited	01
19	Agricultural Machineries Maintenance and Management Co-operative Society limited	01

20	Tamil Nadu Pharmacy Co-operative Service Society Limited	01
21	Lift Irrigation Co-operative Societies	26
22	Tenant Co-operative Farming Society	11
23	Land Colonization Co-operative Society	11
24	Vegetable Growers Co-operative Marketing Societies	02
25	Co-operative Joint Farming Society	01
26	Farmers Producers Organizations	95
27	TUCAS	01
Total		259

Chapter- 4

CONSUMER CO-OPERATIVES

In Tamil Nadu, the Consumer Co-operatives follow a three-tier structure. India's first Consumer Co-operative Society, the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society was started on 9th April 1904 in Tamil Nadu. Consumer Co-operatives were organized with the main objective of supplying quality products at a reasonable price to the members and public. The Consumer Co-operatives also play a vital role in controlling the price rise of essential commodities in the open market through market intervention, thereby rendering service to the general public.

Apex level
Tamil Nadu Consumer
Co-operative Federation



District level
District Consumer Co-operative
Wholesale Stores (45)



Tertiary level
Primary Co-operative Stores
(320)

Activities

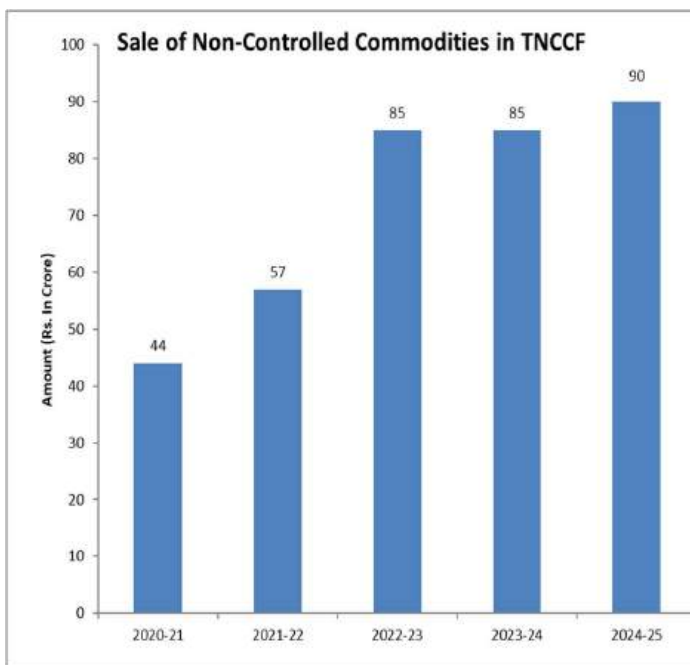
4.1. Tamil Nadu Consumer Co-operative Federation (TNCCF):

The Tamil Nadu Consumer Co-operative Federation (TNCCF) was started on 30th July 1996 which is the apex organization for all Consumer Co-operatives in the State. The primary objective of the Federation is to coordinate and facilitate the purchase of FMCG, Paper & Stationeries and supply them to the affiliated societies. The Federation operates two Petrol–Diesel retail outlets.

The Tamil Nadu Consumers Co-operative Federation has also been in tie-up with Hindustan Unilever Limited since July 2009 for the procurement of FMCG for the District Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores. The Federation also coordinates the purchase of crackers for Co-operative Institutions. The Tamil Nadu Consumer Co-operative Federation

has for the first time commenced Centralized Procurement of Medicines from February 2022.

During the year 2023-24, the Federation has achieved a total business turnover of Rs.84.64 crore. During the year 2024-25, the Federation has achieved a total business turnover of Rs.90.57 crore.



4.2.District Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores:

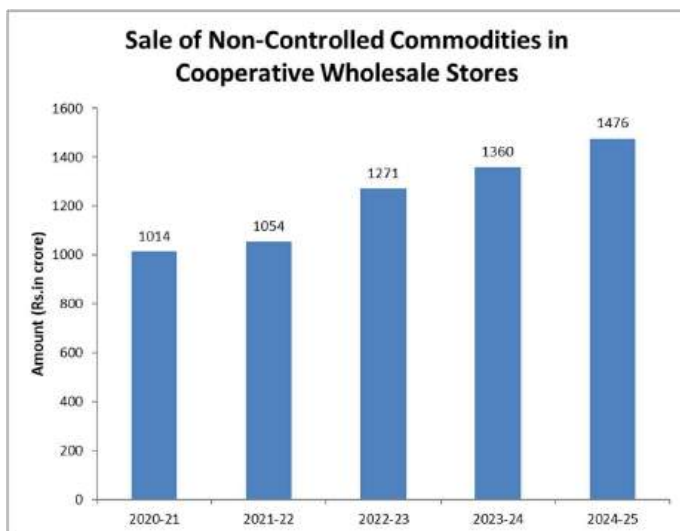
Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores procure groceries, pulses, cereals and spices in bulk at a competitive price directly from the Manufacturers / Producers, Co-operative Marketing Societies and Joint Purchase Committee and sell the same at a reasonable price to the public.

45 District Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores operate 24 Super Markets, 209 Mini Super Markets, 13 Retail Stores, 51 Self Service Units, 136 Co-operative Medical Shops, 49 Farm Fresh Consumer Outlets, 25 Petrol Bunks, 26 LPG supply units, 3,461 Fair Price shops and 80 Kerosene Bunks throughout the State of Tamilnadu.

One Central Joint Purchase Committee at Chennai and 4 Regional Joint Purchase Committees in Chennai, Madurai, Salem and

Erode are functioning in the State in order to get price advantage while making bulk procurements and supply in the reasonable price for its affiliated members. District Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores also play a vital role in the successful implementation of the Public Distribution System by acting as Lead Societies & Self Lifting Societies and transporting the essential commodities to the Fair Price Shops.

During the year 2023-24, a turnover of Rs.1,360.13 crore has been achieved by all the Co-operative Wholesale Stores. During the year 2024-25, a turnover of Rs.1,476.61 crore has been achieved by District Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores.



4.3. Primary Co-operative Stores :

The Primary Co-operative Stores are functioning at the tertiary level with the primary objective of supplying essential consumer goods to the public at a reasonable price.

The Kodaikanal Co-operative Stores was the first Primary Co-operative Store established in the year 1919 in Tamil Nadu. In Tamil Nadu, 320 Primary Co-operative Stores run 51 Medical Shops, 19 Farm Fresh Consumer Outlets,

5 Petrol / Diesel Bunks, 3 Grinding units, 12 Supermarket, 11 Self Service Units and 1792 Fair Price Shops.

Sales Performance of Consumer Co-operatives

(Rs. In crore)

S. No	Institution Type	Value of Controlled commodities in Rs.		Value of Non-Controlled commodities in Rs.		Total Value of Sales in Rs.	
		2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25
1	Co-operative Wholesale Stores	832.65	720.25	1360.13	1476.61	2192.78	2196.86
2	Primary Co-operative Stores	147.79	151.63	333.47	318.98	481.26	470.61

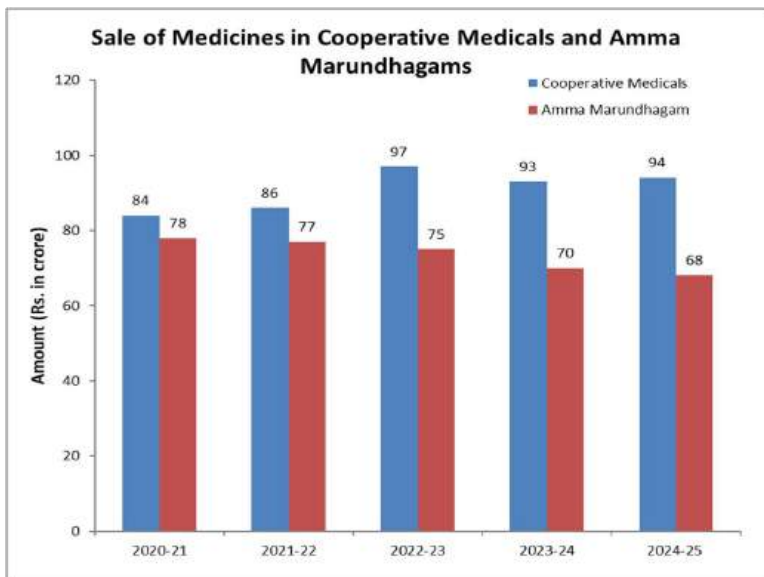
4.4. Co-operative Medical Shops :

The Government of Tamil Nadu has opened Co-operative Medical shops that are run by Co-operative institutions in prime locations throughout the state to supply quality medicines at affordable price to the public. Totally 132 Amma Marundhagam & 248 Co-operative Medical Shops are functioning in Tamil Nadu. To get the

attention of the public, 70 New Co-operative Medical Shops with uniform colour, unique logo and name board design were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 16.12.2021.

During the year 2023-24, medicines to the tune of Rs.162.74 crore have been sold through these medical shops. During the year 2024-25, medicines to the tune of Rs.161.65 crore have been sold through these medical shops.

A discount of up to 20% is being given to the customers. During the year 2023-24, Rs.24.98 crore has been offered as a discount to 29,30,860 customers. During the year 2024-25, Rs.29.89 crore has been offered as discount to 28,13,906 customers in during the year 2024-25.



4.5. Centralized Procurement of Medicines (CPM):

To get higher margins while purchasing medicines for Co-operative Medical shops Centralized Procurement of Medicines has been implemented. Tamil Nadu Consumer Co-operative Federation acts as the Nodal Agency for the Centralized Procurement of Medicines. As a new initiative the Tamil Nadu Consumers Co-operative Federation has so far

signed MOU's with 18 Pharma companies namely Apex, Ajanta, USV, Torrent, Cipla, Glenmark, Dr.Reddy's, Sun Pharma, FDC pharma, Biocon, Zydus healthcare, Mediclone Biotech, Servier, Abbott(I) Ltd., Abbott Healthcare Ltd., Knowhatt, IPCA and IMPCOPS. These Pharma Companies offer a minimum discount of 38%. Till March 2025, Tamil Nadu Consumers Co-operative Federation has procured medicines to the tune of Rs.3.21 crore through Centralized Procurement of Medicines.

4.6. Market Intervention Activities:

As and when required, Consumer Co-operatives engage in market intervention activities to control the rise in price of essential commodities. During the year 2023-24, the Co-operation Department intervened in the market to control the rising Tomato and Onion prices.

In the Month of October 2024 the price of Tomato increased to Rs.100/- per kg due to reduced supply. The Co-operative Department procured and sold Tomatoes through Farm Fresh Consumer Outlets at Rs.60/- per kg.

4.7. Chief Minister Breakfast Scheme:

The Chief Minister Breakfast Scheme has been inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 15.09.2022 to provide nutritious breakfast to children studying in Government Primary School from Class I to Class V.

During the year 2024-25, 2,265 MTs Double Roasted Rava, 1,939 MTs Wheat rava and 2,299 MTs Semiya to the value of Rs.37.17 crore have been supplied through Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Stores to prepare nutritious Breakfast for 15,41,040 students studying in 28,397 Government Primary Schools. Now the scheme is extended to Government Aided Schools also.

4.8. Mudhalvar Marundhagam:

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has inaugurated 1,000 Mudhalvar Marundhagam on 24.02.2025 across Tamil Nadu in order to supply quality Generic Medicines, Branded Medicines, Surgicals, Nutraceuticals and Indian Medicines at a discount of up to 75 % to the public.

Generic Medicines are procured and supplied to Mudhalvar Marundhagams through Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation. Branded Medicines, Surgicals, Nutraceuticals and Indian Medicines are procured and supplied through Centralized Procurement by Tamil Nadu Consumer Co-operative Federation. A Centralized Warehouse at Saligramam, Chennai and 38 District Warehouses were established for the scheme. In order to implement the scheme, the website www.mudhalvarmarundhagam.tn.gov.in was created.

In G.O (Ms) No.136, Cooperation, Food and Consumer Protection (CA1) Department, dated 12.11.2024, a sum of Rs.30 crore has been sanctioned for opening Mudhalvar Marudhagam by Entrepreneurs and Co-operative Institutions. Applications were invited and eligible Entrepreneurs and Co-operative Societies were identified by the Selection Committee. A subsidy of Rs.3.00 lakh for Entrepreneurs and Rs.2.00 Lakh for Co-operative Societies was given for creating infrastructure facilities and procurement of Medicines. Up to March 2025, 2,71,684 people were benefited through Mudhalvar Marundhagam. Rs.1.43 crore worth of Medicines were sold and Rs.40.89 lakh discount was given to the Customers till now.

Chapter - 5

CO-OPERATIVES IN FOOD SECURITY

5.1. Universal Public Distribution System and Co-operative Fair Price Shops:

Tamil Nadu has successfully implemented the Universal Public Distribution System (PDS), making it one of the leading states in India in ensuring food security for its citizens. To facilitate the efficient distribution of essential commodities to ration cardholders across the state, Co-operative Societies operate a total of 35,039 Fair Price Shops (FPS), categorized as follows:

- Full-Time Fair Price Shops: 24,684
- Part-Time Fair Price Shops: 10,355

Essential commodities such as rice, sugar, and wheat, along with special PDS commodities like Tur Dal and Palmolein oil, are procured from Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC)

and distributed through these FPS. The supply chain is managed by 105 Lead Societies, 354 Self-lifting Societies and 4,156 Link Societies to facilitate movement.

Classification of Societies Managing PDS Distribution

Type of Society	Number of Societies	FPS
Lead Societies	105	4,605
Self-Lifting Societies	354	4,464
Link Societies	4,156	25,970
Total	4,615	35,039

5.2. Role of Cooperative Fair Price Shops:

35,039 Fair Price Shops managed by cooperative societies cater to 2.12 crore ration cardholders across the state. In addition to distributing essential commodities, these shops sell special PDS items at government-subsidized

rates. Furthermore, Non-Controlled goods such as Ooty Tea, Arasu Salt, Palm Jaggery, Minor Millets, and 5kg/2kg Free Trade LPG (FTL) cylinders are also available for purchase. Additionally, 240 kerosene bunks supply kerosene to eligible families.

5.3. Mobile Fair Price Shops:

To ensure accessibility of essential commodities to people residing in remote areas, hilly terrains and regions obstructed by rivers, highways, or other natural barriers, 2,494 Mobile FPS operate across Tamil Nadu. These mobile units primarily serve tribal communities and other individuals who face challenges in accessing conventional FPS outlets.

5.4. Diversification of Product Sales in FPS

To improve the financial sustainability of FPS, additional revenue sources include:

5.4.1.Distribution of 5kg/2kg FTL Cylinders:

The retail sale of 5kg and 2kg Free Trade LPG (FTL) cylinders has been introduced in FPS, benefiting migrant workers, street vendors and pushcart traders who require small-sized LPG refills. Notably, the purchase of these cylinders does not require address proof. From October 2022 to March 2025, cylinders worth Rs.62.68 lakh were sold under this initiative.

5.4.2. Sale of Minor Millets:

As per the 2021-22 Agriculture Budget, small millets such as Ragi, Kambu, Thina, Kuthiraivali, Saamai, and Varagu are sourced through Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). These grains are sold at selected FPS and cooperative retail outlets. Between June 2022 and March 2025, sales of minor millets amounted to Rs.2.58 crore.

5.4.3. Palm Jaggery Sales:

Following the 2021-22 Agriculture Budget, FPS have been selling Palm Jaggery. From October 2021 to March 2025, sales amounted to Rs.1.93 crore.

5.4.4. Arasu Salt Sales:

To combat iodine deficiency disorders, iodized salt procured from Tamil Nadu Salt Corporation is supplied through FPS. 21,403 MTs of Arasu Salt has been sold in the year 2024-25.

5.4.5. Ooty Tea Sales:

The Tamil Nadu Small Tea Growers' Industrial Co-operative Tea Factories Federation Limited (INDCOSERVE) supports small-scale tea growers by procuring their produce and selling it under the "Ooty Tea" brand through FPS. 2,645 MTs of Ooty Tea has been sold in the year 2024-25.

5.5 Modernization of Cooperative Fair Price Shops

5.5.1. ISO Certification:

To enhance service quality and supply chain security, steps have been taken to obtain ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and ISO 28000 (Supply Chain Security) certifications for FPS. As of March 2025, a total of 10,149 FPS has received ISO 9001 certification, while 2,059 FPS have been certified under ISO 28000.

5.5.2. Fair Price Shops Infrastructure Enhancement:

Renovation efforts are underway across Tamil Nadu, with 5,481 FPS already modernized to improve their structure and operational efficiency.

5.5.3. Establishment of New Fair Price Shops:

To expand the accessibility of FPS across the State, 2,394 new FPS have been established

between May 2021 and March 2025, including 789 full-time and 1,605 part-time shops.

5.5.4. Employment in Fair Price Shops:

During 2022-2023, 5,748 Salesmen and 981 Packers were recruited to ensure uninterrupted distribution of essential commodities. Additionally, recruitment is ongoing for 2,527 Salesmen and 826 Packers for the year 2024-2025.

5.5.5. Construction of New Fair Price Shops buildings functioning in rental premises:

A phased plan is underway to construct new Fair Price Shops buildings for 6,215 shops currently operating in rented premises. Land has been identified for 2,571 shops and Administrative sanction have been given for 1,749 shops. So far, 1,040 FPS have been fully constructed, and construction is ongoing at 709 locations.

5.6. Standardized Fair Price Shops Design:

The Government has approved two standard building designs for FPS building construction.

1. 440 sq.ft. structures for shops serving fewer than 500 ration cards, estimated at Rs.7 lakh per unit.
2. 550 sq. ft. structures for shops serving more than 500 ration cards, estimated at Rs.10 lakh per unit.

5.7. Technological Advancements in Public Distribution System:

- E-Auction for Empty Jute Bags: To ensure transparency, empty jute gunny bags are auctioned via websites of Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited (MSTC) and National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI).
- PoS Device Transactions: All FPS sales are digitally recorded with SMS notifications

sent to registered mobile numbers. PDS commodities are issued only upon biometric verification to prevent misuse.

- Electronic Weighing Scales: To guarantee accurate measurement of goods.
- UPI Payments: UPI enabled payment method is being done in FPS.

5.8. Social Welfare Initiatives:

Pongal Gift Hampers 2025: On the occasion of Pongal 2025, Pongal Gift Hamper consisting of 1kg Raw rice, 1kg Sugar, 1 full length Sugarcane were distributed to 1.94 crore cardholders through Fair Price Shops.

5.9. Public Distribution System (PDS) Subsidy:

To cover operational losses, the Government has allocated Rs.2,195.99 crore as PDS subsidy over the past four financial years.

5.10. Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Public Distribution System:

The Universal Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu significantly contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being

This policy continues to serve as a cornerstone for food security and social welfare across the state.

Chapter- 6

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND TRAINING

6.1. Introduction

Imparting Co-operative education and training for capacity building of the staff and members of Co-operative Societies, is being done continuously by the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union at the Apex level and 38 District Cooperative Unions at the district level. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union has 38 District Co-operative Unions and 17 Apex Co-operative Institutions as its members. Exhibitions, seminar and Co-operative Week celebrations are organized to sensitize people on the basic tenets of the Co-operative movement and to create public awareness. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union collects a portion of the net profit from Co-operative Societies towards the Co-operative Research and Development Fund (3%) and

Co-operative Education Fund (2%) as stipulated in the Act. These funds are utilized for research on Co-operatives, education, training and dissemination of information about various services being provided by the Co-operative Societies at large.

Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union publishes a Tamil monthly magazine "Kootturavu," an English monthly magazine "Tamil Nadu Journal of Co-operation," a fortnightly Tamil magazine "Kootturavu Murasu."

These magazines publish details about the activities of all types of Co-operative Societies operating in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union is implementing a membership education programme for members of all types of Co-operative Societies in Co-ordination with all District Co-operative Unions. Through this scheme, membership education classes are conducted to create

awareness about Co-operatives among members and non-members of all types of Co-operative Societies in the state.

6.2. District Cooperative Union

Each District Cooperative Union has a membership of all types of Co-operative Societies functioning in the respective district. Through these 38 District Co-operative Unions, membership education programme, All India Co-operative Week celebration, Youth Attraction Camp and Trade fair are conducted for the development of Co-operative movement in the district. Co-operative Education and Training, Co-operative seminars, Co-operative exhibition, library maintenance and collecting statutory funds are their main activities at the district level. These 38 District Co-operative Unions liaison with the general public and the Government, communicating the plans,

objectives and activities of the cooperative sector to the public.

6.3. Institutes of Co-operative Management and Technical Education

There are 27 Institutes of Co-operative Management and 7 sub-centers in the State that function as the units of Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union. Through these institutions, Diploma in Co-operative Management to public and society employees and short-term training are being conducted for the benefit of Co-operative Department Staff and society employees.

In order to create employment opportunities for the youth, the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union runs two Co-operative Industrial Training Institutes, one at Bargur in Krishnagiri District and one at Pattukottai in Thanjavur District. They offer courses on Computer Operation Programming Assistant (COPA), Tailoring, Jewel testing course,

Electrician and Craftsman Food Production (General) courses. It also runs one Co-operative Polytechnic College at Lalgudi in Tiruchirappalli District and offers Engineering Diploma courses in Mechanical, Computer and Electrical & Electronics.

6.4. Co-operative Training and Education

Higher Diploma Courses in Co-operative Management and Master of Business Administration Courses are being conducted in NICM, Chennai and ICM, Madurai run by the National Council for Co-operative Training, New Delhi. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union provides financial support to these two institutions.

Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union runs Arts and Science College, Athur, Dindigul District. Students have been enrolled in 14 U.G. degrees in this Arts College. A new building is being constructed for this college at an estimate of

Rs.76 crore. Currently, steps are being taken to upgrade this college to a Government-aided college.

The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Union has created a corpus fund of Rs.5.00 lakh each in Bharathiyar University, Periyar University and Gandhigram Rural Institute to encourage students to take up research in Co-operation subjects.

Chapter- 7

INTEGRATED CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Integrated Co-operative Development Project was started with the aim of making Co-operative institutions as economically stable institutions. It also prioritised improvement of infrastructure facilities of co-operatives. The National Co-operative Development Corporation used to provide financial assistance to the Government of Tamil Nadu in the form of loan for the project. In turn, the Government of Tamil Nadu offered assistance to Co-operatives in the form of Loan and Share Capital. In Tamil Nadu, this Project commenced in 1989 and was completed in 32 districts with a financial assistance of Rs.821.75 crore. The implementation of the scheme enabled the evolution of co-operative societies as multi-purpose institutions. It led to the increase of

storage capacity, improvement in total business turnover, revival of dormant societies, construction of new godowns, repair works, human resource development and capacity building at the grass root level.

Chapter- 8

CO-OPERATIVE ELECTION

8.1. The Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission was constituted under the new Section 33-A added to the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Act, 1983 to conduct the elections of Co-operative Societies in accordance with Article 243ZK of the Constitution in Part IX-B which was newly added to the Constitution by the 97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011.

8.2. Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commissioner was appointed and started functioning from 08.02.2013.

8.3. Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission prepares the Election Programme for the Co-operative Societies and monitors the conduct of elections to all Co-operative societies. It also prepares, directs and controls the electoral roll of the voters list to

the Co-operative Societies under Section 33(11)(b) of the Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Act, 1983.

8.4. In 2013, Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Act, 1983 was amended as per 97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011 for the empowerment of Women and to guarantee social justice by providing 18% reservation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and 30% reservation to Women in the Board of Directors of the Co-operative Institutions.

8.5. In 2018, Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission announced elections in four phases for 18,805 Cooperative Societies functioning under the control of Registrar of Co-operative Societies and 14 Functional Registrars.

8.6. In this, elections were held for 7,101 Co-operative societies under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and

77,204 Board of Directors were elected. Among them, 7,049 persons were elected as Presidents and 7,047 were elected as Vice Presidents and assumed charge. Administrators have been appointed to the Co-operative societies where the 5 year tenure of the elected board of members expired in the year 2023.

8.7. Presently there are around 7,696 Co-operative Societies including newly formed societies functioning under the control of Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Tamil Nadu.

8.8. Initially action was taken for conducting the election to these Societies by the Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Election Commission. In the meanwhile, two Writ Petitions filed before the Hon'ble High Court and passed orders to correct the Members list in full and then conduct the Co-operative Election.

8.9. As per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras, removing dead/ineligible members and collecting Aadhaar and Family card details of members is being done in all Co-operative Societies on warfoot basis.

8.10. Out of total members 1,20,08,468 in 7,696 Co-operative societies, Aadhar number and Family card number of 79,36,282 (66%) members have been collected during the year 2024-2025 and the work is being done for the rest of the members.

Chapter - 9

WAY FORWARD

Co-operative is a commendable organisation with excellent performance for over a century, renewing itself with changing times and providing all kinds of services to people from all walks of life. The Tamil Nadu Government has also been initiating and implementing many innovative schemes to strengthen Co-operatives in the State. Prominent among them are.

1. Providing quality medicines at lowest prices in the market, to the poor, downtrodden and middle-class people through 1,000 'Mudalvar Marundagam' shops.
2. Computerisation of all Co-operative institutions including Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Society

to ensure transparency in administration.

3. Upgradation of Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies as Multi service societies so as to provide all services required by members and the public in addition to supply of agricultural inputs
4. Establishment of processing units to provide quality, unadulterated products to people at reasonable prices.
5. To ensure there are no loss making cooperative societies, upgradation of all Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies to Net Profit Making Organizations through Member Support Programme.
6. Continuous infrastructure development of Co-operatives through creation of new structures and modernization.

Consistent with the theme of the International Co-operative Year 2025 declared by the United Nations, Co-operatives in Tamil Nadu demonstrate excellent performance right from ensuring food security to every family in the State, providing crop loan and inputs to the farmers, ensuring reasonable price for their produce, providing quality products at reasonable rates to customers and there by becoming Co-operatives that “Build a Better World”.

KR. PERIAKARUPPAN
Minister for Co-operation



On 13.12.2024, the Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation, Thiru. KR. Periakaruppan showcased the five awards received by Co-operative Banks of Tamil Nadu from the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin and received his commendations.



At the 71st All India Co-operative Week celebrations on 18.11.2024, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin, launched the schemes “Vergal,” “Vizhuthugal,” and “Siragugal” and distributed welfare assistance to beneficiaries under these schemes.



The Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin provided relief assistance to the people affected by Cyclone Fengal.



At the function held in Chennai on 06.12.2024, The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Thiru. M.K. Stalin handed over to the beneficiaries, advanced sewage cleaning vehicles procured with loan assistance under Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme and New Entrepreneur Cum Enterprise Development Scheme.



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru M.K.Stalin inaugurated the distribution of Pongal gift hamper at Saidapet Fair price shop of Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society on 09.01.2025.



Erode Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Society produces quality masala powders namely Turmeric powder, Chilli powder, Sambar powder, Idly podi, Chicken masala and Mutton masala in the brand name 'Mangalam'.



Tamil Nadu Co-operative Marketing Federation (TANFED) has established a Vermicompost production unit at Eriyode in Dindigul District



Cuddalore District, Chidambaram Agricultural Produce Co-operative Marketing Society manufactures quality “APPALAM” in the brand name “Thillai Nataraja”, and sells them to Consumers in Fair Price Shops at Rs.12/- per 50gm packet.



Cotton Auction at Namakkal District, Tiruchengode Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Society, Konganapuram Branch 37,976 Sq.ft Cotton Auction yard.

