

# Cooperative Development Foundation

49<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

2023-24



Sahavikasa/CDF

## Cooperative Development Foundation

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## Board of Trustees as on 31.03.2024

1. **Smt K Jayaprada** Former President;  
President Narsampet Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
2. **Smt A Revathi** President;  
Treasurer Kothakonda Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
3. **Smt K Dharmavathi** Former President;  
Mandapalli Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
4. **Smt V Bhagyamma** Former President;  
Bollikunta Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
5. **Smt J Devika** Former President;  
Uduthagudem Women's Thrift Cooperative
6. **Smt G Aruna** Former President;  
Husnabad Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
7. **Smt A Ramadevi** Former President;  
Shankarapatnam Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
8. **Smt P Aruna** Former President;  
Huzurabad Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
9. **Smt M Uma** President;  
Elkathurthy Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
10. **Smt G Vimala** Former President;  
Rajagopalpet Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
11. **Smt R Rani** President;  
Madikonda Association of Women's Thrift Cooperatives
12. **Smt E Vijaya Lakshmi** Former Executive Officer;  
Sangam Laxmibai Vidyapeet

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# Cooperative Development Foundation

Hanumakonda, Telangana

## 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Report: 2023-24

(1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024)

In 1975, some volunteers, with an intention to strengthen the cooperative movement, formed Cooperative Development Foundation, (CDF) for the development of cooperative societies. CDF is popularly known as Sahavikasa. This has been registered under Andhra Pradesh Societies Registration Act 2001. Sahavikasa believes that cooperative societies are good instruments for the integrated development, i.e. Social and Economical development, of villages. A team of volunteers, not more than twelve, runs the Sahavikasa. It is a non-profit organisation.

### **Aim**

Sahavikasa works for the promotion of an environment in which cooperatives flourish as decentralised, democratic, self-help and mutual aid associations, effectively harnessing and fostering local resources - in consonance with the Statement of Cooperative Identity, as formulated by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) in 1995, affirmed by the United Nations (UN) in 2001 and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in 2002.

### **Sahavikasa-Cooperative Act**

The concept of cooperation is an integral part of undivided families and traditional rural organisations in India. However, it gained official recognition in India after the introduction of Credit Cooperatives Act 1904 by the then east while British Government.

Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Societies Act 1964 (APCS Act 1964) was introduced in united Andhra Pradesh. Prior to that, there were two cooperative laws in existence in the state which were introduced one by British Government and the other by the Nizam, prior to independence of India, as some part of the state was under Madras presidency and other part under Nizam's rule. Sahavikasa was strongly determined to bring in a conducive external and internal environment for the cooperatives to flourish in. With a view to encourage self reliance, self governance and democracy in cooperatives, it requested the government to introduce changes in APCS Act 1964 as to reflect accountability in the Act. Sahavikasa drafted a Model Cooperative Bill on the request of Planning Commission of India. This became a basis for discussion by the Brahmaprakash Committee. AP Government introduced a Bill on the basis of the reports of the Brahmaprakash Committee (1991) and the Ramakrishnaiah Committee (1994). This Bill came into existence as Andhra Pradesh Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies Act 1995 (APMACS Act 1995). This Act can also be termed as a liberal or parallel law. The uniqueness of this Act is it is the first parallel law on the subject of cooperation in the whole of the world and the credit goes to Andhra Pradesh for its Promulgation. This act is also considered to promote practice of cooperative philosophy in its truest sense, to a large extent. CDF played a significant role in the drafting of this MACS Act.

Sahavikasa also encouraged those states in Indian Union, which were desirous of introducing a parallel cooperative law in their respective states, basing APMACS Act 1995 as a Model. For such states, Sahavikasa drafted Referential Bill 2001.

## **Sahavikasa - Cooperatives:**

In the view of Cooperative principles, the purpose of establishing cooperative organisations is the upliftment of their members' living standards - both economic

and social, and provide equal opportunities to all, through these organisations. Women in rural areas, by nature are thrifty and have the habit of savings. Sahavikasa ushered the process of formation of thrift cooperatives and associations for women, so that they could come forward and take up the reins. Likewise, Sahavikasa promoted men's thrift cooperatives- in all 574 cooperatives have been promoted in around 300 villages. All These cooperatives are commonly known as Swakrushi Cooperatives.

## **Sahavikasa's activities in fulfilment of its aim during 2023-24:**

- Promoted and encouraged Swakrushi cooperatives under MACS Act in its field work area in Telangana.
- Provided training to the representatives of other organisations belonging from the non-field work area - people those who came to study the Swakrushi Cooperative concept and methodology.

Briefly presented in this report are the activities carried out by different divisions in Sahavikasa and the performance of Swakrushi Cooperatives associated with Sahavikasa.

## **1. Thrift Cooperatives**

Women and men in rural areas in Warangal, Hanumakonda, Karimnagar, Janagama, Siddipet districts have formed Thrift Cooperatives (TCs) with the help of Thrift Cooperatives Network Division (TCND) in Sahavikasa. TCND extends appropriate guidance and training to the TCs. The main intents of the TCs are as follows:

- To provide an opportunity in rural areas to make compulsory thrift, recurring deposit, fixed deposit and savings account.

- To obtain loans against compulsory thrift, recurring deposit and fixed deposit for financial needs.
- To lead an independent life in old age without support of others by saving one day's earnings in a month.

## 1.1. Women's Thrift Cooperatives

The financial year of the women's thrift cooperatives (WTCs) and association of women's thrift cooperatives (AWTCs) starts on 1 January and ends on 31 December. As on 31 December 2023, there were 338 women's thrift cooperatives (WTCs). There was 1,53,730 women. These WTCs by having formed into 29 associations of women's thrift cooperatives (AWTCs), they are extending services to their respective members.

### Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs) in AWTCs

Board members of the respective AWTCs shall conduct OGMs of AWTCs by 30 November in accordance with the byelaws. As such all the 29 AWTCs have not conducted their OGMs.

### Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in WTCs

As on 31 December 2023 there were 338 WTCs in 29 AWTCs. In accordance with the byelaw WTCs have to conduct their AGMs with in 3 months after completion of financial year. As on 31 March 2024, 335 WTCs have conducted their AGMs. Remaining 3 WTCs could not conduct their AGMs due to the following reasons:

1. No transactions were held in WTCs.
2. Not discharged duties by the board members of WTCs.
3. Not completed final accounts by the accountants of WTCs.

Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in AGMs of 42 WTCs. They brought important points to the notice of members in annual reports submitted by the board members in WTCs and AWTCs. They explained about the methods of swakrushi thrift movement, defaulters and self-fostering of insurance schemes.

## **Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in AWTCs**

29 AWTCs were conducted their AGMs by the end of 31 March 2024. Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in these AGMs. Elections for the vacancy for President were held by secret ballot in 3 AWTCs, where there were more than 1 contestant.

## **Elections in WTCs**

Elections for vacancies for Board of Directors were held by secret ballot in 18 WTCs where there were more than 4 contestants as against 4 vacancies in accordance with the byelaws on rotational basis. In the same way, elections for the vacancy for President were held by secret ballot in 35 WTCs where there were more than 1 contestant. Likewise, elections for the vacancy for Vice-President were held by secret ballot in 12 WTCs where there were more than 1 contestant.

Representatives from AWTCs and representatives from Sahavikasa acted as election-officers in the elections of WTCs and AWTCs respectively by conducting the election process in a democratic way.

## **Interest Received from Members on Loans, Bonus Paid to Members by WTCs**

From the inception of WTCs, members are gradually decreasing the rate of interest to be paid on loans on the basis of the own funds of the WTCs. Likewise, bonus to be paid to members is also changing every year.

**Table showing the rate of interest on loan collected from members and percentage of bonus given to members in WTCs in 2022 and 2023:**

Rate of interest on loan	2022							2023						
	No of WTCs	Members	Percentage of Bonus					No of WTCs	Members	Percentage of Bonus				
			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18%	13	2,888	3	5	4	1	0	11	2,638	3	6	2	0	0
12%	237	1,02,389	13	110	74	36	4	219	93,027	15	94	92	16	2
9%	79	47,121	1	33	33	12	0	108	58,065	1	45	57	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>1,52,398</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>1,53,730</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>

- In 2022, 4% of WTCs collected 18% interest on loan whereas it was decreased to 3% of WTCs in 2023.
- In 2022, 72% of WTCs collected 12% interest on loan whereas it was decreased to 65% of WTCs in 2023.
- In 2022, 24% of WTCs collected 9% interest on loan whereas it was increased to 32% of WTCs in 2023.

**Table showing the percentage of Interest on Compulsory Thrift given by AWTCs to its respective WTCs in 2022 and 2023:**

Rate of Interest on Loan	2022						2023					
	Total AWTCs	No of AWTCs	Percentage of Interest				Total AWTCs	No of AWTCs	Percentage of Interest			
			2-3	4-6	7-9	10-12			2-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11%	29	29	14	8	5	2	29	29	14	9	6	0

- In 2022, 29 AWTCs out of 29 AWTCs paid Interest to its respective WTCs.
- In 2023, 29 AWTCs out of 29 AWTCs paid Interest to its respective WTCs.



## Computerisation

As on 31 December 2023 29 AWTCs got their accounts computerised. In these associations, there were 338 WTCs. Among these 272 WTCs got their accounts computerised. 254 WTCs purchased computers and got their accounts computerised and 18 WTCs got their accounts computerised through their respective association's computers. And the remaining 66 WTCs accounts could not computerised.

To improve the transparency in the accounts of the computerized cooperatives, 29 AWTCs were introduced computerized receipt printers. Among these 254 WTCs are issuing computerized receipts to the members on their transaction along with the dues payable. With this facility, members can know loan outstanding balances of their accounts and this also helps to control the forged loans.

## New Software

As on 31 December 2023 254 WTCs got their accounts computerised with New Software.

Accounts can be correctly and timely maintained if the accounts are computerised in WTCs and AWTCs. Apart from this, progress of the cooperatives can easily be evaluated. With this evaluation, planning can be designed to run the cooperatives substantially.

## 1.2. Men's Thrift Cooperatives

The financial year of the men's thrift cooperatives (MTCs) and association of men's thrift cooperatives (AMTCs) starts on 1 January and ends on 31 December. As on 31 December 2023, there were 236 men's thrift cooperatives (MTCs). There was 1,10,797 men. These MTCs by having formed into 21 associations

of men's thrift cooperatives (AMTCs), they are extending services to their respective members.

## **Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs) in AMTCs**

Board members of the respective AMTCs shall conduct OGMs of AMTCs by 30 November in accordance with the byelaws. As such all the 21 AMTCs have not conducted their OGMs.

## **Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in MTCs**

As on 31 December 2023 there were 236 MTCs in 21 AMTCs. In accordance with the byelaw MTCs have to conduct their AGMs within 3 months after completion of financial year. As on 31 March 2024, 232 MTCs have conducted their AGMs. Remaining 4 MTCs could not conduct their AGMs due to the following reasons:

1. No transactions were held in MTCs.
2. Not discharged duties by the board members of MTCs.
3. Not completed final accounts by the accountants of MTCs.

Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in AGMs of 24 MTCs. They brought important points to the notice of members in annual reports submitted by the board members in MTCs and AMTCs. They explained about the methods of swakrushi thrift movement, defaulters and self-fostering of insurance schemes.

## **Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in AMTCs**

21 AMTCs were conducted their AGMs by the end of 31 March 2024. Representatives from Sahavikasa participated in these AGMs. Elections for the vacancy for President were held by secret ballot in 7 AMTCs, where there were more than 1 contestant. Like wise, elections for the vacancy for Vice-President were held by secret ballot in 5 AMTCs, where there were more than 1 contestant.

## Elections in MTCs

Elections for vacancies for Board of Directors were held by secret ballot in 39 MTCs where there were more than 4 contestants as against 4 vacancies in accordance with the byelaws on rotational basis. In the same way, elections for the vacancy for President were held by secret ballot in 53 MTCs where there were more than 1 contestant. Like wise, elections for the vacancy for Vice-President were held by secret ballot in 19 MTCs where there were more than 1 contestant.

Representatives from AMTCs and representatives from Sahavikasa acted as election-officers in the elections of MTCs and AMTCs respectively by conducting the election process in a democratic way.

## Interest Received from Members on Loans, Bonus Paid to Members by MTCs

From the inception of MTCs, members are gradually decreasing the rate of interest to be paid on loans on the basis of the own funds of the MTCs. Likewise, bonus to be paid to members is also changing every year.

### Table showing the rate of interest on loan collected from members and percentage of bonus given to members in MTCs in 2022 and 2023:

Rate of interest on loan	2022								2023						
	No of MTCs	Members	Percentage of Bonus					No of MTCs	Members	Percentage of Bonus					
			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14			0	1-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
18%	11	3,411	3	4	4	0	0	8	2,191	0	3	3	2	0	
12%	173	78,009	2	49	88	33	1	167	75,468	8	71	70	18	0	
9%	48	27,658	0	10	35	3	0	61	33,138	0	25	32	4	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>1,09,078</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>1,10,797</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	

- In 2022, 5% of MTCs collected 18% interest on loan whereas it was decreased to 3% of MTCs in 2023.
- In 2022, 75% of MTCs collected 12% interest on loan whereas it was decreased to 71% of MTCs in 2023.
- In 2022, 21% of MTCs collected 9% interest on loan whereas it was increased to 26% of MTCs in 2023.

**Table showing the percentage of Interest on Compulsory Thrift given by AMTCs to its respective MTCs in 2022 and 2023:**

Rate of Interest on Loan	2022						2023					
	Total AMTCs	No of AMTCs	Percentage of Interest				Total AMTCs	No of AMTCs	Percentage of Interest			
			2-3	4-6	7-9	10-12			2-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11%	21	21	16	4	1	0	21	21	19	2	0	0

- In 2022, 21 AMTCs out of 21 AMTCs paid Interest to its respective MTCs.
- In 2023, 21 AMTCs out of 21 AMTCs paid Interest to its respective MTCs.

**Computerisation**

As on 31 December 2023 21 AMTCs got their accounts computerised. In these associations, there were 236 MTCs. Among these 182 MTCs got their accounts computerised. 174 MTCs purchased computers and got their accounts computerised and 8 MTCs got their accounts computerised through their respective association’s computers. And the remaining 54 MTCs accounts could not computerised.

To improve the transparency in the accounts of the computerized cooperatives, 21 AMTCs were introduced computerized receipt printers. Among these

174 MTCs are issuing computerized receipts to the members on their transaction along with the dues payable. With this facility, members can know loan outstanding balances of their accounts and this also helps to control the forged loans.

## **New Software**

As on 31 December 2023 174 MTCs got their accounts computerised with New Software.

Accounts can be correctly and timely maintained if the accounts are computerised in MTCs and AMTCs. Apart from this, progress of the cooperatives can easily be evaluated. With this evaluation, planning can be designed to run the cooperatives substantially.

## **Insurance Schemes:**

As the members funds in swakrushi cooperatives are rising, the eligibility on loan is also increasing. ATCs are running Abhayanidhi Scheme and Group Fund Schemes to protect family members of the deceased member, guarantors and cooperatives from loss in cases where a member obtains loan and passes away before she/he fully repays the loan amount. These schemes are beneficial in recovering loan when a member dies.

## **Regional Meetings:**

We divided the field work area of swakrushi cooperative movement into 6 regions. Presidents and Accountants of AWTCs and AMTCs of related region have to participate in the regional meetings. The purpose to conduct Regional meeting is to create an environment to implement Swakrushi cooperative methods in their member TCs properly and to find the solutions to overcome the challenges and problems which are facing by the member TCs of ATCs. 6 Regional meetings were held by the end of 31 March, 2023. 139 representatives from a total

48 ATCs consisting of 28 AWTCs and 20 AMTCs participated in these Regional meetings.

## Trainings

Methods are formulated to solve the problems faced in cooperatives. These methods are termed as 'Swakrushi Methods'. Trainings are useful in developing the understanding on these methods. Keeping in view of this, Sahavikasa is extending trainings to the representatives of TCs and ATCs. Sahavikasa gave trainings to the representatives of swakrushi TCs and ATCs on computerisation of cooperatives' accounts, etc. This year 81 training programmes were conducted in 158 days at training centre. The participants were of the opinion that it would become easier to manage the cooperatives with the knowledge on implementation of swakrushi methods by these trainings.

## 2. Training Programmes

Training programmes are being conducted at Sahavikasa for representatives of cooperatives under Sahavikasa's field work area and visitors from Sahavikasa's non-field work area who come to study swakrushi cooperatives. During the year 2023-24, the training programmes, workshops and study visits were as follows:

S No	Division	Participants	Programmes
1.	Thrift Cooperatives	3,052	82
2.	Administration & Finance	158	11

Latest training equipment is being provided for convenience for those who conduct training programmes. During the year 2023-24 on an average of 8 programmes were conducted per month and it was occupied for 8 days per month with 35 participants each.

### **3. Administrative Activities**

During the year 2023-24, the Board of Trustees met 3 times, wherein the trustees gave advice and guidelines on Sahavikasa activities and took decisions. Manager met with Development Officers every month and shared activities of their respective divisions, discussed the remedial measures taken and gave advice and guidelines for carrying out Sahavikasa's activities meaningfully and expeditiously.

Sahavikasa conducted 'Annual Conventions of Swakrushi Cooperators' with all the presidents of thrift cooperatives under Sahavikasa's field work area. In these conventions, the cooperators shared their experiences in carrying out the cooperatives.

### **4. Financial Activities**

During the year 2023-24 of the total expenses of Sahavikasa met from its own activities.

Sahavikasa's expenditure during the year was Rs 118 lakhs was used for Sahavikasa's activities. During the year, Sahavikasa's income was Rs 148 lakhs and excess of income over expenditure was Rs 30 lakhs.

Monthly internal audit was done under supervision of Sahavikasa's Board of Trustee for ensuring transparency in accounting and in order to serve as a check for detecting errors. The annual statutory audit was done by CA Raju Koyyala, Chartered Accountants, Warangal. Financial returns were filed with the Department of Income Tax.

## Cooperative Development Foundation, Hanumakonda

### Concise Balance Sheet as on 31-03-2024

2022-23	Liabilities	2023-24	2022-23	Assets	2023-24
1	2	3	4	5	6
11,94,73,406	1. Capital Fund	12,90,27,899	2,14,78,665	1. Fixed Assets	2,17,45,665
1,61,85,404	2. Cooperative Revolving Fund	1,61,85,404	16,73,33,446	2. Investments & Deposits in Banks	17,21,33,446
1,68,00,000	3. Cooperative Education Fund	1,68,00,000	89,93,620	3. Other Receivables	95,87,504
3,97,03,234	4. Other Funds	4,01,55,214	44,27,795	4. Cash & Bank balances	79,95,342
5,42,650	5. Payables	5,92,949			
51,50,957	6. Loans	43,22,616			
43,77,875	7. Corpus Fund	43,77,875			
<b>20,22,33,526</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>21,14,61,957</b>	<b>20,22,33,526</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>21,14,61,957</b>

### Concise Income & Expenditure Statement: 2023-24 (From 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2024)

2022-23	Expenditure	2023-24	2022-23	Income	2023-24
1	2	3	4	5	6
84,99,634	1. Fieldwork, Training etc.	1,03,30,654	10,600	1. Contributions from visitors	56,100
13,23,901	2. Administration	10,91,960	77,35,585	2. Interest from Banks	97,75,905
4,29,045	3. Depreciation	4,51,980	45,98,556	3. Miscellaneous Income	50,51,860
20,92,161	4. Excess of Income over expenditure	30,09,271			
<b>1,23,44,741</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,48,83,865</b>	<b>1,23,44,741</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,48,83,865</b>

**Note:** Audited, detailed statements of Receipts & Payments, Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet will be made available immediately on request.



# Sahavikasa Staff

(as on 31.03.2024)

## Thrift Cooperatives Network Division

1. K Lakshman, Manager
2. G Rajasree, Development Officer
3. Ch Sumalatha, Development Officer
4. Ch Ravinder, Development Officer
5. P Naveen, Development Officer
6. P Kavitha, Development Officer
7. S Vijay Kumar, Computer Officer
8. G Swapna, Desk Officer
9. D Eshwar, Development Assistant
10. M Manjula, Development Assistant
11. U Bhaskar, Development Assistant
12. A Jyothi, Development Assistant
13. L Sravanthi, Development Assistant
14. K Rajasri, Development Assistant
15. Ch Srinivas, Computer Assistant
16. D Thirupathi, Computer Assistant
17. K Sridhar, Computer Assistant

## **Administration & Finance**

18. B Sumalatha, Accounts Officer
19. P Shobha Rani, Office Attendant
20. I Murali, Office Driver
21. T Swaroopa, Office Attendant
22. M Lalitha, Office Attendant

## Statement on the Cooperative Identity

### Definition

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

### Values

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility, and caring for others.

### Principles

The cooperative principles are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice.

**1<sup>st</sup> Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership:** Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Principle: Democratic Member Control:** Cooperatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote), and cooperatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Principle: Member Economic Participation:** Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

**4<sup>th</sup> Principle: Autonomy and Independence:** Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

**5<sup>th</sup> Principle: Education, Training and Information:** Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

**6<sup>th</sup> Principle: Cooperation among Cooperatives:** Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

**7<sup>th</sup> Principle: Concern for Community:** Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

*[Approved by the 31<sup>st</sup> International Cooperative Congress and by the General Assembly of the International Cooperative Alliance, held at Manchester, England, on 20-23 September 1995]*

# Field work area of Swakrushi Cooperative Movement

