



NATIONAL
COOPERATIVE
UNION OF
INDIA

NATIONAL
CENTRE FOR
COOPERATIVE
EDUCATION

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR CONSUMER COOPERATIVES

3 Days



PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES: Consumer cooperatives are an essential part of the socio-economic landscape of India. The consumer cooperative movement was started in the country with the objective to sell goods at a lower price, eliminate the middlemen, improve the purchasing power of the members, provide employment opportunities and improve access to products among a larger section of the population. The three-day “Leadership Development Programme for Consumer Cooperatives” is a programme conducted by the National Centre for Cooperative Education (NCCE) for

management-level leadership such as Board of Directors, Chairpersons, Secretaries, etc. at consumer cooperatives. The programme will attempt to provide the participants with a holistic overview of concepts that can strengthen their leadership skills. It would comprise sessions on components such as cooperative values and principles in the context of a consumer cooperative, roles and responsibilities of cooperative leaders, financial management, legal provisions, relevant government schemes for consumer cooperatives, challenges faced by consumer cooperatives and strategies to manage them, etc.

Programme Details

Pedagogy	The three-day programme is conducted in-person and involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture/Presentations • Group Discussions • Exercises/Games/Role plays • Study Visits
Duration	3 Days
Eligibility	Members of Board of Directors, Chairpersons, Secretaries and other individuals in leadership roles in primary state and district level cooperatives; with proficiency in English and Hindi languages
Language of instruction	English and Hindi
How to apply	Send nomination to: The Executive Director National Centre for Cooperative Education 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg Hauz Khas, New Delhi – 110016 Telefax – 41811158 Email: nccencui@gmail.com
When to apply	The announcement letter inviting participants for the course will be circulated.
Mode of teaching	Classes will be conducted physically at NCCE, New Delhi. In times of COVID-19 restrictions, the classes will be conducted online.
Fee	There is no fee to be paid for this programme.

Programme Curriculum

The programme will help strengthen the capacity of leaders on the following aspects through various sessions:

Concept: Cooperatives are based on the values and principles of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. The structure and working of cooperatives are centered on transparency and participation, and their work often centres on involving members to inform them of business operations to facilitate their active participation. The overarching objective of enabling betterment of communities, lend a unique primacy to these values and principles. This module will help a leader gain a deeper understanding of cooperative values and principles and their application in a consumer cooperative to facilitate their implementation in their consumer cooperative in a manner that supports the core objective of benefitting the consumers.

Consumer cooperative management: This module will emphasise on the various concepts of cooperative management with a focus on consumer cooperatives including the bye-laws, basics of membership, membership fee, share capital, formation and

registration of a consumer cooperative, elections and procedures for meetings, etc.

Types of members, procedure for admission, termination and suspension of members in a consumer cooperative: Once a consumer cooperative is registered, it becomes open to members. In this context, members could refer to workers, consumers, retailers, wholesalers, etc. Hence, there are different types of membership and eligibility criterion for members to apply. There is also a pre-set procedure for admission and termination/suspension of members in special cases. This module will reinforce basic fundamentals about a consumer cooperative for the leaders.

Roles and responsibilities of the chairperson and board of directors: The leader of an organisation has an important role to play in building and driving the organisation to success. Some roles and responsibilities of a consumer cooperative

leader including the chairperson and board of directors include defining the goals and objectives of the organisation, hiring the workforce, preparing budgets, setting the criteria and protocols of including members in the cooperative, directing and delegating responsibilities of the employees, etc. Hence, this module will revisit the roles and responsibilities of a consumer cooperative leader and share some effective ways and means to implement them.

Legal provisions for a consumer cooperative: The legal framework of a consumer cooperative includes various policies, bye-laws and acts. Generally, these include the Cooperative Societies Act passed by the legislature, rules framed under the Cooperatives Act towards their implementation and the bye-laws set by the cooperatives for day-to-day functioning. In this module, the leaders will be re-oriented on the legal provisions for a consumer cooperative and the impact of these provisions on the organisation's functioning.

Financial management and accounting in a consumer cooperative: The financial management of an organisation includes aspects such as raising funds for business development, taxation, maintaining books and carrying out day-to-day financial activities. In this module, the learner will be oriented on the financial management aspect of a consumer cooperative and focus on components such as raising funds for business, profit, reserve, dividend, etc.

Role of National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF) & State Cooperatives Consumers' Federation (SCCF): NCCF promotes consumer cooperative movement in the country, aspires to facilitate the voluntary formation and democratic functioning of cooperatives, based on self-reliance and mutual aid for overall economic betterment and financial autonomy. While NCCF is a national-level organisation, it also functions at the state-level in the form of the SCCF to cater to the state-specific needs of consumer cooperatives. Both these federations are important bodies that allow for smooth running of a consumer cooperative in India. Hence, this module will reinforce the role of the NCCF and SCCF for the leaders who run consumer cooperatives in India.

Use of Information Technology (IT) in management and growth: IT can revolutionize the way consumer cooperatives work and bring huge

benefits, particularly in its management paradigm. Many institutions have already adopted IT platforms and tools and successfully managed the transition to the use of IT in a variety of ways. The increased use of IT has the potential to not only transform the day-to-day operations of cooperatives but to change the paradigm regarding stakeholder engagement. For instance, in a consumer cooperative, IT can be used to manage inventory, manage sales and billing, etc. This module will shed light on the IT opportunity available for the management and how to reap its benefits for the organisation.

Business development and diversification: Business development refers to implementing various processes such as promotion, pricing, distribution, financing, etc. that focus on growing the business of an organisation. Diversification is one of the many business development strategies available to a consumer cooperative such as increasing the choice of products available. In the context of creating positive social impact as a core objective of a cooperative, diversification in consumer cooperative also helps in expanding employment opportunities and providing products to people at an affordable price. This module will focus on these components of business development and diversification for the leaders in the context of consumer cooperatives.

Inventory management, record keeping, accounting and taxation: A consumer cooperative requires large-scale coordination in day-to-day functioning and in-depth knowledge of various facets of a consumer cooperative such as inventory management, taxation, record keeping, accounting, etc. is important. This module will revisit the specific information about these components for leaders to strengthen their know-how.



Challenges before consumer cooperatives & strategies to manage them:

Some of the common challenges faced by consumer cooperatives in India are poor infrastructure, inadequately trained staff, lack

of stock, gaps in product quality, lack of participation from members, etc. In this module, the learner will be oriented on these challenges in detail and will explore strategies to mitigate them.



About National Cooperative Union of India

The National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) was established in 1929 as All India Cooperative Institutes Association and transitioned to its current form in 1961. Since inception, the organisation has grown manifold in terms of its activities and programmes and now represents 280 member institutions across the nation. The goal of the NCUI is to promote and develop the cooperative movement in India, to educate, guide and assist the people in their efforts, to build up and expand the cooperative sector and to serve as an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with cooperative principles. One of the key objectives of the NCUI is to organise cooperative education and training programmes and popularise the principles and practices of cooperation. This objective of the NCUI is met through the National Centre for Cooperative Education.

About National Centre for Cooperative Education

The National Centre for Cooperative Education (NCCE) was set up in 1958 to address the need for systemic cooperative education for practitioners in the cooperative movement. The NCCE came into being as the "All India Cooperative Instructors Training Centre" in 1958. It has since expanded its mandate from building capacity of trainers to conduct member education programmes to an institution that is designing and implementing training interventions to support the gamut of needs of cooperative institutions. NCCE has successfully managed training interventions for cooperatives across levels for district, state, and national co-operatives in diversified geographies and for widely varying activities.



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