



ASIAN COOP NEWS



ISSUE NO. 1, January-March 1989 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

ICA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA

ICA/TCDC-UNDP Programme in Cooperatives in Asia

United Nations Development Programme's Special Unit for TCDC (SU/TCDC) (TCDC-Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries) has assisted a number of developing countries in Asia, Africa, the Arab States and Latin America in TCDC programming. Since 1986, this has resulted in the finalisation of over 1,100 TCDC projects worldwide with the involvement of over 80 developing countries. These projects, which are now in the implementation phase, pertain to almost all sectors of development activities. The Programme encourages technical cooperation among the developing countries in various sectors without resorting to technical and financial support from the developed countries. It is a programme to exchange experience and expertise among the developing countries. TCDC's headquarters are located in New York at the UNDP Office. It is for the first time that the UNDP-TCDC has come in direct contact with the International Cooperative Alliance.

agreed at the regional meeting for bilateral discussions; and Evaluation.

The main elements of relevance for the TCDC programme in cooperatives would be as follows: Provision of training facilities and training courses; Study tours; Carrying out feasibility studies; Development of joint ventures; Exchange of short-term experts; and Trade/joint venture development possibilities.

Following an agreement reached between the International Cooperative Alliance Regional Office for Asia and the TCDC Special Unit of the United Nations Development Programme (TCDC-UNDP), New York, the UNDP recruited Mr Daman Prakash to work as Regional Consultant for the TCDC Programme and made his services available to the ICA Regional Office with effect from 1st February 1989. Mr Daman Prakash had, in the past, worked with the ICA ROA for over 22 years. He was the Chief Technical Advisor of the ILO-Swiss Project on Cooperative Management Training in Indonesia; ILO-UNDP Advisor (Training Management and Material Production) in Indonesia; ICA Technical Advisor (Training Methods and Material Production) to the ICA-SCC Teachers' Training Project in Sri Lanka. Upon his return to India in July 1988 after completing his ILO assignment, Mr Prakash had worked with the ICA Regional Office on Cooperative Data Bank and several other technical projects until assuming his current TCDC assignment.

The main tasks assigned to him are, among others: conducting a Needs/Capacities survey of Cooperative Movements in the Asian region; production of a comprehensive Asian Compendium; making arrangements for holding a TCDC Technical Meeting in November 1989; following-up the recommendations made by the Meeting; and other related tasks connected with the TCDC Programme in the field of cooperatives in Asia.

CONTENTS

ROA	...	1
Asia	...	2
Others	...	10
Obituary	...	10
Visits and Visitors	...	11

The TCDC Programme comprises the following *main activities*: Identification of capacities and needs in the field of cooperatives in various economic sectors and human resource development in the countries in the region; Preparation of a compendium on the above; Distribution of the compendium; Joint ICA/UNDP-TCDC progress review; A regional meeting for bilateral discussions to concretise TCDC projects; Implementation of the projects

Support **ASCON** by feeding with News and Events in your Country & Organisation. Also please send your suggestions.

ICA ROA CONSULTANT SECONDED TO CUP

Dr. Alfred Bretschneider has been engaged by ICA ROA as a short-term consultant to the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP) in the Philippines. Dr. Bretschneider is a Ph.d. in Economics from Stockholm University and is an expert on organizational development and Performance Evaluation and Auditing. He is on leave of absence from the State Audit Bureau in Sweden. He has also served for three years with the Asian Development Bank. His main tasks during the period 1st February to 31st July, 1989 are to assist CUP in the preparatory work for implementation of the Perspective Plan for Agricultural Cooperative Development in the Philippines. Several project proposals have already been worked out by Dr. Bretschneider and as a result potential donors have shown keen interest in working together with CUP.

Dr. Bretschneider presently also represents ICA ROA in the Association of Friends of Cooperative Development in the Philippines which is a newly-started informal donors forum that addresses such areas as e.g., informal coordination of foreign cooperatives assistance amongst donor agencies. The Forum also serves as a platform for sharing of experience and basic values in cooperative development and related matters.

NEWS FROM ASIA

AUSTRALIA

Australian Sector Poised to Cash in on Development of International Cooperative Trade

Australia, as a key member of the International Cooperative Alliance, is expected to reap massive benefits from the International Trading Network being rapidly developed by the Alliance throughout the world.

Specifically the concept is that cooperatives, when purchasing commodities, will give preference to other cooperatives. This means where there is a necessity for a cooperative to import any materials at all it will look first to an overseas cooperative rather than a private sector company.

This is particularly relevant to the Australian sector in relation to Consumer cooperatives though not vast in Australia are prolific in some nations which are our key trading partners to cooperatives in

Australia. The potential benefits to cooperatives in Australia as a key supplier to these Consumer cooperatives are massive.

CHINA

China Emulates Anand Pattern of Procurement

China, switching from commune system to village cooperatives, has taken to dairy development in a big way emulating the Anand pattern of cooperative milk procurement and marketing with Indian expertise.

Identical dairy development projects have also been sought from India with expertise from the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), apex body of the network of cooperatives, by SAARC nations, Madagascar and some African countries, a six-day international seminar on dairy development was told recently.

Dr. W.M. Dijkstra, president of International Dairy Federation attending the seminar together with some 200 experts from 27 countries said there were oppositions not only from the European Economic Community but the Western church as well to the concept of Anand on the 'misinformed' notion that such strategies would not help small-time milk producers. But coming to India and seeing for himself the 'Operation Flood' he felt that the programme must go ahead to its logical end for achieving self-reliance in farm economy, he said.

Dr. Barron Del Castillo of World Food Organisation said categorically "we want to replicate the Anand pattern. They are like components all of which can be replicated".

The Government in the meantime has set up a technology mission for dairy development with the targetset for milk production at 72 million tonnes by 2000 AD from the 1987-88 level of 46 million tonnes.

Friendship Agreement Between Japan's and China's Cooperatives Concluded in October 1988

Friendship agreement between four Japan's consumer cooperatives and one China's cooperative at the fall of last year.

This is the first case for Japanese consumer cooperatives to establish a sister-relationship with cooperatives in Asian region. Japan's consumer cooperatives have had a quite close friendship with China's cooperatives for more than 30 years up to now. In

particular, economic relations between these two countries' movements has been getting wider and closer for the past few years. It is natural that such a relationship comes ture.

The agreement's content includes: (i) exchange of delegations and specialists/researchers groups; (ii) exchange of information and experiences in the fields of economic, social and cultural activities and expects the relation deversified into economic activities.

INDIA

Greater Powers to Coops Soon : PM of India

Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, announced that the Government would soon bring forward a comprehensive legislation to amend the Constitution so that there was greater devolution of powers to the grass-roots level particularly to the Panchayats and cooperatives.

Mr. Gandhi was speaking at the 11th Indian Cooperative Congress.

Mr. Gandhi said that unfortunately, there were existing laws in the country which were not instrumental in strengthening the cooperative movement. He said some of our laws were not good. In the States there are laws which were against strengthening the cooperative movement.

The Prime Minister said that he had asked the Chief Ministers to change these laws. Vested interests particularly in the cooperative sector had even been successful in circumventing the laws. He had been feeling that there was no adequate devolution of powers or authority in the decision-making process and the entire system was vitiated. The Government had tried to improve this situation. We will now bring constitutional amendments for the devolution of these powers to the lower level. One part of the problem was that at the lower level, particularly in the rural areas at the grass-roots level we do not get adequate inputs.

Mr. Gandhi said sometimes we fixed targets which were actually unattainable. The local administration gets into a quandary because they were not in a position to meet these targets. They used various methods to meet the targets which are not actually realised. The planners, were hardly aware of the problems that are prevailing in the fields. It was, therefore, in this context that the Government was keen to devolve more powers to the grass-roots

level so that there was overall development and progress.

Separate Ministry for Coop Development Urged

Separate Ministry for Cooperative Development at the Centre has been recommended by the 11th Indian Cooperative Congress which concluded on 22nd January 1989.

The three-day Congress which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, also recommended that cooperative development should be included in the Directive Principles of State Policy by amending the Constitution.

The Congress is the highest forum of the Indian Cooperative Movement which meets after every three years.

India's PM Stresses role of Coop Banks

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has asked the cooperative banks to be innovative in management. He also said that it was essential to break the nexus between big industrial houses and commercial banking. In this context, cooperative banks played a vital role by providing finance to entrepreneurs, weaker sections of the society, and mobilising deposits, he added.

Inaugurating the golden jubilee celebration of the Bombay Mercantile Cooperative Bank he said they have been playing a vital role in the country right from the time of freedom movement. They have always enjoyed a special position in the development process, he added.

As banks grew big, they faced the problems of losing their democratic structure and dominant groups emerged pushing the people into the background, he said.

According to him, a democratic structure in the management of banks underlined the need to have local knowledge, local identification, personalised service and strong links with the ordinary members of the banks.

IFFCO Bags FICCI Award

Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has won the prestigious award for 1988 instituted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI), for rural development.

IFFCO is the first fertiliser cooperative to bag this award for initiating various programmes of rural development in the country.

During the last decade, it conducted over 8,600 'two plot' demonstrations comparing recommended practices of fertiliser use with farmers' traditional practices. The block demonstrations covering an area of 40,000 hectares on different crops have benefited over 2.5 mil. farmers. More than three lakh mini-kits containing improved seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, have been distributed among small and marginal farmers in 1,150 villages.

Relying on the concept of single-window system, IFFCO has opened 150 farmer service centres where all essential agricultural inputs along with technical know-how are made available under one roof.

NDDB Achievements

The National Dairy Development Board spent about Rs. 7,395 million from 1970 till February 1989, under various phases of the Operation Flood programme.

The average utilisation of milk plants in January 1989 in the project area as a whole was about 86 per cent. In 34 milk sheds, utilisation exceeded the capacity.

Blooms for the Flower Power

It's like selling coal to Newcastle. The All-India Scheduled Castes Development Cooperative Society has bagged Rs. 200 million worth orders to export flowers to Holland, the land of tulips.

Between October this year and May next year, the society will export a wide range of exotic flowers, produced at its 585-acre 100 per cent export-oriented flowers and vegetable project near Bangalore.

The quantities of flowers to be supplied are: Rose 13.3 million, carnation 9 million, gerbera 3 million, gladiolus 7 million, alstroemeria 5.5 million, chrysanthemum 7 million, orchid 0.5 million and anthurium 2 million.

The project near Bangalore, when completed, will have the world's biggest and most modern computer-controlled glass-house covering 50 acres, a computer-controlled drip irrigation system, and modern grading and packing houses.

It will provide employment to nearly 4,750 persons, mostly from weaker sections.

The society notes in a press release that considerable scope exists for India to boost its foreign exchange earnings, if it carries out flower exports in a planned manner.

Garment unit with Japanese Tie-up on Stream

An 100 per cent export-oriented Rs. 20 million joint sector garment factory, the first with Japanese collaboration has been started at Madras.

Located at the free-trade zone of Madras and christened the "All India Handloom and Nippon Apparels Corporation Pvt Ltd.", it will have a 51 per cent equity holding by the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd and 49 per cent from the Japanese collaborators, the Sumitomo Corporation and Shuno Apparels.

To begin with, this company will export 25,000 pieces of shirts to Japan. Equipped with all imported machinery, it hopes to export garments worth Rs. 50 million in the very first year.

Coops of Disabled Urged

The National Association of Disabled Enterprises is a Bombay-based social organisation for their employment, resettlement and rehabilitation. It would assist, guide, train and support individuals as well as groups of handicapped people to organise, run, develop and spread self-employment-oriented activities like industrial cooperatives, workshops, small-scale cottage and village industries, shops and stalls.

Statistics showed that there were over 100 million handicapped people in India and in these days of tough competition, even educated and trained handicapped persons found it extremely difficult to compete in the open labour market to find good suitable jobs.

In a country like India, where a handicapped person's prospects of obtaining work were minimal, the scenario was particularly disturbing as some 80 per cent of the handicapped population lived in rural areas where rehabilitation facilities were the least advanced.

A cooperative of the handicapped would be managed by the worker-members themselves.

It would distribute profits according to work input rather than capital input. The cooperative would be democratic where mutual aid, social development

personal freedom and skills were built-in features. In a cooperative of the handicapped there was direct involvement of the members in the formulation of policies and programmes while the cost of rehabilitation was shared by them. Already a number of such successful business units and cooperatives had come up and many more were in the process of being set up in Maharashtra and other states. In Maharashtra 40 cooperatives of the handicapped have already been established.

Coop. Colleges : Making Education Relevant to Needs

In Andhra Pradesh, a State in India, the Government has announced a policy decision of the State Government to establish colleges in the cooperative sector. It is hoped that the cooperative colleges would ensure greater involvement and support of parents and the public in the management of higher education.

Briefly, the proposal envisaged the establishment of self-financing junior colleges as cooperatives, managed by executive committees elected by the parents of students enrolled in them. The colleges so established would enjoy considerable autonomy in the matter of regulating tuition fees, introducing new courses of study and in the overall management. They would have infrastructural facilities including a well-equipped workshop which they would share with the local high schools providing vocational education. Thus a special feature of the "cooperative community college" is its collective public management to provide education relevant to local needs.

Chetna: Cooptex Queen

Ms. Chetna was crowned Cooptex Queen at the first-year beauty contest organised by Cooptex the Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society, at a glittering and colourful show held at Ashoka Hotel in Delhi.

Nandini and Madhuri Sundari, both students of the Delhi University, were declared the first and second runners-up respectively.

The Handloom Queen contest was held for the first time only for the residents of Delhi mainly with the objective of promoting handloom fabrics.

Milk Price Hike for Benefit of Coops

The recent milk price hike by the Mother Dairy was

necessitated by a need to pay better rates to several thousand members of milk cooperatives whose very survival was at stake.

The cost of all inputs required for milk production had increased sharply in the past three and a half years, when last milk prices had undergone a revision. "The price increase was made for the (milk) federations to survive as the milk intake had gone down considerably and to enable them to pay better prices to the producer-members".

The spokesman said the cooperative members, most of whom are poor landless or marginal land holders, "certainly need to be paid better prices from time to time".

New M.D. of NCDC

Mr. J.K. Arora IAS has taken over as the Managing Director of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, according to a Press release.

Mr. Arora is an IAS officer of the 1964 batch from the Karnataka cadre, and has worked as Secretary, Agriculture, Horticulture and Fisheries in Karnataka and as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, looking after Fertilizer and then Administration and International Cooperation.

New Chief of NCUI

Mr. P.K. Agarwal, IAS has taken over as the Chief Executive of National Cooperative Union in place of Mr. Raj Singh, who repatriated to his parental cadre. He belongs to the Indian Administrative Service.

New MD of NCCF

Mr. A. Bhattacharya, an I.A.S. officer has been appointed as Managing Director of National Cooperative Consumers Federation replacing Mr. D.K. Chatterjee who has been the Managing Director for a short time.

"Jawaharlal Nehru: His Vision of Cooperatives"—Book Release by the Indian Prime Minister

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi released the book on "Jawaharlal Nehru—His Vision of Cooperatives", by Dr. R.C. Dwivedi. Based on intensive research the book is comprehensive in its contents, original in its analysis and most authentic in its references. It is the first and the only book on the subject so far written. Its price is US \$ 30/- within India Rs. 300.00 and is available at The Coop Times, D-64, Saket, New Delhi 110 017.

JAPAN

Basic Strategy of Agricultural Cooperatives Looking Toward The 21st Century

The year 2000 will fall on the 100th year from the days of the cooperative societies for agricultural cooperatives. Agricultural cooperatives, as a cooperative association of farmers, have continued efforts through the turbulent 20th century to improve the livelihood of the member-farmers, promote agriculture and the rural community, and develop Japan's economic society.

Farmers and the rural community are presently confronted with great difficulties.

Agriculture and agricultural cooperatives are also subjected to a marked change in their environments as instanced by the alteration of a price policy for farm products and of the import adjustment system, and intensified competition due to the progress of financial deregulation.

The economic society surrounding agriculture and the rural community is expected to undergo a major change, centering on four factors—(1) internationalization, (2) deregulation, (3) aging, and (4) "Informationization" (society in which importance is attached to the role of information)—with progress toward the 21th century.

However, we hope that the member-farmers and entire staff, overcoming such difficulties, will make concerted efforts to reform the activity and organization of agricultural cooperatives with a view to achieving new development, and marching ahead toward the reconstruction of Japanese agriculture and the revitalization of the regional community. That is why we have mapped out the "basic strategy of agricultural cooperatives looking toward the 21st century."

JJC sets up an Examination Group on Basic Problems of Cooperatives Overseas

On December 21, 1988, the Japan Joint Committee of Cooperatives (JJC) decided to set up an examination group on basic problems facing overseas cooperatives. JJC is composed of national-level organizations of agricultural cooperatives, consumers' cooperatives, fisheries cooperatives and forest-owners' cooperatives. The formation of the study group is intended to allow JJC to take an active part not only in hardware problems but also in discussions

at the Tokyo Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), which Japan is scheduled to host in 1992.

The 1980 ICA Congress in Moscow, held on the theme of "Cooperatives in the Year 2000," and the 1988 ICA Congress, which took place in Stockholm on the theme of "Cooperatives and Basic Values," were devoted to discussions centered on the fundamental problems facing cooperatives. These discussions can be evaluated as having been highly significant from the standpoint of furthering the advance of the cooperative movement. JJC has decided to study these basic problems in a new perspective so that the cooperative movement in Japan may make impressive strides using the 1992 ICA Tokyo Congress as the springboard.

The examination group will comprise four experts on cooperative affairs—Isao Ito, professor at Sega University, Atsushi Shirai, professor at Kogakuin University and Masao Miwa, professor at Kokugakuin University—and leaders of JJC member-organizations such as the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (ZENCHU), the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union, the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives, and those of other national federations of agricultural cooperatives.

The group will study, for the time being, "basic values of cooperatives," a "re-examination of the basic principles of cooperatives" and the actual conditions of cooperatives at different stages of socio-economic development, and points at issue."

Cooptrade Japan's New Overseas Office Opens in USA West Coast Winter 1989

COOPTRADE JAPAN, JCCU's subsidiary company dealing with foreign trade for the consumer cooperatives in Japan, will open its seventh overseas office in San Francisco, the USA, in January 1989. The office will be located in the same building in which NAF. Nordisk Andelsforbund, has its office.

The purposes are: (1) to strengthen and to expand its business capacity of import, especially agri-products, from the USA; and (2) to take the advantages of joint purchase with NAF.

COOPTRADE JAPAN, established in 1965, has business relationship with cooperatives and corporations in 24 foreign countries. The annual business volume in 1987 amounted at 30 billion yen. 70% of the products handled are marine ones, i.e. shrimp, sal-

mon, herring roe, eel, crab, shellfish, etc. 12% are food items, i.e. spaghetti, frozen food, fruits, meat, etc. 8% are clothes. The rest, 10% are non-food products.

For The Benefit of Campus Life : University Coops.

There are 159 university cooperatives in 153 Universities and colleges with 925, 923 members in Japan (March 1988). Their annual business volume is Yen 134 billion (March 1987). The National Federation of University Cooperative Associations (NFUCA) is a central organisation of university cooperatives in Japan which has both functions of wholesaling and representing the movement.

The most characteristic feature of the university coops in Japan is the fact that not only teaching staffs and employees in the university/college but also students are members of the coop.

The university cooperatives run a wide range of business types such as book store, daily commodity store, catering, tourism, ticket/service agency and insurance.

The University cooperatives have been playing an important role for the development of the community-type consumer cooperatives particularly since 1960's when some of the leading coops were founded thanks to the financial and manpower assistance by the university cooperatives. The university cooperatives practically educate students in cooperative ideas.

EVOLUTION OF UNIVERSITY CO-OPS IN JAPAN

Year	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1987
No. of Societies	92	128	138	143	158	159
No. of members (thousands)	468	659	732	792	897	926
Annual Turnover (Billion Yen)	9.6	20.6	51.6	90.6	125.7	134.0

PAKISTAN

Committee on Cooperatives

A report of the Committee on Cooperatives was recently submitted to the National Commission on Agriculture, Pakistan. Chapter-V of the Committee Report contained a summary of its recommendations. These are reproduced hereunder:

Summary of Recommendations

(1) Cooperatives are not only social welfare organi-

zations but economic entities established to ameliorate the economic conditions of their members. They provide the best or the near-best organizational mechanism for taking up an economic activity. It is, therefore imperative to clarify thinking and dis-abuse the mind on the reformist and panacea approach of the cooperatives. There is thus need for re-defining a 'cooperative' keeping in view all its operational aspects particularly when the system has the potential to play a much bigger role in the growth of rural economy.

(2) In opting for cooperatives as economic organizations being private in form but public in spirit, these should be recognized as third option via media between the public sector and the private sector.

(3) One of the main reasons for their ineffectiveness is their involvement and pre-occupation with credit only. There is thus need to develop the cooperatives as viable business enterprises dovetailing them with marketing and processing and non-agricultural rural activities.

(4) Emphasis should be on multi-purpose cooperatives engaged in marketing and processing. For this purpose certain activities should be identified to be specifically reserved for cooperative business e.g. supply of inputs, marketing of perishable and non-perishable commodities including their export, processing and utilization of agricultural waste, workshops for agricultural machinery, dairy industry, electric power distribution and rural housing. There should be atleast one viable multi-purpose cooperative enterprise in area conforming to union council or a part thereof, initially to supply services of interest to farmers.

(5) The role of the Cooperative Department should be confined only to registration of the cooperative societies, their audit, liquidation and recovery.

(6) Cooperative Banking should be made a self-supporting system to both mobilize savings and provide banking service in agricultural and non-agricultural activities in the rural areas. For the purpose FBC system should be allowed to set up branches in villages gradually developing as rural banking system or alternatively one of the Commercial Banks be merged with FBC system and the present net work of Commercial Banks in the rural areas, given under the control of the proposed system.

(7) Promotion and development of the cooperatives should be entrusted to cooperative unions/federations.

(8) To try the proposed system, Federal Bank should set up a few pilot projects in selected areas.

(9) An apex organisation with the nomenclature of "National Council of Cooperatives (NACCO)" should be established to act as clearing house of ideas and to help/assist in formulating policies and guidelines for the promotion of cooperative principles, training and education in cooperative discipline, and a forum of coordination of the activities of the Government and Non-Government organisations (NGOs) engaged in cooperatives and cooperative related activities. The proposed Council may be headed by the Federal Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives with three Vice Chairmen of whom one may be non-official and the other Chairman FBC Board of Directors and the Deputy Chairman, Planning.

(10) The existing cooperative law should be amended to conform to the present day situation.

Development of Project Planning Capabilities: Technical Assistance from Italy

The Federal Bank for Cooperatives after providing short term and medium term financing to the cooperatives of the country for more than a decade, had come to the stage where it felt the need for developing capabilities not only with itself but also with the Provincial Cooperative Banks for providing technical guidance to the cooperatives to enable them to undertake investment ventures. For the purpose, it approached the Government of Pakistan for locating a donor. The Government of Italy agreed to assist the Federal Bank in this behalf under its bilateral assistance programme. DAM (a consulting agency of cooperative organization in Italy) has been approved as executing agency on behalf of the Government of Italy. Its experts have reached the country to undertake their assignment. Briefly the project is as under:—

Main Objectives: (1) To concentrate and improve the capabilities to identify, appraise and monitor medium and long-term investment projects through the establishment of the Project Planning Units (PPUs) in the Federal Bank for Cooperatives (FBC) and the Provincial Cooperative Banks (PCBs); (2) To promote immediate investment opportunities in the cooperative sector through the enlargement of the project planning and programming base; (3) To strengthen the linkages of the Federal Bank for Cooperatives with other

Governmental bodies and financial institutions for their coordination in the process of project planning and implementation; and to disseminate findings and results of the Project at the decision making levels.

Strategy: (a) To centralize the project planning capabilities of the cooperative sector at the Federal and Provincial levels. (b) To establish the Project Planning Units first, at the level of the Federal bank for Cooperatives and second, at the level of the Provincial Cooperative Banks with the support of the Teaching Staff of the FBC Training Institute. (c) To assign different functions to the FBC/PPU (appraisal of the projects) and the PCB/PPUs (identification and preparation of the projects). (d) To acquire training services by the executing agency to the implementation of the Project on the basis of the experience of the Italian Cooperative Institutions and the transfer of their knowledge and skill.

Modus Operandi: (1) Group training programme (seminar/workshop and study tour) in Italy. (2) Training programme in the country through the survey of the existing situation and needs and the preparation of the manual for the project management and financing. (3) Transfer of the acquired knowledge and skill by the PPU at the Federal level. (4) Fellowship for the FBC/PPU Staff. (5) Teaching training programme in the country for the PCB/PPUs. (6) Preparation of the studies for project planning through selected projects.

Project Output: The following outputs will be produced to achieve the objects of the projects: (i) Projects Planning Units will have been established with a nucleus team of Director Incharge, Agricultural Economist, Financial Analyst, Project Planner and Cooperative Management Specialist. (ii) Staff of the Units will have been trained adequately through action-oriented programmes and fellowships. (iii) A number of investment projects will have been taken up in all the Provinces through Cooperative Institutions. (iv) Action will have been initiated on improving the infrastructure conducive to investment opportunities.

PHILIPPINES

ABD to provide technical assistance for Institutional Strengthening of the Land Bank of the Philippines.

The institutional and administrative capacity of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to provide a systematic, comprehensive and sustainable credit

delivery programme will be enhanced by the provision of a \$500,000 technical assistance grant from the Asian Development Bank.

The technical assistance will also enable LBP, a commercially oriented, financially strong Government bank which was established in 1963, to gradually assume an expanded role as the Government agriculture development bank.

The technical assistance is expected to improve LBP's producers and operations to foster an expanded credit delivery system through private and cooperative rural banks, farmer-based cooperatives, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector suppliers.

The technical assistance is expected to involve 20 man-months of consultants. It will be undertaken by a team with expertise in agricultural development banking systems, credit management, institutional development and training and farm management.

Coop Requisites Simplified

The requirements for the registration of cooperatives have been reduced and simplified, it was announced recently by the Bureau of Agricultural Cooperative Development (BACOD).

The circular requires a cooperative for registration only the following:

1. Articles of incorporation with the treasurer's affidavit on paid-up capital and by-laws;
2. Minutes of the organization meeting;
3. Minutes of the first meeting of the board of directors;
4. Certificate of completion of the premembership seminar in the case of primary cooperatives; and
5. Registration fee in money order payable to cooperative Education and Training Fund, Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP).

Registration fees for the different types of cooperatives are: federation/union on the national level, P 100; provincial federation/union or full-fledged cooperative engaged in business activity, P 50; provincial federation/union not engaged in business activity, P 25; and pre-operatives, P 10.

Cooperative's membership requirements and capital contributions are as follows: Pre-cooperative, at least 15 members with minimum paid up capital of P

1,000; full-fledged cooperative, 25 members with minimum paid up capital of P 5,000; secondary cooperative, not less than P 25,000 paid up capital and membership of not less than two cooperative organizations.

SINGAPORE

Invest in Co-op Ventures

Much publicity has been given in recent months to the formation of a league of credit coops resulting in a 13-man Protem Committee being elected at the SNCF Forum held on 21 May 1988 at the Plaza Hotel.

Mr. A.A. David, SNCF General Secretary addressing the 2nd Coop Representatives Seminar of the Singapore Mercantile Coop Thrift and Loan Society on 28 May, 1988 at the Amara Hotel said that the services and benefits that could be derived from the league are undoubtedly numerous and attractive. "The league can take care of your fine management, computerisation and general administration. A credit coop has more to gain by joining the league than by remaining outside it," he said.

He proposed that societies "With \$2 million put in fixed deposits could seriously think of finding ways to get more than what FDs can offer. Do look into this possible diversification for your coop activities."

"In addition, a Society could explore the feasibility of investing some funds with one or two other societies to help start a coop computer training school which has recently been formed, or a coop for the senior citizens providing these members with recreational, health-care, medical food, accommodation and travel facilities," he suggested. Earlier he traced the development of the 63-year old Coop Movement from 1925 when the first society, the Singapore Govt. Servant's Cooperative Thrift and Loan Society was registered followed by two others in the same month and in the same year, too. The Singapore Mercantile Cooperative Thrift and Loan Society was registered in 1926 making it belong "to the early group of pioneers in the history of the movement in Singapore."

On the 2nd Coop Representatives' Seminar, he said that SNCF was pleased that the Society had organised it to give an opportunity to members concerned to get to know one another and to understand the significant role they are playing to help the Coop grow from strength to strength. "Please keep up the cooperative spirit for it is

through cooperation that we became more productive and progressive and ultimately contributed towards the welfare of the society."

THAILAND

The Cooperative League of Thailand, an apex organization representing the cooperative movement in Thailand, at its extra-ordinary general meeting on 10th February 1989, the Board of Directors has elected Col. Surin Cholpraserd as Chairman of the Cooperative League of Thailand.

Col. Surin Cholpraserd, 65 years, former Director-General of the Cooperative Promotion Department, is currently the President of the Consumer Cooperative Federation of Thailand Ltd. He has been elected to the board of directors of the League by the representatives of cooperatives at the general meeting. He will take the office at the League for a term of 2 years.

NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

USSR

Coops Hard Hit by Armenian Earthquake

The International Cooperative Alliance has launched an international appeal in favour of cooperators affected by the Dec. 7, 1988, earthquake disaster in Armenia.

Cooperatives in the cities of Leninalcan, Kirovokan, and Spitak suffered heavy losses, with practically all stores, warehouses, and means of transport destroyed.

Financial donations may be sent to CENTROSOYUS through the USSR Bank for External Economic Affairs in Moscow, Account No. 70103003, with the mention ICA APPEAL — ARMENIAN COOPERATORS.

Assistance in Kind should be sent directly to a Central Coop Warehouse in Armenia at this address: Armglavkooopsnab. Aikoop, Artashat, Shaumyan, Armenia SSR, U.S.S.R.

Please notify immediately if there is any change in your mailing address.

— Editor

OBITUARY

— **Mrs. Margaret D'Cruz**, former Education Officer (W & Y), ICAROA, died on 24th March 1989. She was 62. Margaret had joined ICA RO in 1960. She had retired in February 1987 on completing 60 years. She was dedicated to the cause of cooperation in general and involvement of women and youth in cooperative movement in particular. Her services will be long remembered.

The staff members of the ICA Regional Office for Asia adopted unanimously the following condolence resolution which was sent to her husband, Mr. Ivon D'Cruz.

"We the staff members of the ICA Regional Office for Asia, New Delhi, are deeply grieved and shocked to learn of the sad and untimely demise of our former colleague, Mrs. Margaret D'Cruz, on 24th March, 1989. Margaret was one of our oldest and valued colleague. She was devoted to her work in the office which she always carried out with efficiency.

Her sudden demise has left a deep and irreparable void in our midst. She was a good friend to all and we will always cherish the memory of her genial and cheerful personality.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to you and pray that the departed soul may rest in peace.

May God give you strength to bear this irreparable loss."

Mr. Gulabrao Patil, former General Secretary of National Cooperative Union of India and a life long devoted cooperative leader died in January 1989, due to cardiac arrest. He had occupied distinguished elective positions in his Maharashtra a state in India, to which he belonged. The Cooperative movement has lost an experienced and devoted leader in his demise.

Nils Thedin Expires: The cooperative world had a shocking news about the sudden demise of an eminent and dedicated Swedish Cooperator, Mr. Nils Thedin on 1st February 1989. He was recently awarded the highest cooperative award by his country. The ICA ROA and Asian Coop News offer their condolences to the bereaved family. His services to the World Cooperative Movement will always be remembered with appreciation.

VISITS AND VISITORS

VISITS OF ICA/ROA OFFICERS: January-March 1989

Mr. G.K. Sharma	16-20 February 1989 1-6 March 1989 11-16 March 1989 18-30 March 1989	India (Ahmedabad) Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia & Singapore China USSR, Italy & Switzerland
Mr. J.M. Rana	15-22 January 1989 2-5 February 1989 15-20 February 1989 11 March - 8 April 1989	India (Baroda) India (Varanasi) Thailand Switzerland
Mr. Sten Dahl	18-21 January 1989 4-20 February 1989 22-31 March 1989	Thailand Thailand and Philippines Thailand
Mr. M.V. Madane	24-30 January 1989 7 Feb. - 30 March 1989	Pakistan Japan
Mr. W.U. Herath	10-21 January 1989 28 Feb - 14 March 1989 21 March - 1 April 1989	Thailand Indonesia, Philippines and Singapore Thailand & Bangladesh

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

- World Headquarters
Route des Morillons, CH-1218
Le Grand Saconnex, Geneva-1.
Switzerland Tel: 798-4121.
Telefax: 798-4122. Telex: 415620. ICA CH
Cable: Interallia
- Regional Office for East, Central and Southern Africa. Post Box No. 946, Moshi, Tanzania
Tel: 4706/4708. Telex: 43118 TARIMO TZ
Cable: Interallia
- Regional Office for Asia
"Bonow House", 43 Friends Colony (East)
New Delhi 110 065. India
Tel: 683-5123. Telefax: 91-11-6835568
Telex: 31-75025 DICA IN.
Cable: Interallia
- Regional Office for West Africa
Immeuble de la Caisse de
Soutien des Prix Agricoles
01 BP 3969. Abidjan 01, Ivory Coast
Tel: 324327. Telex: 22629 ACIABJ CI
Cable: Interallia

Principles of Cooperation

1. Membership of a cooperative society should be voluntary and available without artificial restriction or any social, political, racial or religious discrimination, to all persons who can make use of its services and are willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.

2. Cooperative societies are democratic organisations. Their affairs should be administered by persons elected or appointed in a manner agreed by the members and accountable to them. Members of primary societies should enjoy equal right of voting (one member, one vote) and participation in decisions affecting their societies. In other than primary societies the administration should be conducted on a democratic basis in a suitable form.

3. Share capital should only receive a strictly limited rate of interest, if any.

4. Economic results arising out of the operations of a society belong to the members of that society and should be distributed in such a manner as would avoid one member gaining at the expense of others.

This may be done by decision of the members as follows:-

- (a) By provision for development of the business of Cooperative;
- (b) By provision of common services; or
- (c) By distribution among the members in proportion of their transactions with the Society.

5. All cooperative societies should make provision for the education of their members, officers and employees and of the general public, in the principles and techniques of Cooperation, both economic and democratic.

6. All cooperative organisations, in order to best serve the interests of their members and their communities should actively cooperate in every practical way with other cooperatives at local, national and international levels.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
Regional Office for Asia, "Bonow House"
43 Friends Colony, New Delhi 110 065. India

T'phone: 683-5123. Telefax: 91-11-683-5568. Telex: 31-75025-DICA-IN. Cable: Interallia



ASIAN COOP NEWS

ISSUE NO. 2 April-June 1989

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

67th INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE DAY

Saturday, July 1, 1989. Message from the International Cooperative Alliance

"UNITY IN DIVERSITY"

The ICA represents almost 600,000,000 individual members worldwide. These members are drawn from every area of our world, every social and economic sector, every political party and every religious denomination.

Unity in this diverse membership is possible because cooperators are united by a common ideal: the economic and social advancement of people everywhere through democratic, voluntary, member-owned organizations run in the interests of the whole community and based upon mutual self-help.

For almost a century, this unity of purpose has permitted ICA, the movement's apex organization, to represent the interests of its diverse constituencies and to articulate their needs at the national, regional and international levels.

During his address to the 29th Congress of the ICA, in Stockholm in July 1988, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, stated:

"The International Cooperative Movement in general, and the ICA in particular, have been a model of international collaboration; they serve as a source of inspiration to all.

The ICA is one of the few organizations in the world where North/South and East/West find a common meeting ground."

"Unity in Diversity is more than a theme or slogan in ICA" stressed Mr. Perez de Cuellar. "It is a daily work ethic".

The International Cooperative Alliance calls on its large and diverse constituency of members to live up to these motivating words.

Peace and prosperity are possible for all nations, for we are all working towards the same objective-even if we have taken different roads to reach our goals.

Let us as cooperators make "Unity in Diversity" our work ethic not only on this International Cooperative Day-1989, but on each and every day of our lives.

CONTENTS

ICA Head Office	...	1
ICA Regional Office	...	2
News from Asia	...	12
Visits and Visitors	...	15

Support **ASCON** by feeding with News and Events in your Country & Organisation. Also please send your suggestions. Please inform us immediately of any change in your mailing address.

ICA EXECUTIVE MEETING IN ESALZBURG, JUNE 1989.

The Executive Committee of the ICA held its meeting on 20th June 1989 at Salzburg. Some of the decisions are reproduced below:

Membership Report: The Executive Committee accepted the following organizations to ICA membership:

1. Ghana Cooperative Consumer Association Ltd.
2. Alliance Cooperative au Rwanda
3. Cooperative Marketing Federation, Ltd., Sri Lanka
4. General Union of Crafts and Societies, Syria
5. All-India Federation of Cooperative Spinning Mills, India

The Centro Cooperativista Uruguayo was deleted from membership.

CONFEDCOOP, Chile was reinstated to membership.

The Executive asked that the Secretariat amend the Membership Application Form to include a question which asked applicants to explain why they sought ICA membership.

Basic Values Project: The Committee approved: the appointment of Mr. Sven Ake Book as Project Director for the ICA Research Project on Basic Values. The Project Director would prepare and present the Project report to the Congress in 1992; that the Secretariat invite the proposed candidates to serve on the Project Advisory Committee; to propose to the Central Committee in October that the appointment of an International Committee of Experts be deferred until 1992; that Mr. Book be invited to the meeting of the Executive Committee in New Delhi to review his proposed workplan and budget.

Membership and Finance: The committee decided that a 5 per cent penalty should be assessed to late dues-payers. They agreed that the deadline for payment of annual dues be extended to 1 August and that members requiring leniency measures should contact the Secretariat in writing.

The Committee agreed that the Secretariat should continue to identify and approach possible new members.

Minimum Subscriptions: The Executive agreed to propose to the Central Committee in New Delhi to gradually increase the minimum subscriptions on an annual basis starting in 1990 and ending in 1998 when it would reach Sfrs. 5000.

The Committee further agreed that members of ICA Regional Offices in developing countries currently meeting Regional Office requirements should be exempted from this increase.

Other Business: At the request of the Regional Council for Asia the Executive gave its approval for Centrosoyuz (USSR) to become a member of the Regional Office for Asia.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ICA Seeks New Regional Director

The post of Regional Director for West Africa will be vacant from 1 January, 1990. Applications from persons with at least ten years' experience of co-operative development work at senior level in a national co-operative organization or government department should be addressed to the Director of ICA stating age, qualifications and salary expected. Closing date is 30 September, 1989.

International Literacy Day

On September 8, UNESCO will be celebrating the last International Literacy Day before International Literacy Year (1990). This year's International Literacy Day will concentrate its efforts on taking stock of what has been achieved and what remains to be done in order to eradicate illiteracy by the year 2000. Information may be obtained from UNESCO, 7 place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris.

ICA REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA

31st Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for Asia

The 31st Meeting of the ICA Council for Asia was held at the New World Hotel, Seoul (Korea) on 15th May 1989. The ceremonial meeting was presided over by Dr. Ho-Sun Han, Chairman & President of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), Korea. Besides the Regional Councillors and Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director, ICA, there was a select gathering of cooperators from the Cooperative Movement of Korea who attended the meeting.

The Chief Guests were H.E. Kim Sik, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Hon'ble Mr. Chong-Ki Kim, Chairman of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea.

In his Opening Address, Dr. Ho-Sun Han, Chairman & President of NACF said: "For the past 28 years since 1962, I have been working for the agricultural cooperative movement in my country and thus I am fully aware of the important role played by the ICA in propagating cooperative principles and methods and in promoting collaboration among cooperatives under the excellent leadership of ICA Director, Mr. Thordarson. Also I would like to point out that the activities of the ICA Regional

Office for Asia have been significantly strengthened in recent years, led by the ICA Regional Director, Mr. Sharma. The Asian region is now emerging as the centre of the world cooperative movement by accounting for more than 60 per cent of world individual membership of the ICA numbering around 600 million persons. In this regard, this Seoul Meeting of the ICA Regional Council for Asia is the most important gathering of cooperative leaders in this Region. Furthermore, the ICA Central Committee Meeting for this year will be held in New Delhi, India in October, and the 1992 ICA Congress is scheduled to be held in Tokyo, Japan. It seems to be very significant that these two important ICA Meetings will be held in Asia for the first time since the establishment of the ICA in 1895. I am sure that these ICA meetings will provide an important opportunity for the Asian cooperative movement to be familiar with the cooperators in other parts of the world".

In his Address, H.E. Kim Sik, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, said: "As I understand, the ICA was founded in 1895 as an international association of national unions of cooperative organisations. Its purpose is to propagate cooperative principles and methods throughout the world and to promote friendly and economic cooperation relations between cooperative organisations of all types. I am aware of the fact that the ICA has already become a very important global cooperative organisation with about 600 million individual members represented by 183 cooperative organisations from 72 countries around the world... In Korea, different types of cooperatives, such as agricultural cooperatives, fisheries cooperatives and livestock cooperatives, have played crucial roles for the rural development as well as for the enhancement of economic and social status of rural population. In particular, during the last two decades, the agricultural cooperatives in Korea have contributed much to increasing farmers' income and developing rural economy through improvement of agricultural credit service, efficient supply of various farm inputs and a systematic marketing of agricultural products".

In his Congratulatory Address, Hon. Chong-Ki Kim, Chairman of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Committee of the National Assembly, said: "The ideal of the cooperative movement is to enhance the economic and social status of members through mutual help. I fully understand that in developing countries the cooperative movement is considered as a critical factor for the improvement of rural economy and development of a well-balanced national economy. In this respect, I set a high value on the fact that the rural cooperatives in Korea, such as agricultural cooperatives, fisheries cooperatives and livestock cooperatives

have exerted their strenuous efforts for the establishment of high-income welfare rural communities in close collaboration with the government. However, I may point out that the rural cooperatives operating in Korea have not enjoyed voluntary and active participation of members due to the top-down organisation and operation and thus have not reached the development stage where they can fully satisfy the diversified demands of their members. Accordingly, it was urgently needed to promote democratic and autonomous operation of rural cooperatives in order to induce more voluntary participation of members in the cooperative movement".

In his address, Mr. Bruce Thordarson, Director, ICA said: "I think this meeting is taking place at an extremely important time in the history of ICA and the history of cooperatives in Asia. The delegates at the ICA Congress in Stockholm last July essentially identified two priority areas on which ICA and its structure should be concentrating their attention during the next four years. The first priority was the intensified study of linkage between cooperative basic values and economic concepts. The ICA has begun and will be doing at the 1992 Congress a major report which will address such questions as to what is the fundamental difference between a cooperative organisation and other forms of economic enterprise, to what extent our cooperatives in different parts of the world are successful in applying basic values; does the representation of cooperative values necessitate re-formulation of Cooperative Principles. I think these are very fundamental questions for all our organisations. I hope that the Regional Council as a body and all the ICA members in Asia will take up this task of studying the linkage between cooperative basic values and economic success. I think the rest of the cooperative movement has to learn from Asia. The ICA's second priority was continued that over 50% of cooperative members around the world are to be found in the so-called developing countries and if ICA has to be a true organisations, it must reflect that and that is why in October this year the Central Committee will meet for the first time in its history not only in India, a developing country, but in Asia and the 1992 ICA Congress will meet for the first time in Japan. I think this is a very important long-term change and that is why it is an important opportunity for me to be with you here on this occasion to renew old friendship with Asian cooperators, to meet new people and to listen to your deliberations and the guidelines which you will give for the future operation of the ICA as a whole and the ICA ROA in particular".

In his address, Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, ICA ROA, said: "We are very happy and feel encouraged with the presence of Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture,

Forestry & Fisheries and the Hon'ble Chairman of the Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries Committee of the National Assembly. This meeting of the Council in Korea is of very great significance. This is because of, as the Hon'ble Minister mentioned, the rapid growth which this country is making as also the cooperatives are making. The economy has grown by 12.1% and the per capita income increased by 30% compared to last year. Similarly progress has been made in the cooperative sector also. The average turnover of a primary cooperative in 1988 was about U.S. Dollars 16.7 million which represented an increase of 33% compared to previous year. The turnover of marketing operations of NACF was U.S. Dollars 2.78 billion in 1988, which meant an increase of 25%. Similar growth has been observed in fisheries and livestock sectors. The cooperative sector in Korea is organisationally different compared to other movements in the region. In South Korea the activities are multipurpose not only at primary level, but at national level also. All activities like supply, marketing, consumer goods, insurance, banking etc. are combined at national level; they do not get diversified in specialised organisations. Perhaps combination of all the functions has been a source of strength for them. In Korea, they have made the best use of their resources in rural areas for development of the rural people. The movement has been reorganised, democratised and modernised in recent years. In the 60's the total number of cooperatives in South Korea was 21,100 which has been brought down to 1500. They have reorganised their three-tier structure into two-tier structure in order to reduce the margins at various levels.

"I think the most important strategy to strengthen cooperatives in our region is to give high priority to three factors: (i) mutual cooperation at the national level in various sectors, (ii) regional and international collaboration and transfer of technology, (iii) healthy and organic human relations. At the end, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the NACF and the Cooperative Movement of Korea for agreeing to host this meeting and making excellent arrangements".

In his address, Gen A.S. Lozada, Chairman of the Regional Council for Asia, said: I recall that in 1981 the 23rd Regional Council Meeting was held in this beautiful city of Seoul. For the past 8 years we have experienced and seen a lot of changes here. The statements of the Hon'ble Minister and the Chairman of the Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries Committee of the National Assembly, stated that beginning 1989 the Cooperative Law that has been amended would become applicable. This would mean that the Chairman & President of NACF will no longer be appointed by the

President of the Republic of Korea, but will be elected by 150 Presidents of the Primary Cooperatives. This is a most welcome news to us in Asia. This is in line with the Principles of the ICA that cooperatives must be open, voluntary and that they must be democratic, autonomous and independent.

"ICA has responded to the needs, problems and ideals of the cooperatives throughout the world. There is a growing concern of the the world towards the development of the third world because of the changes in the policies. In October this year, we will have the Central Committee Meeting of the ICA for the first time in our midst in Asia. There will be an innovative approach in the meeting whereby members participation in the discussions will be enhanced. In 1992 we will have the 30th ICA Congress in Japan. This is a welcome news".

"We are also happy about the recognition given to the Asian Region, and to the Regional Council, In 1988, during the ICA 29th Congress in Stockholm, three members of our Council were elected to the Executive Committee of the ICA. The ICA ROA has not only gained momentum over the previous years' accomplishments, but it has done more innovative and responsive activities to achieve planned programmes. We express our appreciation for the assistance given by IDACA."

Recent Changes in the Asian Region

The Regional Councillors reported "Recent Changes, Trends and Developments in their Cooperative Movements" as follows:

Australia

— There are now over 6,000 cooperatives in Australia operating vitrually in every sector of the socio-economic system. AAC provides the focal point for representation of the interests of those cooperatives to the Government and community at large.

— AAC offers commercial services to its members in the following areas: (a) Commercial banking — an investment and loan service for cooperative members, (b) Insurance brokerage services for its corporate members, (c) Training and legal services offered on a fee for service basis, (d) Establishment of a commercial trading department under the chartered name Coop-Trade Australia Pty. Ltd. with effect from November 1988.

— AAC will be hosting the Ministerial Conference sponsored by the ICA Regional Office and the Government

of Australia, together with the Cooperative Trade and Products Exhibition in Sydney, Australia, February of 1990.

— AAC has increased its services to its members and now operates offices in four states across the Australian continent.

Bangladesh

— There are two types of cooperatives — one is 3-tier cooperatives led by National Cooperative Union of Bangladesh and the other is BRDB cooperatives supported by a rural development programme.

— The Government has set up a National Cooperative Policy-Drafting Committee with representatives from BJSU.

— The Government has set up a committee with representatives from BJSU for amendment of certain provisions of the Cooperative Act and Rules.

— On demand by BJSU, government has issued directives to all cooperatives to hold elections for restoration of democratic management and replace all government appointed committees at all levels for complete democratization of cooperatives.

— In collaboration with BJSU, the government with assistance from UNDP, conducted a study on reorganisation and restructuring of cooperatives.

China

— In order to strengthen the services from the cooperatives, primary cooperatives were reduced from 35,000 to 33,000.

— Cooperatives promote and provide technological guidance to the farmers in utilisation of farm inputs. At present consumption of input of fertilizer is 90 M/T and it is not possible to increase it because it will produce effects.

— More attention is being paid to develop agro-processing to increase farmers' income and to increase cooperatives' profit-at present 300 million USD have been invested in building, construction and equipment.

— More attention will be given to export of agricultural produce

— last year the value of export of agricultural produce was about 7.5 billion USD.

— China is facing the problem of high inflation. So the government has decided to decrease the speed of economic development, but as far as cooperatives are concerned, the aim is still to develop cooperative economy. Last year annual turnover was 50 billion

USD, an increase of 30% over the previous year. The profit of last year was about 1 billion USD.

India

— Creation of infrastructure for processing and marketing of agricultural produce.

— Cooperatives have been playing a very important role in strengthening infrastructure particularly for agricultural development.

— Growing diversification of cooperative movement has necessitated an effective programme for human resource development for cooperatives.

— The Government is actively involved in the development of cooperative movement.

Indonesia

— Fishermen's cooperatives were still facing the crucial problem of marketing the members' catch.

— Representatives of the movement and the government were making a study to promote the credit activities in agricultural cooperatives (KUDs).

— In 1987 Dekopin set up a coordinating body of cooperative travel agency "Bhayangkara Travel". In March this year, the coordinating body has been developed into a Tourism, Tour and Travel Cooperative under the Cooperative Law no. 12/1967.

— DEKOPIN has set up a permanent council, called National Council for Cooperative Education, representing the government and the movement to compose policies and standards suitable to the changing needs of cooperatives.

— The DEKOPIN has established a National Cooperative Education Foundation for cooperative higher education.

— The DEKOPIN has set up a committee this year to prepare a seminar to review cooperative education, starting with the curriculum at universities.

— The DEKOPIN and the Ministry of Cooperatives have assigned the Institute for Cooperative Management to undertake a survey on cooperative manpower.

— Youth cooperatives have been organised into a national federation, the KOPINDO.

— Women's participation is widely spread over nearly each type of cooperatives in Indonesia.

— According to Guidelines of State Policy 1988, cooperatives are considered as a means to uplift the standard of living of low income groups.

Japan

Agriculture

- Internationalisation of Japanese economy.
- Impact of internationalisation upon Japanese agricultural and agriculture cooperative movement - expansion of price gap between foreign and domestic farm products.
- Liberalisation of Japanese agricultural market.
- Japanese agricultural cooperators are now cooperating widely with consumers including the members of consumers cooperatives in a standpoint of securing perfect self-sufficiency of basic food-stuffs.
- 18th National Congress of Agricultural Cooperatives was held and the Basic Strategy looking toward the 21st century was decided - reduction of production cost and at the same time strengthening competitiveness of farm products by raising up the quality by expanding the farm scale, rationalisation and reform of management of agricultural cooperatives.
- The Japan Joint Committee of Cooperatives set up a working group on cooperative basic matters which are related with the "Cooperatives and its Basic Values" discussed in the Stockholm Congress in 1988.

Consumers

- Some 12 million coop members belong to more than 650 coop societies throughout the country.
- Retail Coops supplying members with a wide range of consumer products and services and embracing 80% of the total coop membership.
- Medical Coops serving members by operating hospitals and clinics.
- Insurance Coops providing many kinds of life and non-life insurance for members, mostly trade union members.
- Housing Coops supplying houses and housing plots to workers in cooperation with trade unions and labour banks.
- Coop brand products emphasize their image of "safe", "reliable", "healthy" and reasonably priced products.
- Coops are the pioneers of direct transaction with farmers and fishermen - 30% of the food products supplied by coops are shipped directly from the producers, bypassing the wholesalers.
- Joint buying system is very prevalent in the coop's supply system in Japan.

- Formation of "HAN" groups (small organisation group) as the basic organisational unit, each being made up of 5-10 individual members living in the same neighbourhood.

Republic of Korea

- Korean economy grew by 12.2%; agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector grew by 9.0%. The foodgrain production stood at 7.3 million M/T.
- In 1988, NACF concentrated its activities on improving the management of member cooperatives.
- In 1988, the Agricultural Cooperative Law has been further amended to have election of NACF President in April 1990.

Malaysia

- Malaysia is a multi-racial country and each one tends to have its own cooperative organisation.
- We have gone through series of financial crisis — some of the financial cooperatives are being taken over by government.
- CCB has lost all its capital and members deposits, probably amounting to more than M\$ 1 billion.
- ANGKASA places great emphasis on Cooperative Principles - most of the problems have happened partly because of mismanagement of board and partly because the boards of directors surrendered their powers to professional management with the illusion that the professionals do their job better.
- ANGKASA places great emphasis on education. A plan has been worked out together with the Government's Ministry of Education to develop school cooperatives - already some 75% of the secondary schools have cooperatives and all of them are direct members of ANGKASA. By 1991-92, it is hoped to cover 90% of secondary schools with school cooperatives.
- More emphasis is being given to the training of internal auditors. In Malaysia, we are able to train 1600 internal auditors a year by having courses all over the country and by working together with the professional accountants as well as government and our own resources. MATCOM does not have any material on Internal Auditing.
- In order to modernise the movement in Malaysia, time has come to introduce computers in cooperatives - urban cooperatives have taken to computerisation quite well, many have their accounts computerised.
- All cooperatives organised and run by political parties have been a disaster.

Philippines

- Rationalisation of the Cooperative Legal System/ Cooperative Legislation needed.
- Withdrawal of tax incentives to cooperatives.
- Restrictive government policies towards cooperatives
- Absence of formalised cooperative finance system
- Weak structure for providing cooperative education
- Lack of qualified cooperative managers
- Slow capital build up and limited support services.
- Strengthening the cooperative structures - CUP is trying to redefine, develop and strengthen regional and national cooperative structures to strengthen the entire cooperative movement.
- CUP has accepted the challenge to organise beneficiaries of land reform - cooperative laws in the country have a component of land reform programme.

Singapore

- The new Cooperative Societies Act provides a sound legal basis for the development of cooperatives in Singapore.
- Launching of cooperative ventures by the Singapore National Trades Union Congress (NTUC).
- There are 59 registered cooperative societies in Singapore with a total membership of 372,408 and a paid-up capital of over \$111.4 million.
- The Singapore Cooperative Movement has, over the recent years, focused on special purpose projects to cater to the changing need of the socio-economic environment.
- Establishment of a Computer Training School in 1988 focussing on computer education for cooperative members and the general public.
- Registration of a travel service cooperative to cater to the travel needs of members.

Thailand

- There is increase in number of cooperative societies as well as the members. At present, there are 2,800 cooperative societies and the members increased from 2.56 million to about 2.90 million.
- The latest development in the cooperative movement in Thailand is the merging of the National Agricultural Cooperative Training Institute (NACTI) with CLT. Training activities for all types of cooperatives in the country will not be carried out by the CLT.

Sub-Committee on Trade & Industries: Two meetings of the Sub-Committee were held during the year in Kuala Lumpur on 21st to 23rd October, 1988 and from 13th to 15th March, 1989 in Shanghai, China. The Cooptrade Adviser reviewed the activities and steps taken by Cooptrade Project and the members presented country reports at both the meetings.

In the Shanghai Meeting, which was the first meeting of any sub-committee of the ICA Asian region to be held in China, along with the field visit a mini-exhibition was also arranged of the products available for export from China.

The meeting was informed that Mr. Bruce Gunn would be leaving the Cooptrade Project as he has joined the Australian Association of Cooperatives as Manager of International Operations.

Sub-Committee on Consumer Cooperation: Mr. W.U. Herath, Secretary to the Sub-Committee, presented the report.

The meeting of the Sub-Committee was held in Yokohama, Japan, on 10th May, 1989. The report of the previous year was discussed. All the activities were accomplished as per work programme except one i.e. Study of Consumer Cooperatives in India, which had to be postponed due to change in the management of NCCF.

The committee approved the next year's programme as per agenda with the addition of one activity i.e. Orientation Seminar on the Japan University Coops in the Philippines. The committee emphasized to have more country specific and field oriented activities rather than regional activities.

There will be an exchange programme between India and Japan for leaders of consumer cooperatives to have more understanding with each other.

There will be a joint meeting with the ICA Main Consumer Committee in October 1989 at the time of the Central Committee Meeting. A comprehensive document on the regional situation in regard to consumer cooperatives and two sample case studies will be prepared for presentation at the meeting so that we could create more dialogue between the two committee and also discuss about how to strengthen the relationship between the two committees.

Action will be taken to set up a data system in regard to consumer cooperatives using computer technology.

The message of the main Consumer Committee on the Consumers Day was discussed.

The Committee discussed with concern about the environment and population and hazardous commodities coming into the market and creating consumer awareness and appealed to all member organisations to have country specific action plans on this activity.

The Director, ICA emphasized that it would be useful if all the committees of the Regional Council could follow the initiative of the consumer committee and undertake some form of joint activities with their main committees in New Delhi in order to promote more contacts.

Fisheries Sub-Committees: The Member for Malaysia referred to the ICA Sub-Committee for Fisheries for Asia and said that people who went for training in various training courses were not fishermen. What is being offered in these courses is of the nature of high technology fishing. Even if they have learnt the technique, they cannot implement it. Therefore the future courses if they are planned within the ambit of ICA should come down to a lower level. Our objective should be to give them training that can make them a little bit better than what they are and therefore training programme must be designed for that purpose. People who are giving training have to be familiar with the situation of the participating countries. Then only the ICA fisheries programme/education started by Zengyoren can be effective.

Various Project Officers of the ROA reported on the activities undertaken by them.

The Regional Director said: "Our Regional Office activities can broadly be grouped under two categories, (i) the ICA ROA normal functions of bringing the movements together, organising meetings, seminars, etc. so that they can exchange ideas and experiences and benefit from each other, (ii) developing cooperatives and helping them. We carry out this category of activities with the financial support of donors; the donors include governments, government sponsored agencies and stronger cooperative movements which are both from the region and outside. As you know, 3-4 years back, our total financing on development was more or less from the SCC, but in the last 2 years this position has considerably changed, say for 1989-90, the total budget for development is around 3 million SFr, out of which about 28% comes from SCC, 27% from MAFF and Japanese Movement, around 26% from member organisations and about 19% from other donors. More or less we are coming to a situation where our members

are also actively participating. They are equal partners in the financing of the projects. We are not depending on any particular major donor. We have other donors like the CCA and others who are also increasing their support. Recently, the Canadian Cooperative Association has shown interest in financing a Regional Project for Fishery Women and a feasibility study would be undertaken in the next few months. That is a new development. We have some negotiations with the TCDC of UNDP which has resulted in a separate project; we have separate agenda item on that.

"In the last Regional Council Meeting, the member from Pakistan had mentioned about the need for having some programme of orientation for top government leaders through the assistance and support of CUAC and IDACA. We had some contact with CUAC/IDACA and it was indicated that for any programme for government officials we should know whether the governments of recipient countries are interested. We had written to the governments who had participated in the Singapore Consultation and we already have got positive response from five governments viz. Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan and probably we may get more responses in the near future. Based on that, we have worked out a programme according to which the top people like ministers, secretaries, registrars can be given orientation of around 2 weeks or maximum 3 weeks which could include one week in the ROA, around 2 weeks or 10 days in Japan and may be one country in between. We do hope that CUAC and the Japanese Movement would support it. We would like to have your endorsement on this project.

"The programme for the next year broadly is an extension of what we are doing. We had made a three year plan out of which second year is over. The third year will be an extension of what we have done in the current year".

Mr. Sten Dahl, CDA, then presented the reports on DCU and Agricultural Project. He said: "the coordination activities have been limited to mainly two types. First there have been planning meetings with the officers in the ROA. The main emphasis last year was the annual programme planning and budgeting meetings which was held in October 1988 and attended by a number of development agencies, viz. SCC, CCA and JCCU. Second, several project officers meetings were held during the reporting period to discuss progress of work, problems, solutions and to facilitate professional exchange of experiences.

"This leads to the second area of coordination undertaken by the DCU i.e. the ROA coordination with

cooperative development support agencies. In this field a noteworthy event was the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding of collaboration between the ROA and the Australian Association of Cooperatives. This is a significant development and goes in the right direction in our efforts to work out such agreements with the movements which are strong in the region”.

“The CCA together with SDID (Desjardins Society for International Development) will sponsor a Study Mission on **Women in Development through Fishery Cooperatives** in Bangladesh, India and the Philippines. The purpose of this Study Mission is to study the current status and future potential of women in fishery cooperative development and to formulate a strategy for future action in the form of pilot projects and a Long Term Project in selected countries in the region”.

“A Project on Facilitation of **Cooperative Legislation** in Asia has also been launched together with the CCA. The ROA has already engaged a short-term consultant to prepare a regional paper as well as holding a Regional Workshop on the subject. The final report to be prepared by ICA ROA is expected to provide a set of recommendations and guidelines for consideration of the concerned governments. In turn this will hopefully lead to improvements in cooperative legislation which will promote autonomous and effective cooperatives in those countries.

“We have been able to start work on a **national cooperative data bank** with monitoring and evaluation system for cooperative development together with NCUI in India.

“We have also finalised a project proposal on behalf of the CLT on the **Establishment of Computerised Accounting Services** to Primary and Secondary Cooperatives. The project proposal has been forwarded to a potential donor and negotiations are going on for funding.

“The ROA assisted the CUP also in holding a conference with donor agencies on the **Perspective (Long Term) Plan for Agricultural Cooperative Development in the Philippines**. Ten international agencies attended the meeting and the response was quite positive. The conference gave birth to an idea of establishing a cooperative fertilizer programme for the Philippines with possible assistance from the Government of Netherlands.

“I would also like to mention that we are monitoring another ten or so project with were started earlier”.

Mr. M.V. Madane, Project Director, **ICA/Japan Training Project for strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia**, mentioned about the visit of a five member delegation from ICA to the Government of Japan and said that according to present indications the Government of Japan may agree to extend assistance for the next five years, as a second phase of the project. It is not a commitment yet. A more enlarged project proposal has been submitted to the Government in consultation with CUAC. It may include direct assistance to small projects. Two factors have been noted: (i) our projects are not so big that the World Bank or UN Agencies would be interested in financing, (ii) bilateral programmes also do not necessarily have priorities for such projects. In case of such projects, ICA may be able to assist them directly to a limited extent. Also, ICA would send experts to finalise these projects and get them to a level of implementation.

“We have also included in the proposal a programme for senior leaders’ training. To what extent it would be approved we do not know. This is for information.

“We have now in each country a nucleus of a management oriented group capable of assuming leadership in management in their own situations. I would urge the member organisations to support them in their follow-up action”.

Mr. Madane also told the Council that the Third Course in the series has been completed with active collaboration from member organisations in India, Japan, People’s Republic of China and Thailand. He also urged the Council members to ensure that candidates to the Training Course are nominated only after obtaining government clearance, where necessary.

The Regional Director, while reporting on COOPTRADE Project activities, said : “As it stands today, the prospects are that after 1990-91 the Cooptrade Project may not continue, but it would depend on the evaluation”.

Report on IDACA Activities : Mr. Shiro Futagami, Managing Director, IDACA, presented the report on the activities of IDACA in F.Y. 1988-89.

Mr. Futagami said that a total of 8 courses were organised in which 103 participants took part. In addition to the course mentioned in the agenda notes, one General Course on Agricultural Cooperatives with 18 participants was also organised.

The Council noted the following proposed activities of IDACA for 1989-90: (1) General Course in Agricultural

Cooperatives, May 15-July 4, 1989. (2) ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar, July 16-August 5, 1989. (3) IDACA's Refresher Course (tentative), September 3-13, 1989. (4) Training Course for the Cooperators from Selected Countries, September 26-October 29, 1989. (5) Training Programme for National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF), November 6-17, 1989. (6) ICA Training Course for Strengthening Management in Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia, February-April, 1990. (7) Training Course for Leaders of Cooperative Agricola de Cotia Cooperative Central (CACCC) and Cooperative Agricola de Cooperativa Sul Brazil, April 1990. (8) Reunion and Follow-up Programme, Sri Lanka, January 1990.

Next Meeting of the Regional Council: The Council agreed that the 32nd Regional Council Meeting be held in Sydney, Australia, in conjunction with the Ministers Conference in February 1990 and that the 33rd Regional Council Meeting be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1991.

The Council unanimously elected Mr. Won Ho Suh as the Vice Chairman of the Regional Council.

Development Co-ordination unit

ICA/CCA/CLT Prawn Breeding Project, Thailand : The project was seriously damaged due to the flood in Southern Thailand in November/December 1988. This destruction had a serious adverse effect on the morale of the participating farmers. The representatives of the three organisations carried out on the spot studies in May this year and are considering rehabilitation/re-designing of the project. Messrs Sten Dahl, Cooperative Development Advisor, ICA ROA; Rafael Legaria, Regional Representative of the CCA based in Kuala Lumpur; and Narong Marukatut, Director, CLT carried out the field studies.

ICC/CCA/FISHCOPFED Fish Net Production Project, India : The fish-net producing hand-operated machine has been installed in the third primary fishery cooperative covered under the project. The project has thus accomplished the tasks envisaged in the project document.

The CCA contribution has been fully utilised as per the project plan. FISHCOPFED's contribution has exceeded by 47% and beneficiary societies contribution has exceeded by 50% to the outlay envisaged in the project budget.

The contributions from the national federation and the beneficiary societies is a heartening feature of the project.

New projects supported by Canada : (1) Keeping in view the high priority given to women's participation in cooperative development in the ICA Policy on Cooperative Development and the work carried out by the ICA ROA in the field of fishery cooperative development, the ICA ROA formulated a project on "*Women in development Through Fishery Cooperatives in Asia*".

The aim of the project is to constitute a joint study mission by the Canadian Cooperative Association (CCA), Society de Development International Desjardins (SDID) and the ICA ROA to study the current status and future potential of women in fishery development and to formulate a strategy for future action in the form of a pilot project(s) and a long-term programme for enhancing women's role in fishery cooperative development.

It is planned that the study will be carried out during October-November this year in three countries, Bangladesh, India and Philippines.

(2) Another ICA ROA project which has received support of the Canadian Cooperative Association (CCA) is on "*Facilitation of Cooperative Legislation in Asia*". The objective of the project is to study cooperative legislation in selected countries for the purpose of identifying constraints to cooperative development; identifying features which are not in accordance with cooperative principles; and suggest additional provisions which would facilitate development of cooperatives. The study is expected to help in formulating guidelines for improving cooperative legislation in the countries under study with a view to promoting sound cooperative development in future in order that the standard of living of the participating members can be raised.

Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand will be covered by the study. The study is being carried out by Mr. V.P. Singh, an eminent Indian cooperator and senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India. Currently Mr. Singh is a member of the Governing Body of the National Cooperative Union of Indian (NCUI). Earlier he was the President of the NCUI and Member of the ICA Executive Committee. Mr. Singh is supported by country consultants.

Mr. Singh has already made on the spot study through visits to Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand.

The CCA support has been very timely inasmuch as the results of the study will form a valuable input towards the preparation of the Asian Conference of Ministers of Cooperation responsible for cooperative development which is scheduled to be held in Sydney, Australia, from 8-11 February 1990. Preparations for

the Conference have been supported by the Swedish Cooperative Centre as well as the Australian Association of Cooperatives.

ICA Representation at 45th Session of UN/ESCAP

Mr. M.M.K. Wali, formerly Chief Executive of NCUI and Ex.-Lt.Governor of Delhi, represented the ICA as an observer at the 45th Session of ESCAP held in Bangkok from 27th March to 5th April 1989. A written statement was circulated by Mr. Wali on behalf of the ICA ROA. As a result of his effort ESCAP programme of work for 1990-91 would include formulation of activities for exchange of successful cooperative experiences.

Mr. J.M. Rana's assignments on behalf of ICA, Geneva

Mr. J.M. Rana participated in the ILO-MATCOM Progress Development Coordination Unit, ICA ROA, prepared a discussion paper on Human Resource Development Programme for the Regional Directors meeting held in April 1989 in Stockholm. The discussion paper dealt with various components of the HRD programme for cooperatives and identified priorities for the Regional Offices in the context of presently available and expected resources in the near future. The paper emphasised that the highest priority be given to grass roots cooperative education including enhancing participation of women and youth in cooperative development. The Regional Directors' meeting endorsed this recommendation.

Mr. J.M. Rana participated in the ILO-MATCOM Progress Review Committee Meeting held in Geneva on 29th June 1989 as a representative of the ICA. The meeting reviewed the work of MATCOM during the last one year and discussed work plans for the forthcoming year and the strategy for the future.

Mr. J.M. Rana also made a two-day visit to Swedish Cooperative Centre, Stockholm and had discussion with Mr. Bernt Adelstal on ICA ROA projects.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Regional Seminar on Methodology of Member Participation in Cooperative Societies : Human Resource Development Project has conducted a Regional Seminar on Methodology of Member Participation (CMPP) in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 23-29 May, 1989. 20 Participants from 9 countries (Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand) participated at the Seminar. Mr. Terry Bergdall

of SCC and Mr. W.U. Herath of the ICA ROA acted as resources persons at the seminar. Mr. G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, ICA attended the seminar as a special invitee.

Currently, BJSU is considering to conduct a follow-up national seminar on the subject, to train field level facilitators.

Workshop on Strengthening of Human Resources in Cooperative Societies and Meeting of the ICA Committee on Human Resource Development for Asia : A Regional workshop for the strengthening of Human Resources in Cooperative Societies in Asia, followed by the Second Meeting of the ICA Committee on Human Resource Development for Asia was held from 05-10 June, 1989, at University of Philippines at Los Banos, College, Laguna.

10 participants from 8 countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand) participated at the workshop and the meeting. Gen. A.S. Lozada, Chairman of the ICA Regional Council attended as special invitee.

STAFF NEWS

Mr. J.M. Rana Appointed as Senior Development Advisor at ICA Hqs.

Mr. J.M. Rana, who has rich experience in cooperative development with specialisation in Human Resource Development, has been appointed from 1st July 1989 as Senior Development Advisor in the ICA hqs. at Geneva. In his new capacity Mr. Rana will be responsible for supporting the development work of the ICA, specifically in the areas of Planning, Management and Coordination; Human Resource Development; and Research and Innovations.

Mr. Rana has worked in the ICA ROA for nearly 28 years since its establishment in 1960. He was Director, Education Centre, from 1968 to 1985. When the ICA Regional Office was restructured, Mr. J.M. Rana functioned as Head of the Development Coordination Unit and Deputy Regional Director in the ICA ROA until 30th June 1989.

The Development Coordination Unit of the ICA ROA will henceforth be referred to as the Planning, Research and Consultancy Project (PRCP).

Mr. Sten Dahl, Cooperative Development Advisor of ICA ROA, will henceforth be responsible for matters related to the new Planning, Research and Consultancy

Project, the Agricultural Project as well as the Specialised Committees on Agriculture, Cooperative Finance and Fisheries and the CCA-supported project.

Mr. Sten Dahl, who has served ICA ROA for almost 4 years, will return to Sweden in November 1989. His successor will be the present Director of SSC, **Mr. Karl Fogelstrom.**

Mr. Bruce Gunn has left COOPTRADE Project and joined the Australian Association of Coopeatives as Manager (International Operations). No Adviser for COOPTRADE Project has been appointed so far. The headquarters of COOPTRADE Project has been shifted from Kuala Lumpur to ROA, New Delhi.

NEWS FROM ASIA

BURMA

It is Myanmar

Burma officially changed its name in English recently to the Union of Myanmar and the name of the capital city to Yangon, the government-run working People's Daily said. A new law, enacted by the government, also changed the name of the nationality, Burmese, to Myanmar. The words for Burma and Burmese in the Burmese language are both pronounced Myanmar. The names of States, towns and other geographical sites are to be written in English according to the Burmese pronunciation, the law says, Rangoon, for example, is to be written as Yangon, which is the Burmese pronunciation of the capital.

INDIA

Revamping the Cooperatives

Introducing in the Indian Parliament the Constitution (64th Amendment) Bill to provide for devolution of power to the panchayats, the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, announced that the government would bring another legislation in the next session of Lok Sabha to extend the "same concern to the growing urban and semi-urban population of the country". This would be done as the present Bill restricted itself to democracy and development at the grassroots level in the rural India.

Mr. Gandhi said the government would turn attention to "recasting, revamping and rejuvenating" the Co-operative Movement which the late Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru had always regarded as the "essential complement" to Panchayati Raj. The present amendment Bill, he said, sought to enshrine in the Constitution democracy at the grassroot level and hence was a "historic

and revolutionary" Bill. It would take its place alongside the enactment of the constitution by democratic India.

The Prime Minister said elections to the Panchayat institutions had been irregular, often unnecessarily delayed and frequently postponed. The Bill proposed to enshrine in the Constitution regular, periodic elections to Panchayati raj institutions.

Coop Movement to be Streamlined: PM

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, announced on June 10, 1989, that the Government would initiate measures to streamline the functioning of the cooperative movement in the country.

Addressing a series of public meetings on the second day of his two-day tour of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Mr. Gandhi said steps in this regard would be taken after the passing of the Panchayati Raj Bill, introduced in the Lok Sabha. This would help the solution of economic problems of rural areas locally, he said.

SC Exempts Agro-Coops from Income Tax

To encourage and promote the growth of cooperatives for marketing agricultural produce, the Supreme Court has held that the income of such cooperatives is exempt from income tax.

This applies to all societies on the fulfilment of two conditions. One, that the cooperative receives the agricultural produce from its members only. Second, that the processing of the produce done by the cooperative is essential to the marketing of the produce.

Chief Justice R.S. Pathak and Justice M.H. Kania held this in the case of Broach District Cooperative Cotton Sales Ginning and Pressing Society Ltd vs Commissioner of Income Tax, Ahmedabad.

The judge held that the income of the cooperative will be exempt from income tax even where the processing of the agricultural produce received from its members is done by it with electricity but as an "integral" part of the marketing of the produce.

INDIA/USA "Operation Flood" Wins Prize

The 1989 World Food Prize sponsored by the General Foods Fund, Inc., USA, has been awarded to Dr. Verghese Kurien, Chairman of India's National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), who turned the milksheds of India into a cooperative system that produces,

processes and markets milk for the urban centers of the country, through a cooperative programme "Operation Flood". Dr. Kurien was selected from 173 nominees in 48 countries, and the winner was announced at the National Press Club in Washington D.C. by Dr. Norman Borlaug, Chairman of the World Food Prize Selection Committee and 1970 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. The success of "Operation Flood" has led to its application to other commodities. The National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (RECA), working through NCBA's Indian Office, are helping NDDDB with some of these projects.

Coop Sector against Sugar Exports

The sugar industry is against any export on two counts: inadequate availability to meet the local demand because of the continuing gap between demand and supply, and unattractive international prices.

Its position against any export is strong. If the sugar factories, especially in the cooperative sector, are willing to participate even nationally in exports "it becomes difficult to put together even small stocks," according to Mr. Shivajirao Patil, Chairman of the Maharashtra Rajya Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Sangh.

There is already an agreement to export 10,000 tonnes to EEC and 8,420 tonnes as African quota and a small quantity to Nepal and the Maldives. In view of last year's "nominal export of 25,000 tonnes" it is hoped that it would be limited this year as well.

Not enough hands: The cooperative sector would like to encourage the use of harvesters in the sugarcane fields of farmer-members as there are not enough hands to work in the fields, Mr. Patil said. While the National Federation of the cooperative sugar units has been speaking of "immense pressure" for mechanisation from both private and cooperative sugar factories, the Sangh has agreed to collaborate with the Deccan Sugar Institute in Pune to design and manufacture harvesters.

On an average, each of the 105 cooperative sugar factory in Maharashtra—employ 2,000 farmhands per factory for continuous working. "Each of them earn about Rs. 25 a day apart from the right to take away the cane tops, which they sell at Rs. 50 a tonne." However, most farmhands see better pastures.

Spinning Mills Federation

ICA Executive Meeting held in Salzburg on 20th June

has accepted the membership of All India Federation of Cooperative Spinning Mills Ltd., With this addition, India has now nine member organizations in the family of ICA membership. The address of the Federation is given below:

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF COOPERATIVE SPINNING MILLS LTD.

14, MURZBAN ROAD, 2ND FLOOR
BOMBAY 400 001 INDIA

TELEPHONE : 20-4182, 204-9063
SHORT NAME : AIFCOSPIN

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN KOREA :
A new brochure published by the NACF

Since 1961 the development of agricultural cooperatives and their services to the farmer-members of the Republic of Korea have been extremely impressive. The agricultural cooperatives were established in order to increase the agricultural productivity, to enhance the social and economic status of farmers and thus to construct high-income welfare rural communities. With a view to attaining these objectives, agricultural cooperatives have been conducting diverse business activities such as (1) guidance for the increase in farm income and improvement of living, (2) marketing of farm products, (3) supply of farm inputs and consumer goods, (4) banking and credit to mobilize and extend various agricultural funds, (5) cooperative insurance for stabilization of livelihood and welfare of farmer-members, (6) research for the efficient operation of agricultural cooperatives and rational formulation of farm policies, and (7) other incidental business operations.

These activities are implemented in a systematic and integrated manner. A detailed description of these activities of agricultural cooperatives of the Republic of Korea have been explained with illustrations, graphs and photographs in the latest brochure entitled "Agricultural Cooperatives in Korea" recently published by the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation. Mr Ho-Sun Han, Chairman-President of the Federation in his foreword to the brochure says :

"Twenty five years have already passed since the multipurpose agricultural cooperatives were organized in 1961 to establish high-income welfare rural communities through the increase in agricultural productivity and enhancement of social and economic status of farmers.

“Our rural communities have made remarkable progress in line with the rapid extension of the national power. However, in view of the environment surrounding the rural sector including the diversified needs of member farmers, the role of agricultural cooperatives has to be further emphasized. In this connection, our agricultural cooperatives are willing to fulfill the responsibilities for an epoch-making development of the rural communities in the year 2,000 by taking firmer root among member farmers based on the business activities during the past 25 years.

“I sincerely hope that this booklet will be a good guide to our foreign friends in better understanding the agricultural cooperative movement in Korea”.

Some of the highlights of the 25-year span of the growth of the agricultural cooperatives are as follows:

Aug. 1961 : The former Agricultural Cooperatives and the Agriculture Bank were merged into the present multipurpose agricultural co-operatives.

Sep. 1966 : The first New Farmers were selected and awarded prizes.

Sep. 1969 : Amalgamation of town-level primary cooperatives was started.

Nov. 1972 : The NACF became a regular member of the ICA(International Cooperative Alliance).

Jan. 1981 : The agricultural cooperatives were restructured from the former three-tier system to the two-tier system.

Dec. 1983 : The head office of the NACF was moved to the Agri-Coop. Hall.

May. 1985 : The first Saemaul Grassroot Organization Prize was awarded.

Jun. 1986 : The total deposits received by agricultural cooperatives exceeded 6 trillion won.

Aug. 1986 : The 25th anniversary of the establishment of agricultural cooperatives was celebrated.

Copies of the brochure can be obtained from: The President, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, 75, 1st Street, Chungjong-Ro, Jung-ku, Seoul 100-707 Republic of Korea.

MALAYSIA

New President of CUM

Mr. Y.B. Tan Sri Dato Seri Abdul Rahim bin Dato Tak has been elected new President of the Cooperative Union of Malaysia. He has also been appointed ICA Central Committee Member.

SRI LANKA

NCC's New Board Members

The National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, the ideological Apex Cooperative Organization in Sri Lanka has announced at the Triennial General Assembly held on May 27, that 1989, the following Cooperators were elected to the Board of Directors of the Council.

Mr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya	- President
Mr. M.G.S. Jayaratne	- Vice-President
Mr. R. Rayappu	- Vice-President
Mr. Lionel Samarasinghe	- Director
Mr. H.M.S. Dias	- Director
Mr. K. Kappagoda	- Director
Mr. Dharmasena Yainna	- Director
Mr. D. Weerasooriya	- Director
Mr. Mahiepala Herath	- Director
Mr. R.M. Karunaratne	- Director
Mr. V.M. Karunasena	- Director
Mr. V. Jesudasan	- Director

P.E. WEERAMAN FALICITATED

Mr. P.E. Weeraman, former Regional Director, ICA Regional Office for Asia has been conferred the national title of “Deshbandhu” by the Government of Socialist Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka. On the occasion of this honour, the ASCON congratulates Mr. Weeraman and wishes him a long life.

MARKFED-Sri Lanka Joins ICA

ICA Executive Meeting held in Salzburg on 20th June has accepted the membership of Sri Lanka Cooperative Marketing Federation (MARKFED-SRI LANKA). With this addition Sri Lanka has now five member-organizations in the family of ICA membership. The address of the MARKFED is given below:

Sri Lanka Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (MARK-FED-SRILANKA)
Coop. Square, 127, Grandpass Road
Colombo-14, Sri Lanka

VISITS AND VISITORS

VISITS OF ICA/ROA OFFICERS: (April — June 1989)

Mr. G.K. Sharma	2-9 April 1989 2-20 May 1989 23-28 May 1989 4-14 June 1989	Sweden & U.K. Australia, Japan & Korea Bangladesh Japan & India (Pune)
Mr. J.M. Rana	10-21 May 1989 24-30 June 1989	Thailand & Korea Switzerland
Mr. Sten Dahl	10 May - 6 Jun 1989	Thailand, Korea, Philippines & Singapore
Mr. M.V. Madane	1 April - 24 June 1989	Japan, China, Korea, Switzerland & Italy
Mr. W.U. Herath	10 April - 2 May 1989 9 May - 1 June 1989 3-18 June 1989 25-30 June 1989	Japan & Sri Lanka Japan, Korea and Bangladesh Philippines, and Thailand. Singapore and Sri Lanka
Mr. P.C. Singal	22 May - 5 June 1989	Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand

VISITORS TO THE ICA/ROA (January—June 1989)

- Mr. R.D. Tapen, NCCE alongwith 35 participants (Education Officers/Executive Officers/Managers of District Cooperative Unions)
- Mr. Lutchmeepersad Mohabeer, Mauritius Cooperative Union, Mauritius
- Mr. M.R.B. Daswatte, Sri Lanka
- Mr. P. Murugesan, Assistant Professor of Cooperation, SRMV Arts College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India, along with 11 students
- Mr. V.S. Misra, NCCE together with a group of 15 directors of District Cooperative Unions.
- Mr. Ghistain Paradis, Movement Desjardins, Quebec, Canada
- Mr. V.S. Misra, alongwith 50 Farm Officers from Delhi, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, U.P. and Karnataka.
- Mr. Shao Guoan, Vice-President, Beijing Commercial Management Institute, China
- Mr. Meng Xiaodong, Deputy Director, Education Department, Supply & Marketing Cooperative Union of Shandong Province, China
- Ms. Mz Xiaoqing. Principal, Beijing Supply & Marketing Cooperative School, China
- Mr. Liu Xing, Section Chief, International Liaison Department, All China Federation of Supply & Marketing Cooperatives, China.
- Mr. V. Ouglev, ICA Geneva
- Ms. Finola Marras, ICA Geneva
- Mr. Helmut W. Simon, and Mr. Suryaratna Sakya, ILO Cooperative Training Project, Kathmandu, Nepal
- Mrs Karen Schurartz, NCBA/CLUSA, Washington, U.S.A.

PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

1. Membership of a cooperative society should be voluntary and available without artificial restriction or any social, political, racial or religious discrimination, to all persons who can make use of its services and are willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.

2. Cooperative societies are democratic organisations. Their affairs should be administered by persons elected or appointed in a manner agreed by the members and accountable to them. Members of primary societies should enjoy equal right of voting (one member, one vote) and participation in decisions affecting their societies. In other than primary societies the administration should be conducted on a democratic basis in a suitable form.

3. Share capital should only receive a strictly limited rate of interest, if any.

4. Economic results arising out of the operations of a society belong to the members of that society and should be distributed in such a manner as would avoid one member gaining at the expense of others.

This may be done by decision of the members as follows:—

- (a) By provision for development of the business of Cooperative;
- (b) By provision of common services; or
- (c) By distribution among the members in proportion of their transactions with the Society.

5. All cooperative societies should make provision for the education of their members, officers and employees and of the general public, in the principles and techniques of Cooperation, both economic and democratic.

6. All cooperative organisations, in order to best serve the interests of their members and their communities should actively cooperate in every practical way with other cooperatives at local, national and international levels.

International Cooperative Alliance

- World Headquarters
Route des Morillons, CH-1218
Le Grand Saconnex, Geneva-1.
Switzerland Tel: 798-4121.
Telefax: 798-4122. Telex: 415620. ICA CH
Cable: Interallia
- Regional Office for East, Central and Southern Africa. Post Box No. 946, Moshi, Tanzania
Tel: 4706/4708. Telex: 43118 TARIMO TZ
Cable: Interallia
- Regional Office for Asia
"Bonow House", 43 Friends Colony (East)
New Delhi 110 065, India
Tel: 683-5123. Telefax: 91-11-6835568
Telex: 31-75025 DICA IN.
Cable: Interallia
- Regional Office for West Africa
Immeuble de la Caisse de
Soutien des Prix Agricoles
01 BP 3969, Abidjan 01, Ivory Coast
Tel: 324327. Telex: 22629 ACIABJ CI
Cable: Interallia



ASIAN COOP NEWS



17600

ISSUE NO. 3 July-September 1989 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

I.C.A. Central Committee Meeting in New Delhi

—*First time ever in Asia*

As reported earlier the ICA CC will meet for the first time in Asia in New Delhi in the first week of October, 1989. It will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi.

The agenda of the C.C., in addition to formal items, includes presentations and discussions on "**The Challenge of Global Economic Integration.**" The panelists will be Mr. Dwane Acker, Kansas State University; Mr. Etienne Pflimin, President Credit Mutuel; Mr. Bruce Freeman, General Manager, Australian Association of Cooperatives Ltd.; Mr. Ian Macpherson, Chairman, Canadian Cooperative Association and Mr. Pavel Fedrko, President Centrosoyuz.

The other subject of discussion will be "**Cooperatives in Asia**". The panelists on this will be Mr. S.S. Puri, Former A.D.G. (Asia & Pacific), FAO, Bangkok; General S. Lozada, Chairman I.C.A. Regional Council for Asia, Mr. Eric Cheong, Chairman, Singapore National Cooperative Federation; Mr. Won Ho Suh, D.G. International Cooperation Department, National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, Republic of Korea and Mr. Shiro Futagami, Managing Director of the

IDACA.

Both the subjects are of vital importance to the Asian Pacific Region.

Good Response for Central Committee Meeting

There has been a very warm and encouraging response from delegates and observers for the Central Committee and other Specialised Organisations Meetings being held in New Delhi from 3-7 October, 1989. More than 550 registrations have been received till 15 September 1989 which is a record number.

The other interesting part is that more than 100 spouses are accompanying them.

The largest delegation seems to be from Japan from where, in addition to the 34 delegates/observers, two groups of 20 women each, one from Japanese Agricultural Cooperatives and other one from Japanese Consumers' Cooperatives are visiting India during this period. Thus the total number of cooperators coming from Japan would be around 75 during the central committee meeting.

CONTENTS

ICA Head Office	... 1
International News	... 2
ICA Regional Office	... 2
News from Asia	... 3
ICA Member-organisation	... 10

Support **ASCON** by feeding with News and Events in your Country & Organisation. Also please send your suggestions. Please inform us immediately of any change in your mailing address. — Editor

ASIA IN ICA

To mark the occasion of the first meeting of the ICA Central Committee in Asia at New Delhi, the ICA Regional Office for Asia has brought out a book "Asia in I.C.A.". The book is a historical perspective of the record of Asian Co-operators' participation in ICA Congresses since the 4th Congress held in 1900, right upto the 29th Congress held at Stockholm last year. It also visualises broadly what role Asian Cooperatives may be called upon to play in future. The book would be released when Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, inaugurates the Central Committee meeting. The book has been authored by Dr. R.C. Dwivedi, ICA Regional Office Consultant.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Golden Dove for Cuellar

The UN Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar received the Golden Dove Peace Prize on Thursday in honour of his peace efforts, particularly his role in ending the Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar accepted the golden statuette from the Italian Foreign Minister, Mr. Giulio Andreotti, in the presence of the Iranian and Iraqi ambassadors to Italy. He called for "major tolerance between countries to promote world peace"

The annual prize was created by the Archivio Disarmo an Italian disarmament organisation and the national consumer's cooperative, Italy's largest food distributor. It is awarded annually to three journalists and one international figure dedicated to peace.

Past recipients of the Golden Dove Prize include the former Swedish Prime Minister Mr Olof Palme, and Ms Winnie Mandela, the South African anti-apartheid leader and wife of jailed black activist, Mr Nelson Mandela.

Plunkett Foundation issues second edition of Cooperative Yearbook

The second edition of the *Yearbook of Cooperative Enterprise 1989* has recently been published by the Plunkett Foundation for Co-operative Studies. The three-part book features a range of articles, several of which call for reconsideration of what have become traditional approaches. The two main themes are the contribution of management to cooperative enterprise and innovation in the capital structure of cooperatives. The third part is a cross-sector review of cooperative enterprise in the United Kingdom. The yearbook is available from the Plunkett Foundation, 31 St. Giles Oxford OX1 3LF, England.

ICA ROA NEWS

ICA DOMUS TRUST Exempted from Income Tax

The ICA-DOMUS TRUST constituted in memory of Dr Mauritz Bonow, former President of the International Cooperative Alliance, has been exempted from Income Tax under the Income Tax Act of the Government of India. It is a matter of great satisfaction for the continuing support of the Government of India to the activities of the International Cooperative Alliance in India and other countries of Asia.

It may be recalled that Pt Jawaharlal Nehru had inaugurated the ICA Regional Office in 1960. It is a good gesture that when his birth centenary is being celebrated the ICA-DOMUS TRUST has been exempted from income tax.

COOPERATION MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

As follow-up action on the recommendations of the Regional Consultation on the "Role of Government in promoting Cooperative Development in Asia", held at Singapore last year, a conference of the Ministers of Co-operation of Asian Countries will be held at Sydney, from 8-11 February 1990, supported by the Government of Australia. The Conference is being convened by the ICA ROA, in collaboration with Australian Federation of Cooperatives. The agenda of the conference, inter alia, includes:

- (i) Cooperatives and Government
- (ii) Collaborative Strategies for social and economic development.
- (iii) Collaborative strategies for International Trade and Finance.

Specific Objectives

- i) to formulate goals and strategies for National Governments and National Cooperative Organisations to foster genuine and strong cooperative Organisation capable of rendering efficient service.
- ii) to formulate guidelines for creating a favourable environment for stimulating speedy and healthy growth of Cooperatives.
- iii) to recommend collaborative strategies and action plan for regional and international collaboration and trade among cooperative movements across national boundaries;
- iv) to consider the creation of regular forum for biannual or triennial regional conference of Cooperative Ministers and Cooperative Leaders, and
- v) to consider the scope of an International Financing System or supporting international cooperative trade, joint ventures and other economic development projects of cooperative movements.

FOURTH ICA/JAPAN MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE TO COMMENCE IN OCTOBER

The Fourth ICA/Japan Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives will commence in New Delhi on 23rd October 1989. Fifteen

participants from nine Asian countries, viz. Bangladesh, China, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand are expected to participate in this six-months course which will be spread over four countries of the Region. The first part for two months will be held in India. The training sessions will be held for six weeks at the ICA ROA premises followed by field study visits in Gujarat and Maharashtra States. This will be followed by a two-weeks study visits to agricultural cooperatives in Thailand.

During the second week of January 1990, the participants will return to their respective home countries for preparing agricultural cooperative development projects for 45 days and will reassemble in Japan for the second part of the Course to be held at the IDACA, Tokyo. Field visits to agricultural cooperatives in two Prefectures will also be arranged during the second Part in Japan. They will go to the Republic of Korea for studying agricultural cooperatives for two weeks after the Japan part and will return to their respective countries around 10th May 1990 after the completion of the Course.

ICA DELEGATION VISITS JAPAN

The Third Course ended in China in May 1989. After the third course, a delegation consisting of the ICA Director, Mr Bruce Thordarson; ICA Regional Council Chairman, Gen. A.S. Lozada; ICA Executive Committee Member from Japan and Chairman of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, Mr Mitsugu Horiuchi; ICA Regional Director for Asia, Mr G.K. Sharma; and the ICA/Japan Project Director, Mr M.V. Madane called upon the Hon'ble Mr Hata, the then Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Government of Japan and the high officials of the Ministry to thank the Government of Japan for the support extended to the Project and to request continuance of the assistance for a further period of five years.

The Government of Japan appreciated the gesture of the Alliance and have agreed to consider the extension of the Project beyond the present period of five years. Further negotiations with the authorities in the Government of Japan will be held in future for deciding upon the details of the Project under consideration.

It is envisaged that the future project components may include some assistance to the projects already prepared by the participants of earlier Training Courses for agricultural cooperative development in their respective countries.

CIRDAP WORKSHOP AT HANDI, VIETNAM

Dr. Daman Prakash, Consultant, ICA ROA, attended the Regional Workshop on Development of Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for Impact of Cooperatives on Members held by CIRDAP (Centre on Integrated Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific) from 11th to 18th September, 1989 at Hanoi, Vietnam.

ASIA REGIONAL NEWS

AUSTRALIA

Mr. B.W. Freeman, General Manager of Australian Association of Cooperatives has resigned for health reasons.

Mr. Geoff Ayres has taken over as Acting General Manager.

Australian Minister Opens general meeting of AAC

As a strong supporter of the Co-operative movement, I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to open your conference today.

Given my Portfolio Responsibilities, my main interest as Minister is in the Agriculture, Fishing and Food Processing Co-operatives. I am well aware, however, of the importance of Co-operatives in other sectors of the economy such as finance, insurance, trading, entertainment, recreation and community services.

This importance is illustrated by statistics set out in the booklet your association is publishing "Co-operatives in Australia" It is impressive that Australia has over 6,000 co-operatives, with assets exceeding \$35 Billion, with more than 6 million members and with sales of products and services worth \$ 16 billion each year.

In the primary industry sector, co-operatives account for significant or major market shares in such industries as fisheries, fruit and vegetables, cotton, rice, sugar, dairy and honey.

In these and other industries, co-operatives have had a mixed record as marketers of primary products.

Success stories include the Western Australian fishing co-operatives at Framantle and Geraldton which over the years have developed good markets for lobsters in Japan, the USA, Europe, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan. Increased sales have been achieved by marketing lobsters which meet the exacting require-

ments of their clients. By 1988 the two co-operatives accounted for total exports of some \$100 million. The Framantle Co-op was the 84th largest Australian exporter and the Geraldton Co-op the 10th in that year.

Since its establishment in 1962, the Namoi Cotton Co-operative has developed to a position where its members produce some 530,000 bales, representing 40% of total Australian cotton production. The co-operative has been successful in increasing sales in the competitive export market by adapting to end-user requirements through custom ginning, varietal segregation and guaranteeing supplies to buyers for a year ahead.

Similarly, the Ricegrowers Co-operative of NSW has expanded Australia's rice exports by developing a market niche for consistently high quality product with over 85% of exports branded as "Sunwhite Rice"

As for our dairy co-ops; in response to the clearer price signals they get now that export pooling is removed, they too have improved their product range and marketing performance. It is my view, however, that across all primary industries much more could be done to build on the domestic strengths of the co-operative movement and put greater efforts into expanding export sales.

Your Association, your members and the Government all have an important role in bringing this about.

It is pleasing, therefore, to see that over the past few years your Association has become increasingly involved with trade promotion activities with and on behalf of its members. I am informed that in recognition of the growing importance of international trade to Australian co-operatives, the Association has established an International Department to co-ordinate its international activities. No doubt, your International Operations Manager, Bruce Gunn will be outlining some of these activities in his report to you tomorrow.

Some of the activities of which I am aware include the protocol agreements for trade and technical exchanges which have been concluded between the AAC and the consumer co-operative of the USSR (Centrosoyuz) and the Fijian co-operative movement. Your association has also been active in fostering relationship with other co-operative movements through trade promotion activities overseas and through visits from overseas delegations to Australia.

The Government has been able to assist in these trade related activities by funding through the Export Market

Development Grants Scheme, under which your Association has "approved body" status.

The Government is aware that current policy is imposing hardship on consumers and producers alike. It is for this reason that the tax cuts and increased family assistance are firmly targeted on the low to middle income groups. The critical factor for policy will be to adjust policy in a timely manner so that demand is not restrained unduly. Hence, the Government must be firm in its commitment to its policy approach. That will result in both lower interest rates and sustainable economic growth.

In closing, I would like to repeat that I see co-operatives continuing to have an important role in the marketing of rural products and the supply of inputs and services to members.

I am also enthusiastic about the potential for rural co-operatives to become more involved in export activities. Your Association has an important role in encouraging its members to become more export oriented and the International Ministerial Conference and Trade Fair next February will provide an important focus for this to be achieved.

Australia Minister lands ICA

I am also informed that the association and the International Co-operative alliance (ICA) last year agreed on a 10 year development framework under which the ICA, with AAC assistance, will maintain an office in Australia. This will allow direct consultation and liaison with this world body of co-operative members.

The potential benefits to Australia of this arrangement are considerable, given the development by the ICA of a system of preferred trade among world co-operative sectors.

Your Association is also to be commended for its initiative in arranging for the Regional Ministerial Conference of the ICA and the related Trade Exhibition to be held in Sydney next February. I am sure that the Conference will be of considerable value in forging closer links between co-operatives in Australia and others in the region, encouraging a greater involvement in export markets.

— Hon'ble Minister of Cooperatives, Australia

CHINA

Chinese Cooperative Leaders met in July

23 Chinese supply and marketing cooperative leaders representing 18 provincial federations gathered together in July for 2 day-discussions about the second half of this year's work. At the meeting, all the delegates exchanged experience and ideas on the ongoing reform and rural market and analysed the present situation surrounding the cooperatives in the rural areas. They saw the progress made in the last few years and the difficulties lying ahead as well.

Acting president, Mr. Pan Yao, and general secretary Mr. Yang Deshou of all China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives made speeches at the meeting. In his speech, Mr. Pan Yao pointed out that the supply and marketing cooperatives should organize the rural market for the autumn products such as cotton, jute animal products fruits and vegetables in good order and provide comprehensive services to the farmers. Finance is of great importance to the rural market organization so, the primary cooperatives should improve their management, reduce working cost, mobilize the farmers' idle capital and put them into good utilization now, the total capital mobilized among the farmers reached 4.5 billion yuan which is equivalent to \$1.2 billion. But the figure needs to be increased. Mr. Yan Deshou gave instructions on the main jobs of the following months. He stressed the importance of strengthening relationship between the cooperatives and members through business activities.

...trained manpower counts in the nation more than anything else, more than gold and silver and money.'

—Jawaharlal Nehru

INDIA

Cooperative Sector to be Strengthened

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, said that the Government proposed to bring a legislation to strengthen the co-operative sector and give it a new direction.

Mr. Gandhi said that the Government would soon initiate a nation-wide debate on the subject. He was addressing a large gathering of members of cooperatives.

Workers' Coops at two West Bengal Units

The West Bengal government has been successful in persuading workers of two sick units—National Tannery, and Aluminium Cables & Conductors—to form co-operatives to run them. If the experiment succeeds, it will be a major development in the process of industrial revival in the state, official sources say.

However, although the government has several proposals for the formation of workers cooperatives to run sick units, for the moment it would like to concentrate on these two. National Tannery has an accumulated loss of over Rs. 100 millions and Aluminium Cables of not less than Rs. 50 millions. While the Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has suggested liquidation of National Tannery the Calcutta High Court has announced the sale of Aluminium Cables, on being moved by the company's creditors.

ONGC Scheme of Cooperatives Yields Results

The innovative experiment of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) since 1985 for formation of cooperative societies and promotion of ancillary industries for low and medium technology areas has started yielding encouraging results in Sibsagar district of the eastern part of India.

ONGC registered 106 cooperative societies and ancillary industries in the region till June.

ONGC has been proceeding in an organised way in encouraging the societies and ancillary units by organising discussions, seminars and training programmes in its staff training institute. Various local bodies are also gradually being involved in these enterprises.

Massive Cooperative Oilseed Project for Orissa

A Rs. 370.5 Million integrated oilseeds development project will be executed in four districts of Orissa state of India in collaboration with the National Dairy Development Board.

The project aimed at growing 32,700 cultivated oilseeds procuring 28,600 tonnes of Sal seeds 10,000 tonnes of rice bran for processing.

Cured Patients form Cooperative—A New Venture

Fighting against all odds and social stigma, a group of persons cured of leprosy have formed an industrial cooperative society here, the unique feature of which would go a long way in promoting the concept of economic rehabilitation of the physically handicapped.

The unit, called "The Mehra Cooperative Rehabilitation Model" (MCRM) presently has a membership of 62 individuals, including 15 women, all cured leprosy persons managing the society themselves.

About 50 leprosy-cured individuals were being imparted job training. The production includes engineering items such as door locks, pedal rest, seats, wooden boxes which are supplied to industries like TELCO, Kinetic Engineering Ltd, in addition to gauze and bandage supplied to major hospitals.

Indo-Dutch Cooperative Training Plan

The Government of the Netherlands and India have agreed to have a massive training programme of cooperative working in five States.

The pilot project to this effect will be implemented in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh in a couple of years. The project would cost about Rs 30 crore.

Mr M.C. Piek, managing director, RIAL Robo international advisory service, and Emile C. Kengen, head of Cooperative Consultancy Department of Robo Bank, Netherlands recently held long discussions with State Apex Bank Chairman, Mr. Subhash Yadav in this matter.

The two Robo Bank officials later said there would also be exchange of personnel between the cooperative sectors of the two countries. Robo Bank of Netherlands is the second most profitable bank in the cooperative sector in the world.

Cooperators Honoured

Shri M.H. Avadhani, Managing Director, IFFCO, was given away Sahakarita Shourya Award for his invaluable contribution to the growth of fertiliser industry and cooperative movement in the country at the annual convention of Rural Journalists Association of India held at Rewari in Haryana. The convention was inaugurated by Shri Hansraj Bhardwaj, Minister of State for Law.

Dr V. Kumar, GM (C&CS), IFFCO received Sahakarita Ratna for his distinguished services to agriculture and rural development while Shri R.S. Sharma, Senior Manager (PR) bagged the best PR men Sahakarita award for highlighting the achievements of modern agriculture by deploying latest tools and techniques of Public Relations.

Notable among other awardees were Shri G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, International Cooperative Alliance

(ICA), Dr. R.C. Dwivedi, Consultant, ICA and Shri U.B. Pandey, Director, Associated Agricultural Development Foundation (AADF). The awards, instituted by Khetihar Hiteshi, a local weekly were given away by Shri Hansraj Bhardwaj, Minister of State for Law and Justice, Govt. of India.

FISHCOPFED'S Publications Released

"I hope that in the years to come, my government will be able to assist your programme in such a way that benefit the cooperative movement in the country." This was observed by His Excellency Eijiro Noda, Ambassador of Japan in a function organised by National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd. (FISH COPFED) to get its publications released i.e. English and Hindi versions of ODA Seminar Report and 'Fishing Industry and Fishery Cooperatives in Selected Asian Countries'—a Regional Review paper written by Dr Daman Prakash, ICA Regional Consultant.

The Ambassador was requested to consider if the technology available in Japan in the field of fish-feed production and manufacture of Kerosene Oil operated outboard motors, is given to India in the cooperative sector.

Shri G.K. Sharma, Regional Director, International Cooperative Alliance, on this occasion informed about efforts of ICA in making the cooperative movement of the region more effective.

JAPAN

ICA President Visits Zenchu

President Lars Marcus of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) visited Zenchu on April 21 together with a delegation of the KOOPERATIVA FORBUNDET (KF) in Sweden. He exchanged views with Zenchu President Mitsugu Horiuchi on environmental problems. Horiuchi explained rice paddies' function of preserving national land and a voluntary campaign for environmental cleaning conducted by agricultural cooperatives.

Preparatory Schedule Set for ICA Tokyo Congress in 1992

The Japan Joint Committee of Cooperatives (JJC), at a committee session on May 31, discussed preparations for the management of the ICA's Tokyo Congress, scheduled for 1992.

It decided to use a hotel in Tokyo Metropolitan area

as a main site and set up the ICA Congress organizing committee in March next year.

Symposium on Food and Agriculture Held

On June 26, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperative (ZENCHU) sponsored a symposium in Tokyo on the theme "Approach to Future Food and Agricultural Problems." The symposium was intended to build a national consensus appropriate to Japan, on what food and agriculture should be.

Eight panelists, including economists and Diet members as well as producers and consumers, conducted animated discussions on problems such as internationalization, cost reduction and food self-sufficiency. The symposium was attended by about 2,000 people.

Zenchu's Plan for the Aged

On April 9, Zenchu announced a plan to promote agricultural cooperatives' activities for health management and their measures for the aged. It called upon cooperatives to take immediate actions, wherever possible, such as fee-charging old people's homes, nursing care at home and supply of articles for nursing care. Moreover, Zenchu called for emphasis upon "mutual help" in keeping with the basic spirit of cooperatives.

Slogan to Be Set for Promoting Amalgamation of Agricultural Cooperatives

Zenchu convened the first meeting of the Central headquarters for the Amalgamation of Agricultural Cooperatives on May 2 and decided to conduct a positive public information movement, including the adoption of a unified slogan for promotion of amalgamation. Measures for expediting amalgamation in fiscal 1989 were also discussed. Amalgamation has made smooth headway, and the number of primary agricultural cooperatives declined from 3,955 at the end of last year to 3,791 on April 1 this year.

Rally Held Marking Int'l Cooperative Day

On June 30, a rally was held in Tokyo under the auspices of JJC in commemoration of the International Cooperative Day. The commemorative event this year featured a symposium on environmental problems in a bid to attract the keen attention of cooperatives to environmental issues. The rally ended after adopting a JJC declaration: "We will apply ourselves wholly and with more indefatigable zeal to overcome many problems both at home and abroad by uniting ourselves with our ICA friends."

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Nationwide Elections of Agricultural Cooperative Presidents

According to the new Agricultural Cooperative Law effective on April 1, 1989, 298 agricultural cooperatives elected their new Presidents through direct voting by member-farmers as on June 30, 1989. 90.3% of member-farmers participated in the elections and 49% of the incumbent Presidents were re-elected.

The results clearly show the active participation of member farmers in their cooperative movement as well as anticipation of sound and stable cooperative management and their improved sense of ownership, which are the essential bases of cooperatives. Accordingly, the results are considered very encouraging for the future of Korean agriculture and the development of agricultural cooperatives in Korea.

The direct election system adopted for the agricultural cooperatives is illustrative of the full autonomous and democratic management which is forthcoming.

The newly-elected Presidents are required to be distinguished top managers and heralds of the agricultural cooperative movement, not only in overcoming the current difficulties, such as mounting external pressure to open agricultural markets and intense financial competitiveness in local areas, but also in raising the standard of living of member-farmers.

Before the end of March, 1990, all member-cooperatives of NACF, numbering 1,502, will have new Presidents through direct elections involving two million member-farmers in Korea.

Reinforcement of International Cooperation Department of the NACF

To more effectively cope with the rapid changes in the international agricultural market, NACF increased the number of staff members at its representative office in Tokyo, and plans to establish another overseas representative office in Washington D.C. in the middle of this July. They will be engaged in various activities related to the U.S. and Japanese agricultural organizations by increasing mutual understanding and cooperation through regular personnel exchanges, encouraging technology and information exchanges, and promoting coop-trade.

Calling on NACF

Mr. Bustanil Arifin, Minister of Cooperatives of Indonesia,

visited NACF on April 24 to look into the NACF financial delivery system and agricultural marketing system for member-farmers. He hoped to further strengthen the cooperative relationship between the two countries in developing village-level cooperatives in Indonesia.

Mr. Owen R. Jennings, Vice President of the Federated Farmers of New Zealand, called on NACF on May 10 and communicated his desire to cooperate with NACF more closely. Impressed with ICA activities, he expressed that his Federation would take into consideration becoming a member of the ICA Regional Council for Asia.

PHILLIPPINES

CUP Leadership

Glicerio Lorejo Sr. has been elected new president of the Cooperative Union of the Philippines. Mr. Paquito Nesulda is the New Vice Chairman.

Manahan Named SCCP Chairman

The Supreme Cooperative Council of the Philippines, an alliance of cooperative federations and unions, recently elected its new set of officers to govern its affairs for the ensuing year.

Former Senator Manuel P. Manahan, who represented the Cooperative Foundation of the Philippines (CFPI), was elected Chairman. Also elected were B/Gen. Arcadio S. Lozada of the Cooperative Union of the Philippines as vice-Chairman; Mr. Francis Nacienceno of the Federation of Electric Cooperative of the Philippines as Treasurer, and Myron Gawigawen also of CFPI as Secretary.

The Sugar Cooperative Development Institute of the Philippine is now represented in the SCCP by Mr. Modesto Rubio vice Mr. Luis Kilayko.

The SCCP worked for the inclusion of a provision in the new Constitution on cooperatives as instruments for social justice and economic development. It initiated with CUP the drafting of the Cooperative Development Authority Bill and its accompanying Omnibus Code and lobbies for their passage in both houses of Congress. The SCCP is temporarily housed at the CUP Bldg., corner A. Roces, and Mo. Ignacia St., Quezon City.

BACOD simplifies ways of coop registration

The registration and organizational requirements for cooperatives have been considerably reduced and

simplified. It was learned from Assistant Director Joseph Francia of the Bureau of Agricultural Co-operatives Development, Department of Agriculture.

"BACOD used to have seven requirements on the organization of co-operatives," Francia said. "Now it has only four." The four requirements when organizing co-operatives are the following:

1. Filing of the application to organize with the Department of Agriculture regional office or with the Regional Co-operatives Development Assistance Office through the provincial agricultural office together with the feasibility study economic survey;
2. Conduct of the pre-membership education among prospective members.
3. Holding of the organizational meeting where the articles of incorporation and by-laws are adopted and the board and committee members are elected; and
4. Meeting of the board of directors/committees to take up among others the election of officers.

ICA Supported Rice Mill is Successful

International Cooperative Alliance' (ICA) Project Director, Mr. M.V. Madane recently visited the Philippines for an ocular inspection in Iloilo City of the Rice Milling Project.

The rice mill was put up by Ms. Norma Barranco, General Manager of the First Iloilo Area Marketing Cooperative in practical application of the Case Study she submitted in the six months training-seminar on 'Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia' held two years ago. The course covered India, Thailand, Japan and Korea sponsored by ICA and the Japan Agricultural Cooperatives.

The successful development and implementation of the project is attributed not only to the subsidies sponsors have provided but the benefits the project subsequently gave to the people.

Mr. Madane also met two other persons who are still working on the practical aspect of their Case Studies to be submitted for technical and funding assistance. They are Messrs. Sofronio Culiati of Soro-Soro, Batangas and Jose Palmares of Bacolod City whose intended projects will involve corn production and sugar refinery, respectively. However, the two agricultural cooperative practitioners joined a different but shorter cooperative training of similar nature.

The possibilities for the expected assistance for the

ongoing project and projects being conceived will depend on the evaluation and recommendation of Mr. Madane to the sponsoring organizations. The Cooperative Union of the Philippines provided the ICA Project Director assistance in his survey and evaluation.

More Members Join CCFDI

Investors in the recently organized Central Cooperative Finance Development, Incorporated have been increasing since 40 incorporating members formally organized it.

The CCFDI was organized last December 10, 1988 in Quezon City. Among the incorporators were a broad representation of different cooperatives and federations all over the country from credit unions to electric cooperatives and cooperative banks.

Investors to the apex finance arm of the cooperative movement are limited to organized cooperatives who could subscribe to 10 shares valued at P1,000.00 each. The amount of investment could be paid upon acceptance or on a staggered basis.

SINGAPORE

Sistership Agreement Signed

The NTUC Fairprice Co-operative, Singapore, and the Sapporo Citizens' Co-operative, Japan signed a Sistership Agreement in April this year to promote co-operation for mutual benefit and to further the development of a world co-operative movement under the auspices of the International Co-operative Alliance.

Representing NTUC Fairprice Co-operative at the Signing Ceremony held in Singapore on 19 April '89 were Mr. Gopinath Pillai, Chairman, Board of Directors, Mr Chas Meyer, Deputy Chairman, Board of Directors and Mr. Lim Ho Seng, General Manager. Mr. Shinichiro Takakura, Chairman, Board of Directors, Mr. Shinzaburo Asuwa, Deputy Chairman, Board of Directors and Mr Masaharu Kawamura, President, signed on behalf of the Sapporo Citizens' Co-operative.

Under the Sistership Agreement, representatives of the two co-operatives would attempt to meet yearly to keep each other informed of the latest marketing strategies and equipment, management expertise and ways to increase efficiency and productivity. The two co-operatives would also discuss how each could cope with rising competition at national and international levels, promote their housebrand products and how best to increase the market share in their own countries.

Fair Price and Sapporo Citizens' Co-operative would explore the possibility of a staff exchange and training programme in purchasing and distribution; store operations; merchandising and display; general management; business development; computerisation and members' activities.

SNCF-ILO will discuss Co-op Development

A top-level forum will be held 11 to 13 March, 1989, at the Plaza Hotel in Singapore to review the follow-up to the recommendations made at the 1986 Regional Symposium in Chiang Mai on "Effective Co-op Training Policies and Standards" and to make recommendations for development programmes for the 1990s and beyond.

The forum, organised by the SNCF in collaboration with the ILO, was decided upon at the request of the International Labour Organisation which is also holding similar national workshops or forums in nine other developing countries.

ILO since 1979 has organised two regional symposiums in Chiang Mai, Thailand and twenty national workshops under the theme of "Setting Effective Co-operative Training Policies and Standards." In 1984, SNCF jointly organised a national workshop held at the Peninsula Hotel attended by 80 participants. SNCF was represented by Mr. Kasim Abdullah in 1985 when the second ILO-NORAD-CPD Regional Symposium was also held in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The SNCF-ILO Forum in Singapore is the second to be held in this ILO series of ten national workshops for this region.

Recent Publications of the International Cooperative Alliance ROA

- ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN PROMOTING COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA.** Indian Rs. 500/US\$75 (Including Air mail Postage)
- ASIA IN ICA : Participation of Asian Cooperatives in ICA Congresses 1900-1988.** Indian Rs. 400/US\$60- (including Air mail Postage)

Copies can be obtained from:

ICA-DOMUS TRUST
"Bonow House", 43 Friends
Colony New Delhi 110065. India

ICA ROA MEMBER-ORGANISATIONS IN THE ASIAN REGION

AFGHANISTAN

UNION OF PEASANTS' COOPERATIVES OF AFGHANISTAN (UPCA)
P.B. No. 3272 KABUL, Afghanistan
Telex: 241 UPCOOP, Tel: 42683, 41011

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF COOPERATIVES LTD.
363 Pitt Street, 4th Floor, P.O. Box A-231,
SYDNEY South NSW 2000,
Tel. 264 9522 Telex: 75303-CFNSW-AA
Telefax: (02) 267-3047

BANGLADESH

BANGLADESH JATIYA SAMABAYA UNION
9/D Motijheel Commercial Area, DHAKA-1000
Tel: 231697 Cable: RANGDHENU, Dhaka

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
22, Dilkusha Commercial Area
DHAKA 1000 BAGLADESH
Telephone: (2) 232292

CHINA

ALL CHINA FEDERATION OF SUPPLY AND MARKETING COOPERATIVES
45, Fu Xing Men Nei Street, BEIJING
Tel: 668581-2501 Telex: 222212-CFSMC-CN

INDIA

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNION OF INDIA
3, Siri Institutional Area, Khelgaon Marg,
Hauz Khas, NEW DELHI--110 016
Tel: 662750, 665146 Cable: COPUNION.
Telex No: 31-73113-NCUI-IN

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MARKET-ING FEDERATION OF INDIA LTD (NAFED)
1 Siddhartha Enclave
Ring Road, Ashram Chowk, NEW DELHI-110 014
Tel: 6832293, 6845101 Telex: 31-75347-NFD-IN
Cable: NAFED, NEW DELHI.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONSUMERS FEDERATION OF INDIA LTD. (NCCF)
3, Siri Institutional Area,
Khelgaon Marg, Hauz Khas, NEW DELHI-110 016
Cable: KONFED Tele: 668032, 668030, 662756,
Telex: 31-66611 NCCF-IN

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS FEDERATION LTD.
Shivshakti, 2nd Floor, B.G. Kher Road,
Worli, BOMBAY-400 018,
Cable: BHUMIVIKAS.
Tel: 4934349 & 4931359

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE COOPERATIVE BANKS
P.O. Box 9921, Shivshakti 3rd Floor,
B.G. Kher Marg, Worli, BOMBAY-400 018.
Tel:493-3676/394-3182, Telex: 001-76263-NFSB-IN
Cable: COPBANKFED.

INDIAN FARMERS FERTILISER COOPERATIVE LTD. IFFCO,
34, Nehru Place, NEW DELHI-110 019
Tel: 6410894. Telex: IFCO-IN 31-3887/3260,
Cable: IFFCO

KRISHAK BHARATI COOPERATIVE LTD (KRIBHCO),
Red Rose House, 49-50 Nehru Place,
NEW DELHI-110 019.
Tel: 641-9200/641-3548 Telex: 31-62526
Cable: KRIBHCO, New Delhi.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIAL COOPERATIVES LTD.
3, Siri Institutional Area, 4th Floor,
Khelgaon Marg, NEW DELHI-110 016.
Tel: 664006. 663865, Cable: ARTCOOP
Telex: 31-62246 NFIC-IN

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF COOPERATIVE SPINNING MILLS LTD
14, MURZBAN ROAD, 2ND FLOOR
BOMABY 400 001 INDIA

INDONESIA

DEWAN KOPERASI INDONESIA (DEKOPIN)
Jalan S. Parman. Kav. 80
Wisma Koperasi, Lt. II, Slipi, JAKARTA-11420
Tel: 021-5603414, 5480204, Ext 29-30
Telex: 46391 INKUD-IA

IRAN

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RURAL COOPERATIVES
753 Valli-e-asr, TEHRAN.
Telex: 214288 IR. Tel: 890011-19

JAPAN

CENTRAL UNION OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES (CUAC),
8-3 1-chome, Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO
Tel: 245-7562, Telex: 33809-CUAC-J.
Telefax: (03)242 1581. Cable: CHUOKAI. Tokyo

FEDERATION OF HOUSING COOPERATIVES LTD.
WISMA CCB, 2nd Floor,
203 & 204, Jalan Bunus,
KUALA LUMPUR 501100, Tele: 2912433
Telex: 31765 COOP MA. Cable: COOP CENBANK

JAPANESE CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVE UNION
1-13 4-chome, Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku, TOKYO
Cable: CONSUMUNION
Tel: 03-4979103, Telex: 242-3380-NCOOP-J
Telefax: (03)4870722.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FISHERIES'
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS (ZENGYOREN)
"Coop. Building" 1-12 Uchikanda, 1-chome,
Chiyodaku, TOKYO. Cable: NAFEDEFIS
Tel: (03) 294-9717. Telex: 0-222-6234 ZENGYO.
Telefax: 293-9602

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FOREST OWNERS'
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS (ZENMORI-REN)
Cooperative Building, 8th Floor,
8-3, 1-12, 1-chome, Uchikanda, Chiyodaku,
TOKYO-101, Tele: (03)294-9719.

CENTRAL COOPERATIVE BANK FOR AGRICULTURE
AND FORESTRY, (NORINCHUKIN BANK)
1-chome, Otemachi, Chiyodaku, TOKYO
Tel: 270-0331, Telex: 23918/9 NOCHUKIN-J.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS (ZEN-NOH)
8-3, 1-chome, Otemachi, Chiyodaku, TOKYO.
Tel: 03-245-0746, Telex: ZENNO J. 222-3514
Telefax: 81-3-245-7442, 81-3-245-7443

IE-NO-HIKARI ASSOCIATION
11 Funagawara Kee, Ichigaya, Shinjuku, TOKYO.
Tel: 2603151 Telex: 232-2367 IENOHI J
Cable: IENOHIKARI, Tokyo.

NATIONAL MUTUAL INSURANCE FEDERATION OF
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES
(ZENKYOREN) 7-9 Hirakawa-cho,
2-chome, Chiyodaku, TOKYO. 102,
Tel: 03-265-3111. Telefax: 2635095
Telex: 2322973-ZEKI-J

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY COOP
ASSOCIATIONS (NFUCA), Diagaku,
Seikyo Kaikan Building, Chuo,
5-41-18, Nakano-ku. TOKYO.
Tel: 03-382-3131.

NATIONAL PRESS AND INFORMATION FEDERATION
OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES
(ZENKOKU SHIMBUN JOHO NOGYO) KYOKOKUMIAI)
8-3, 1-Choma, Ohtemachi, Chiyoda-Ku
TOKYO JAPAN
Tel: (3) 24507565 Cable: CHUOKAI, TOKYO
Telex: CUAC 3 33809. Telefax: (3) 342-2581

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF KOREA

CENTRAL UNION OF CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVES
Central District, PYONG YONG.
Tel: 3-67-52, 3-56-79.
Telex: 5946 KWAIL KPT Cable: ZORYON.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE
FEDERATION (NACF), 75, 1st Street,
Chungjong-Ro, Jung-Ku. SEOUL-100-707.
Cable: KONACOF TEL: 737-0021, 735-4681.
Telex: 27421 NACOF K Telefax: 02-737-7815.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FISHERIES'
COOPERATIVES, 88, Kyun Wun Dong,
Chongro-Ku. SEOUL 110, Tele: 720-6211-20,
Telex: 24359 FISHCO K. Cable: FISHFEDER

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK COOPERATIVE FEDERATION,
451, Seongnai-Dong, Gangdong-KU
SEOUL-134030. REPUBLIC OF KOREA
Tel: (783)-0050-0059 Cable: NALICOF
Telex: 23517 NALCIF K. FAX:

MALAYSIA

ANGKATAN KERJASAMA KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA
LIMITED., ANGKASA
No 2, 4, & 6 Jalan 222
Peti Surat 368, PETALING JAYA-46740,
Tel: 7563414, 7563200, 7563327.
Telex: 37478 ANKASA MA

COOPERATIVE UNION OF MALAYSIA
PO Box No. 12528, KUALA LUMPUR 50780
Tel: 03-2748220/2748221/2747448
Telex: RELKOP MA 20272, Telefax: 03-2745003.

COOPERATIVE CENTRAL BANK LIMITED
107, Jalan Bunus, P.O. Box 10685,
50922 KUALA LUMPUR
Tel: 2914155, Telex: 33504 COBANK MA

MALAYSIAN COOPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY
LIMITED (MCIS)
Wisma MCIS, Jalan Barat, Peti Surat 345,
PETALING JAYA, Tele: 7552577
Telex: 37493 MCIS MA

NATIONAL LAND FINANCE COOPERATIVE SOCIETY
LIMITED
Bangunan Tun Sambanthan.
No. 2, Jalan Sultan Sulaiman, Peti Surat 12133
KUALA LUMPUR 50768. Tel: 03-2307044
Telex: 32891 NLFCS MA
Cable: NALFIN

FEDERATION OF HOUSING COOPERATIVES LTD.
WISMA CCB, 2nd Floor, 203 & 204, Jalan Bunus,
KUALA LUMPUR 501100, Tele: 2912433
Telex: 31765 COOP MA. Cable: COOP CENBANK

THE MALAYSIAN COOPERATIVE CONSUMER SOCIETY LTD.

No. 20 (2nd, 3rd, 4th floor)
Lrg. Bunus Enam, Off Jln. Masjid India
Peti Surat 12288, 50772 KUALA LUMPUR.
Tel: 2932396/97 Telex: COOP MA 31765

MALAYSIAN COOPERATIVE PRINTING PRESS SOCIETY LTD. 120 Jalan Semangat,
Peti Surat 154. PETALING JAYA.
Tele: 7561817/7563325

PAKISTAN

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE UNION OF PAKISTAN LTD.
P.O. Box 2234 LAHORE Pakistan.
Tele: 54674, 211749 Cable: ENCUP, Lahore

MERCANTILE COOPERATIVE FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.
197-A, The Mall. RAWALPINDI. Pakistan
Tele: 67630, 62155-58 Telex: 5828 FELAB PK

PHILIPPINES

COOPERATIVE UNION OF THE PHILIPPINES INC.
CUP Building, Alejandro Roces Av.
Corner Mother Ignacia St. QUEZON CITY
Tele: 99-1073/96-534
Telex: 40405 Attn: ICS 479 Cable: COUNPHIL

SUGAR COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE OF PHILIPPINES
First Farmers' Agro Coop Building, 2nd Floor,
Talisay, Negros Occidental, P.O. Box 452
BACOLOD CITY 6100. Philippines.

NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF COOPERATIVES INC.,
Apt. 303, Dona Matilde Building,
876-G, Apacible St. Ermita,
MANILA 1000. Philippines. Tele: 58-58-33

SINGAPORE

THE SINGAPORE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE FEDERATION LTD. (SNCF)
510, Thomson Road, 12-02 SLF Bldg.
SINGAPORE 1129. Tele: 2590077
Telefax: 2599577. Tele: RS 24200 TMSR (TM 3695)

SINGAPORE AMALGAMATED SERVICES COOPERATIVE ORGANISATION LTD.
P.O. Box 366, Maxwell Road P.O.
SINGAPORE 9007. Tel: 2735183

SRI LANKA

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE COUNCIL OF SRI LANKA (NCC), Cooperative House,
455, Galle Road, P.O. Box 1469
COLOMBO-03. Sri Lanka: Cable: NACOSIL
Tele: 585496, Telex: 21217, COCOBADCE

SRI LANKA COOPERATIVE FISHERIES' FEDERATION LTD. 127 Grandpass Road
COLOMBO-14, Sri Lanka
Tele: 25057 Cable: COOPFISH

SRI LANKA COCONUT PRODUCERS' COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES' LTD. P.O. Box 796
127, Grandpass Road, COLOMBO-14, Sri Lanka
Tele: 23540, 29024 Telex: 22447 COCDON CE
Cable: COCONION, Colombo

FEDERATION OF COOPERATIVE THRIFT AND CREDIT COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES LTD
3/2 Edmonton Road, COLOMBO-6.
Tele: 553005 Cable: SANASA, Colombo

SRI LANKA COOPERATIVE MARKETING FEDERATION
127, Grandpass Road
COLOMBO-14 SRI LANKA

THAILAND

COOPERATIVE LEAGUE OF THAILAND
4 Pichai Road, Dusit, BANGKOK 10300
Tele: 24-13634, 24-13332 Telex 82374 FEST TH

USSR

CENTROSOYUS (CENTRAL UNION OF SOVIET COOPERATIVE CONSUMER SOCIETIES)
Ilyinka B Tcherkassky pereulok 15-17
MOSCOW 103626 U.S.S.R.
Tel: (095) 430-83-86 Cable: CENTROSOYUS MOSCOW
Telex: 411127 SK SU Telefax: 230-28-19

VIETNAM

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF MARKETING AND SUPPLY COOPERATIVES OF VIETNAM
77, Nguyen Thai Hoc
HANOI. Tele: 56118



(For private circulation only)

ASIAN COOP NEWS

ISSUE NO.4

October-December 1989

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE

Coop movement urged to help poor nations

The then Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, urged the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) to work for ending exploitation of poor nations by developed countries.

Inaugurating the Central Committee meeting of the ICA, on 3rd October 1989, being held for the first time in 95 years in an Asian country, Mr. Gandhi drew the international cooperative movement's attention towards the plight of developing nations which were pitted against transnational cartels and received unfair prices for their produce. They had to pay a very high price for technology transfer.

He suggested that the ICA should help reorient the perspective of the cooperative movement to end exploitation not only at the grassroots level in every country but also at the global level. Some of the feudal attitudes that prevented countries like India from developing were now emerging in the

global economic system. Certain groups of people and countries had a feeling that they possessed the right to exploit and the right to lay down the way the system should function. It was time to use the cooperative movement's strength to break out of the 18th century thinking, globally, he said.

The Prime Minister said India relied on the cooperative movement to bring about economic change for the benefit of the poor. A process had been initiated for the devolution of democratic powers at the grassroots level by strengthening the panchayati raj system and urban local bodies.

The ICA president, Mr. Lars Marcus, said the four-day meeting attended by about 500 delegates from over 50 countries would discuss, among other things, cooperative development in Asia.



Contents

ICA Head Office	1
Co-op Calander	4
ICA Regional Office	4
News from the Region	6
List of holidays at ROAP	6
News from outside the Region	14
Obituary	15

Support **ASCON** by feeding with news and events in your country and organisation. Also please send your suggestions. Please inform us immediately of any change in your mailing address

- Editor

Executive Committee meeting in New Delhi

New Members for ICA : The following organizations have been admitted to the membership by the ICA Executive Committee, at its meeting held on 3rd October 1989, in New Delhi :

- National Co-operative Housing Federation of India,
- National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies of India
- National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India, and
- The Co-operative Emo-Baraka of Zaire.

The Executive Committee of the ICA, took the following important decisions:

In order to encourage support for the declaration of the International Year of Co-operatives, the Director was asked to write to all members before the end of the year with detailed information about how they could support this proposal with their governments.

It was decided that the two themes for the 1990 Central Committee Meeting in Madrid should be Capital Formation in Co-operatives and the Environment.

The Executive Committee decided to meet twice rather than thrice during 1990, and approved the formation of a sub-committee that would meet with the Director and Chairman of the Audit and Control Committee to review ICA work-plans and budgets in December.

Savings drive by coops mooted

The Central Committee of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) has suggested mobilisation of savings by members through thrift and credit societies to overcome the resource crunch. The suggestion came during deliberations on "global economic integration", one of the main items listed on the agenda of the meeting.

Briefing newsmen on the proceedings of the meeting, the ICA Director, Mr. Bruce Thordarson, said that some of the major problems faced by the cooperative movement in the Asian countries have been identified and the conference would try to evolve solutions. A meeting of cooperative ministers and cooperative leaders of the region will be held in Australia early next year to discuss these problems and a comprehensive strategy drawn to solve them.

According to him, lack of capital, inadequacy of management skills and poor education of cooperators, besides

lack of modern training techniques were listed as the major obstacles in proper growth and development of cooperative movement in India and some parts of the region. The conference did not agree to a suggestion of establishing an international cooperative bank to help the societies tide over the financial crisis, but felt that they should mobilise the members to raise funds through special saving drives.

Mr. Thordarson said the meeting's attention was drawn to *intermingling of the cooperative movement with politics* in certain areas of the region. This, the delegates observed, would affect the autonomy of the cooperatives. Mr. Thordarson said the cooperatives needed Government assistance and not interference in its autonomy. The Governments would have to use imagination and intelligence in providing the assistance.

Mr. G.K. Sharma, ICA's regional director for Asia, said that there were many countries where free flow of people from cooperatives to politics and vice versa is common feature. But in South Korea where cooperative movement was quite strong those who opt for offices in cooperatives cannot contest political posts. Some delegates, however, expressed that intermingling of the cooperative movement with politics should not be allowed. They argued that legal provisions as obtaining in South Korea should be enacted and enforced in all the countries to maintain the distinct identity of the cooperatives.

According to Mr. Thordarson, the global economic integration was discussed at some length and it was felt that a more sincere effort was needed to sensitise the members on the basic values and principles of the movement and their role in global economic integration. It was also asserted that the cooperatives would have to diversify their activities with the changing needs of the members and in keeping with the times. The change would also keep member's interest sustained in the society and his trust in them would grow. Regarding training, he said that the ICA would seek the assistance of Japan to train the members of some select agriculture cooperatives from the region as an example of cooperation between the cooperatives.

ICA hits the small screen

The ICA launched its first video programme at the Delhi Central Committee meeting. The programme aims to provide information about ICA's purpose, history and organizational structure to prospective member apex bodies, other NGOs, Governments and the public at large.

The video has excerpts from interviews with 17 cooperative leaders from around the world and from a speech the UN Secretary-General gave at the 1988 ICA Congress in Stockholm.

The 17 - minutes programme provides an international perspective on challenges for the co-operative movement in the light of the larger social, economic and political trends taking shape. It is an overview of the increasingly important role co-operatives are playing in dealing with the pressing human needs in various countries and regions. The video, pointing out the diversity as well as uniformity of the worldwide movement, outlines the benefits of ICA membership and how it helps cooperative associations achieve their specific objectives in their own countries.

The programme was produced for the ICA by Co-operators Communication Limited of Canada, the co-operative movement's first video company.

Copies of the video can be ordered from ICA, Geneva, Price SFR 50 (SFR 45 for ICA members).

How participants saw the Delhi meetings

A questionnaire was circulated to all participants at the end of the meeting. Participants were invited to comment on the meeting by giving their appreciation on its different aspects.

The results, based on the 82 responses received, are given below:

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Very Poor</i>
Agenda	13	48	15	3	-
Theme 1 (Thursday)	23	40	16	1	-
Theme 2 (Friday)	15	46	19	-	-
Documentation	17	33	18	5	1
Organisation	28	41	9	2	-
New meeting structure	12	41	16	5	4
Social Events/	48	27	3	-	-
Communications					
News Bulletin/PR	39	35	4	-	1
Overall Impression	21	47	13	-	-

The most popular agenda item was 'The Challenge of Global Economic Integration', followed by 'Reports from Specialized Organizations' and 'Co-operatives in Asia'.

The meeting format used in New Delhi - Central Committee meetings in the morning and Specialized Organization meetings in the after-noon was an experiment designed to accomplish several objectives: Shorten the overall length of the meetings, provide Central Committee members with an opportunity to observe the Specialized Organizations, and enable the Specialized Organizations to contribute to the discussion on the Central Committee themes.

Although this format also caused some problems - too many meetings at the same time for some participants, more interruptions in the meeting etc. - it is interesting that the evaluation of the new format by participants was extremely positive: 68% of the respondents said that the new structure was either excellent (15%) or good (53%). 11% said that it was either poor (6%) or very poor (5%).

Given such a positive reaction, the Secretariat plans to proceed with the same format for next year's meeting in Madrid.

ICA launches photo contest

An international photo competition, with the theme "*The Worldwide Co-operative Family*", was launched at the ICA Central Committee in New Delhi by Bruce Thordarson, ICA Director. The competition is being organized by ICA and its member organization Verband Der Konsumgenossenschaften, VdK from the German Democratic Republic.

Contributions should reflect co-operative people and activities, the basic co-operative values they represent, and the contribution of co-operatives for solving the global problems of this world.

The competition is open to all photographers who are members of a co-operative, whether or not this is affiliated to ICA.

Co-operative organizations throughout the world are being encouraged to support the competition by donating prizes. Offers received so far include, SFR 2,000, 20,000 Hungarian Forints, an Intuit stone carving, a Bohemian vase, and an English tea-service and selection of teas.

The contest opens 7 October, 1989 and closes 1 September, 1990. Winners will be announced at the ICA Central Committee meeting in Berlin in October 1991.

Copies of the contest rules available in English, French, German from ICA Secretariat. Spanish rules will be available from December 15.

Co-op Calendar

8 - 11 February 1990	Ministerial Conference and Trade Fair, Sydney, Australia.
14 - 19 May 1990	Third African Ministerial Conference together with Cooperative Exhibition, Nairobi, Kenya.
May 1990	Working Party on Co-operative Communications Executive Meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark.
9 - 10 June 1990	ICA Consumer Committee International Conference on Environment, Stockholm, Sweden.
June 1990	ICA Executive Committee, Strasbourg, France.
16 - 22 Sept 1990	Central Committee Meeting Madrid, Spain.
15 - 25 Oct 1991	Central Committee Meeting East Berlin, GDR.
October 1992	ICA Congress Tokyo, Japan.

1990 Central Committee Meeting at Madrid

An invitation to the Central Committee to meet next year in Madrid extended on behalf of the Spanish Co-operative Movement by Mr. Francisco Ceballo Herrero was unanimously accepted in New Delhi. The date of the 1990 meeting are 16-22 September, 1990.

viser and is expected to join in February 1990. Mr. Machima was the Director of the Co-operative League of Thailand in Mid-1970's and was with ILO/Swiss Cooperative Project in Indonesia till 1988 and with ILO/UNDP in Zimbabwe until recently.

3. Mr. Modesto Saonoy has been appointed as part-time Cooptrade Adviser to concentrate on Asean Countries. He will operate from the Philippines.

Regional Office News

Changes in regional membership and administration

New members of the ROAP

The ICA Regional Office for Asia is re-named ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

The ICA Executive Committee at its meeting held in New Delhi on 2nd October, 1989 admitted the following organisations to ICA membership:

1. National Cooperative Housing Federation, India
2. National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Ltd., India
3. National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Ltd.

Staff changes

1. Mr. Karl Johan Fogelstrom, Director of the SCC, succeeds Mr. Sten Dahl, Co-operative Development Adviser of ICA ROAP, who on completion of his assignment with the ICA ROAP, left India on 12th November 1989.
2. Mr. Pradit Machima, from Thailand, has been appointed Consumer Cooperative Development Ad-

Other office matters

Concessions by the Government of India

to ICA ROAP

The foreign experts attached to the ROAP have been allowed to continue to enjoy Income-Tax and Import-duty concessions from the Government of India.

15th meeting of the ICA committee on consumer co-operation held at New Delhi on 03 October, 1989.

6 Members (two from Japan, one from India, two from Malaysia and one from Bangladesh) participated. 3 observers (JCCU, NFUCA and ANGKASA) were also present at the meeting.

Mr. G.K. Sharma, the Regional Director was a special invitee to the meeting, said that this meeting is important in view of the proposed joint meeting with the Main Consumer Committee.

During this meeting, a new member (Fiji Co-operative Association Ltd) has been admitted to the ICA Committee on Consumer Cooperation for Asia.

The Chairman explained the objective of the joint meeting with the Main Consumer Committee. The Secretary gave details of the topics of the joint meeting.

Library computerization programme

To provide efficient reference and information services to ICA/ROA Projects and member organizations, it was decided that the library collection should be computerized. The work is in progress.

Promotional and Developmental Work

The Librarian & Documentation Officer conducted the Meeting and Workshop of the International Working Party of Co-operative Librarians, Information and Documentation Officers of the ICA, held on 3rd to 6th October 1989, at Bonow House. The meeting and workshop was attended by 14 participants.

The objectives of the Meeting and Workshop were:

1. Working Party : (a) To review the working of the International Working Party, and (b) To review the working of the Cooperative Libraries, Documentation and Information Services and Systems for the ICA Member Countries.
2. Workshop : (a) Computerisation of Co-operative Libraries, (b) Compilation of Co-operative Thesaurus, and (c) Future strategy for the development of International Co-operative Library, Documentation and Information Services & Systems and the Role of International Working Party.

Recommendations:

1. A Working Group was formed to re-vitalise the National Working Party of Indian Co-operative Librarians and Documentation Officers.
2. An Asian Working Party for Co-operative Librarians, Information and Documentation Officers was formed consisting one person each from India and Sri Lanka. Efforts are being made to involve more Asian Co-operative Librarians, Information and Documentation Officers.

Japanese Ambassador inaugurates "ICA/Japan Asian Training Course"

Mr. Eijiro Noda, Japanese Ambassador in India, inaugurated the Fourth ICA/Japan Asian Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives on 23rd October 1989. Speaking on the occasion Mr. Noda expressed his happiness over the collaboration the International Cooperative Alliance has with his Government and hoped that the experience of the Japanese Agricultural Cooperative Movement will prove beneficial

to the Cooperative Movements in Asia.

The Training Course, fourth in the series, is being organised in India by the International Co-operative Alliance Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific under the Project funded by the Government of Japan. Fifteen participants from ten Asian countries are participating in the six months course. Besides India, the participants will study the cooperative movements in Thailand, Japan and the Republic of Korea. A special feature would be the preparation of development projects by the participants relevant to their own situations to achieve the ultimate objective of bringing increase income to the member farmers.

Earlier welcoming the Chief Guest and the representative gathering Mr. G.K. Sharma, ICA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, said that the Training Course is getting more and more popular among the Asian cooperative movements and many participants from new member countries of the ICA are interested in joining the Course. The number of seats in the course should be increased if the requests of all ICA member organisations are to be fulfilled, Mr. Sharma added.

Mr. M.V. Madane, Project Director of the ICA Japan Management Training Project, implementing the Training Course, said that discussions have been initiated by the ICA with the Government of Japan for extension of the Project beyond the first five years. He added that a high level delegation had called on the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Government of Japan, earlier this year, and discussed with him the proposal for continuing the project for a further period of five years.

Mr. Madane also informed the gathering that 44 viable development projects of medium size have been prepared by the participants of the earlier three Courses and some of these projects are already operational.

"The law of life should not be competition or acquisitiveness but co-operation, the good of each contributing to the good of all."

-Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru

Regional News

China

China seeks India's help in dairy sector

China sought India's cooperation in dairy development.

An official release said Beijing's interest in the Indian dairy development model was conveyed by the Chinese vice-minister of agriculture, Mr. Liu-Jing, when he called on the Union agriculture minister, Mr. Bhajan Lal here.

The Chinese minister also called on the the minister of state for agriculture research and education, Mr. Harikishan Shastry.

India and China have already agreed to exchange specialists delegation in agriculture and fisheries.

India

All India co-operative week

India celebrated 36th All India Co-operative Week from 14th to 20th November 1989, under the auspicious of NCUI. It was a popular event throughout the country. The Prime Minister conveyed the following method in this occasion.

"The All India Cooperative Week" is a reminder of the growing relevance of the cooperative movement for economic progress and the all-round development of society. Based on the spirit of self-help, cooperatives have the potential of playing a significant role in helping our people, particularly the weaker sections, raise their standard of living.

While the record of our cooperative sector is a mixed one, there are many success stories. These must be studied closely and successful strategies examined for their applicability elsewhere, after taking into account local conditions. At a more general level, professional competence, sustained hard work and above all dedication to the cause are some of the factors which constitute the very foundation for a successful cooperative venture."

Over 80 countries keen on 'Anand'

Anand, a model for the dairy development, is much sought after by countries keen to develop their dairy stocks.

List of holidays during the year 1990

The following holidays will be observed by the ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, New Delhi, during the year 1990:

Sl.No.	Holidays	Date	Day of the Week
1	New Year Day	January 1	Monday
2	Republic Day	January 26	Friday
3	Ramnavami	April 3	Tuesday
4	Mahavir Jayanti	April 7	Saturday
5	Good Friday	April 13	Friday
6	Idu'l Fitr	April 27	Friday
7	Buddha Purnima	May 9	Wed'day
8	Idu'l Zuha	July 4	Wed'day
9	Muharram	August 2	Thursday
10	Janmashtami	August 14	Tuesday
11	Independence Day	August 15	Wed'day
12	Maha Ashtami	September 27	Thursday
13	Maha Navami	September 28	Friday
14	Dussehra	September 29	Saturday
15	Mahatma Gandhi's birthday	October 2	Tuesday
16	Diwali	October 18	Thursday
17	Guru Nanak's Birthday	November 2	Friday
18	Christmas Day	December 25	Tuesday

High-power ministerial level delegations from China, Pakistan, Vietnam, Indonesia and Philippines are converging at Anand on October 3 for a three-day conference "to understand modalities" for establishing 'Anands' in their countries.

In fact, there are 80 odd Asian, African and Latin American countries which are keen to replicate Anand models for their dairy developments.

Pakistan, it is said, had two years ago sought World Bank's financial assistance for its dairy development on the pattern of Anand.

International dairy centre at Anand mooted

As a major "expression of the South-South dialogue, it has been proposed that an international centre be established at Anand under the direction of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for the exchange of experience" in dairy development and a provision of training in policy formulation and management.

'World Food' prize for Dr. Kurien

Dairy pioneer Dr. Verghese Kurien has been awarded the General Foods' 200,000 dollar 'World Food' prize.

KRIBHCO bages FAI award

Krishak Bharati Cooperative has won the prestigious FAI 1989 Environment Protection Award for nitrogenous fertiliser units.

The award, instituted by the Fertiliser Association of India to encourage the fertiliser units to take effective safety and environmental measures, was bagged by KRIBHCO among 26 nitrogenous units which were evaluated for the environmental protection measures taken by them.

The Hazira plant of KRIBHCO accorded top priority to environmental enrichment and it has earned enviable record not only for controlling environmental pollution but steps have also been taken to convert these pollutants into useful products.

Bala Sahitya Cooperative Society Ltd - Plans and Programmes

The Bala Sahitya Cooperative Society Limited is the pioneer publishing cooperative in Asia committed to the development of children's literature and the development of intellectual, cultural, scientific and literary talents of the young generation. The unique children's publishing cooperative was established in 1951 and since then it has made invaluable contribution to the development of literature for children. Some of the important plans and programmes of the Society are, among others, organisation of annual children's book fair, workshops and seminars in children's literature, book shops run by the children, children's computer club, international children's library and museum, research and survey in children's literature and publishing in general, mobile book fairs and book shops, reading centres for children, translation exchange and training programmes, publication and distribution of low-priced and non-priced books and educational materials, publication of dictionaries and encyclopaedias for children etc.

Additional information on the activities of this unique cooperative could be obtained from : The Director, Bala Sahitya Cooperative Society Limited, Kottayam 686 001, Kerala State, India.

Indian Society for Studies in Cooperation (ISSC) completes ten years.

The Indian Society for Studies in Cooperation which was organised in June 1979 is now ten years old. The objectives of this voluntary non-governmental Society are : to promote the study, research and teaching of (a) Cooperative principles and philosophy, (b) Cooperative policy and development in India and abroad, (c) Economic, sociological, political, legal and administrative aspects of Cooperation, and (d) Management of cooperative enterprises. Some of the main activities of the Society are : undertaking, organising, coordinating, research in fundamental and applied aspects of Cooperation; Organising or collaborating in the organisation of conferences, seminars, workshops and other educational programmes at various levels; Publishing reports, papers, books etc.; Issuing periodicals, journals and bulletins; Instituting fellowships, scholarships and prizes, etc.

The membership of the Society is open to both individuals and institutions interested in the study and research in Cooperation. At the end of 1988 there were 484 members of the Society.

The Society has conducted nine national level conventions so far on various topics. The tenth convention is to be held in December 1989 at the Aligarh Muslim University. The Society brings out a half-yearly journal "Sahkarita Samshodhan" (Cooperative Research) in English devoted to research in Cooperation.

Further information on the Society can be obtained from Prof. R.V. Nadkarni, Secretary, Indian Society for Studies in Cooperation, 5, B.J. Road, Pune 411 001, Maharashtra, India.

TRIFED given task of procurement

The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India has been authorized by the Government to take up procurement and price support operations in paddy, wheat, other cereals and pulses, following the successful procurement operations TRIFED had conducted in tribal areas in respect of forest produces of economic importance. It has already built up a successful collection and marketing network in almost all tribal areas of the country since its inception in 1987.

TRIFED handles the procurement and marketing of tribal-area saal seeds, niger seeds, cashew, tejpatta, ginger and forest produces like gum and honey. The procurement of paddy and wheat will be undertaken in close cooperation with the Food Corporation India.

TRIFED is also planning to set up industrial estates to add value to primary forest produces to ensure better return to the producers and consumer appeal to the customers.

Book on co-operative education & training

Cooperative Education and Training in India (with information on Training Facilities Abroad), by Dr. Dharm Vir, published by the Centre for Promotion of Cooperativism (CPC), New Delhi, pages 216 + viii, October 1989, Indian Rs. 125/- (Paperback).

Japan

IDACA and Asian agricultural cooperative movements

Excerpts from the speech by **Mr. Shiro Futagami**, Managing Director, IDACA at the special session on "*Cooperatives in Asia*" of the ICA central committee meeting held in October 1989, in India.

It was in 1958 that representatives of Asian cooperative movements met for the first time in Asia in Kuala Lumpur under the auspices of the ICA to discuss the establishment of the ICA Regional Office for Asia. Since 1960 when the Regional Office was opened in New Delhi, the Asian movements, solidarity and mutual cooperation among the movements in the Region have been stepped up perceptibly.

In 1962, two years after the establishment of the ICA Regional Office, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (CUAC) in Japan took the initiative to hold the Asian Agricultural Cooperative Conference in Tokyo in cooperation with the ICA Regional Office to discuss ways and means of promoting agricultural cooperative movement in the Region. One of the four resolutions adopted at this conference was the creation of a training the Institute for Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia, IDACA in short, in 1963, in Tokyo. It is being and has been operated exclusively for the training of cooperative leaders from developing countries.

The salient features of this unique training institution may be summarised as follows;

First: Established by the CUAC to meet the wishes of agricultural cooperatives.

Second: IDACA has a board of Advisers consisting of members of the ICA Regional Council for Asia representing agricultural cooperatives. The Board meets in consultation with the meetings of ICA Regional Council, for the purpose of discussing IDACA's programme, coordinating its activities with the ICA and establishing close working relations with the ICA Regional Office.

Third: It is not designed to teach theories of cooperation but to have the participants acquaint themselves with working and experiences of agricultural cooperatives in Japan. That is why there are no full time faculty members. Necessary resource persons are invited from among experts working in national prefectural and primary level cooperative organisations according to the subject.

Fourth: IDACA is financially supported by Japanese agricultural cooperatives, namely the CUAC. IDACA is commissioned by the Japanese Government and international organisations such as ICA and Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) to conduct various training programmes.

IDACA organises 8 courses every year on different themes, lasting from two weeks to two months. These are classified into three broad categories. The first one comprises those organised in collaboration with the ICA and AARRO. The second category includes those commissioned by the Government. And the third category themes are picked in accordance with the bilateral agreements between CUAC and agricultural cooperatives in other countries.

The number of participants in the courses, seminars and workshops at IDACA since its inception counts 2,600 from Asian, African and Latin American countries; seventy percent were from Asian countries.

With financial support of the Government, IDACA has also been conducting a follow-up programme for the last 13 years. It holds meetings with ex-participants to hear about how they are making use of their experiences gained in Japan and discuss how to improve IDACA's future training programme.

IDACA has maintained very close collaboration and working relations with the ICA Regional Office for Asia and agricultural cooperatives in the Region. This has also contributed to enhancement of the mutual-understanding and unity among the cooperatives in the Region.

I would also like to mention another unique collaboration with the ICA. It is the special financial contribution to the ICA from the Japanese Government.

In 1985, considering the needs of agricultural cooperatives in the Region and the need to further strengthen the ICA Regional Office, the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives took the initiative in negotiating with the Japanese Government. It requested that the Government Aid Fund be made available for improving agricultural cooperative activities in the Asian Region through new approaches of training and management practices. The Government has finally agreed to grant about US \$ 400,000 a year for special ICA Project for the period of 5 years through the ICA as its implementing organisation starting in 1986-87. It is the first and the only case in which the Japanese Government gives a direct financial contribution to a non-governmental international organisation.

With this fund from the Japanese Government, the ICA Training Project was initiated for Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia. The overall objective of this project is to help strengthen and improve agricultural cooperative performance in the Asian situation. Specifically the project aims to bring about qualitative and quantitative improvement in cooperative services to member farmers at the grass-root level thereby increasing income for the farmers and ensuring their greater participation in cooperative activities. This project is a 6 months training course with 15 participants from ICA member countries in the Asian Region. Part I of this training course begins with a two-month session in New Delhi followed by 2 weeks of study tour of Thailand. The participants are then assigned a task of drafting, in one month, a cooperative development project at primary level in their home countries. After the home assignment, Part II of the course starts in Tokyo at IDACA for another 2 months followed by 2 weeks of study tour of Korea (last course it was in China).

The course has been repeated three times already. All the participants had drawn up development projects, some of which have already been implemented with their own fund and financial support from their government. Over the last three years, this new result-oriented approach has proved useful and effective in improving planning and management capability of the participants.

IDACA will, in its future programme, put an emphasis on the approaches that have been adopted in Japanese agricultural cooperatives.

IDACA activities for 1990 (tentative)

1. **4th ICA Training Course for Strengthening Management of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia**
Number of Participants : 15
Course Period : 26th February - 27th April 1990.
2. **Training Course for Cooperativa Agricola de Cotla Cooperativa Central & Cooperativa Central Agricola Sul-Brasil**
Number of Participants : 7
Course period : 2nd April - 27th April 1990.
3. **JICA General Course in Agricultural Cooperatives for Asian and South American Countries (Agricultural Production and Marketing)**
Number of Participants : 20
Course period : 21st May - 13th July 1990.
4. **ICA/CUAC/IDACA Regional Seminar on "Member Participation"**
Number of Participants : 20
Course period : 22nd July - 11th August 1990.
5. **16th RECA Seminar**
Number of participants : 20
Course period : 26th August - 12th Sept. 1990.
6. **Training Course for Counterparts of Agricultural Cooperative Development Project in Thailand**
Number of Participants : 5
Course period : 25th Sept - 23rd Oct 1990.
7. **Training Course for Cooperators from Selected Countries**
Number of Participants : 13
Course Period : 25th September - 25th October 1990
8. **Training Course for NACF (Korea)**
Not decided yet
9. **Training Course for Associate Counterparts of Agricultural Cooperative Development Project in Thailand**
Not decided yet.

ZEN-NOH's new wholesale market opened

The new Ota market handling vegetables, fruits and flowers in a comprehensive market on a 38.6 hectare site. It is capable of handling 300 tons of vegetables and fruit per day.

It has a 90-square-meter low-temperature warehouse to meet an increasing need for low-temperature distribution of products. Moreover, its parking space is large enough to accommodate about 7,000 cars. Therefore, the new central market has a much greater capability of collecting and handling products, and will thus have a

major impact on the distribution of agricultural products not only in the neighborhood, but also throughout the country.

ZEN-CHU adopts policy to prevent reduction of rice production

The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (ZEN-CHU) has confirmed its policy to confront the government over the expansion of its paddy field diversion programme beyond current levels during the fiscal 1990 to 1992 period. At a recent meeting of about 50 presidents of prefectural-level agricultural cooperative federations, participants decided on basic policies the government should include in its 1990-1992 term of the Rice Paddy Agriculture Establishment Measures, including: establishing means that would expand demand for rice and thus curtail the further diversion of rice paddy acreage; securing existing levels of crop diversion payments and subsidies for improved rice incentives; and establishing sufficient rice stockpiles that would allow it to ensure a stable supply.

In this current phase of the measures, between fiscal 1987 and fiscal 1989, the rice paddy acreage subject to the government's diversion policies rose to 770,000 hectares (1.9 million acres), which is approximately 30% of the nation's entire rice paddy field acreage. However, the total area affected actually stands at 830,000 hectares (2.0 million acres), because in 1988 a further 60,000 hectares (148,200 acres) was added in emergency diversion measures.

The rice surplus situation remains basically unchanged, and through October this year, a total of 400,000 tons of two-year-old rice from the 1987 harvest is expected to remain unsold. When the 1988 surplus is added to the total, about 1.5 million tons may remain in the rice stockpile, which far exceeds the appropriate level of 1.1 million tons.

New managing director for ZEN-CHU

Mr. Teruka Ishikura has been appointed new Managing Director of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (ZEN-CHU).

Environmental protection - Japanese co-op activities

As suppliers of safe and reliable food, co-ops in Japan have dealt with environmental issues since their earlier states. In cooperation with regional authorities, they have actively been engaged in activities to prevent the

pollution of ponds, rivers, lakes, and the sea while conducting a wide range of food contamination-prevention activities.

During the 1960s, Japanese co-ops tackled water pollution resulting from the high consumption of detergents by Japanese households. Since the development of the first co-op brand detergent by JCCU in 1966, co-ops have continuously endeavored to develop safer and more environment-friendly alternatives to commercial detergents. JCCU's basic policy in developing detergents has been "the elimination of LAS phosphate, and fluorescent brighteners" and minimal use of suspicious materials. Co-op members have played an active role by using these products at an increasing rate.

In addition to merchandise development, Japan's co-ops have implemented activities for the protection of water resources. Specifically, the co-ops have held study sessions, inspected drainage, investigated the water quality of rivers, and devised tips to improve the water-related environment in everyday life.

Regular inspection of rivers and lakes to monitor water quality is also a primary concern. Based on the results of research by their members, co-ops have called on local governments to take adequate environmental protection measures. Furthermore, in order to protect the water quality of Shiga Prefecture's Lake Biwa, the largest lake in 3.5 times the mass required for farming. Some co-ops have teamed up with local residents to stage opposition movements against the construction of such courses.

Naturally, like such organizations throughout the world, co-ops in Japan have also been linking agricultural producers and consumers directly in an attempt to secure a stable supply of "safe, reasonably-priced" food. This linkage is important in as much as it prevents unnecessary exposure of humans to detrimental chemicals and contributes to the maintenance of uncontaminated soil and water systems.

The fundamental objectives of this activity are to clearly indicate where the food is coming from and who is producing it to co-op members (i.e., consumers); to disclose explicitly the agricultural chemicals, fertilizers, and feed used to raise produce and livestock; and to give co-op members and producers opportunities to exchange views.

Products supplied through this sort of direct transaction account for about 30% of all food sales of the co-ops nationwide. This method strengthens ties between consumers and producers and provides a chance to look into actual farming activities.

Osaka-Kita Consumer Co-operative Society concluded October 31, 1989 a friendship agreement with Portsea Island Mutual Cooperative Society of Great Britain. Under this agreement, the two co-ops will: (1) undertake information exchanges; (2) mutually extend cooperation for the enhancement of management systems; (3) promote friendship between the two nations; and (4) send delegations to each other regularly.

The agreement was signed by, from Japan, President Kashiwagi of Osaka-Kita Co-op and Executive Director Ohya of Japanese Consumer Co-operative Union and, from Britain, Mr. A.J. Palmer, President, and Mr. G.R. Bennett, CEO of Portsea Island Co-op. Osaka-Kita Co-op has 110,000 members and posted a turnover of Yen 26 billion in 1988, while Portsea Island Co-op 170,000 and £138 million in 1987.

Osaka-Kita Co-op will host a delegation from Portsea Island Co-op in March 1990 for the 40-year anniversary of the inception. With Miyagi Co-op of Japan and Brighton Co-op of Britain forming a similar agreement previously, this friendly pact is the second one between Japan and Britain.

JCCU delegation visited India and Singapore

The JCCU's 17-member delegation was sent to India and Singapore in October 1989 to deepen the co-operative ties of Consumer Coops in Japan with ones in those countries. In India, the group visited National Federation of Co-operatives in India's central women's division, a multi-purpose co-operative, Super Bazaar Cooperatives in New Delhi and Women Mobilization Projects in Agra.

3-Year Evolution of Consumer Co-ops Japan (1986-1988)

October 1989

	1986	86/85	1987	87/86	1988	88/87
Co-op societies (No.)	663	100.9	658	99.2	655	99.5
Members (No.) (Thousand)	11,071	108.7	11,802	106.6	12,664	107.3
Han Groups (No.)	659,592	116.3	746,474	113.2	843,689	113.0
Han organized members(No.)	4,280,409	113.6	4,685,397	109.5	5,051,492	107.8
Han members ratio (%)	38.7	+1.7p	39.7	+1.0p	39.9	+0.2p.
Retail sales (Yen Mil.)	1,823,751	108.7	1,959,672	107.5	2,123,863	108.2
Total turnover (Yen Mil.)	2,016,478	107.6	2,151,148	106.7	2,326,805	115.4
Share Capital (Yen Mil.)	137,744	120.8	162,149	117.7	187,149	115.4
Share capita per member (Y)	12,442	111.1	13,739	110.4	14,778	107.6
Co-op bond (Yen Mil.)	80,008	104.5	77,728	97.2	77,094	99.2
Retail Outlets (No.)	2,143	105.1	2,190	102.2	2,259	103.2
Selling area (m sq.)	942,840	104.3	984,319	104.4	1,005,547	102.2
Full-time Employees(No.)	46,702	106.0	47,890	102.5	48,566	101.4
JCCU wholesales(Y Mil.)	304,090	114.4	337,904	111.1	367,166	108.7
JCCU share in member co-ops	20.8 %	+1.0p	21.6%	+0.8p	21.8%	+0.2p
Co-op's Retail market share	2.41%	+0.38	2.51%	+0.10p	2.45%	-0.06p

* Fiscal year begins in April and ends in March of the next year

* Co-op's retail market share: Co-op's total turnover / National retail sales x 100
(National retail sales exclude those of restaurants, tea rooms, car dealers and gas stations)

Source: CO-OP Japan Information Bulletin No.1, Dec.89,p.7

The delegation members also attended the ICA Central Committee Meeting in New Delhi, October 4-7. They sat in on the ICA Women's Committee and Consumer Committee meetings.

In Singapore, the members visited the NTUC Fairprice Co-operative's head office and two of its shops.

Seikatsu Club Co-op conferred the 'Right Livelihood Award'

Seikatsu Club Co-op, Japan, was given in Stockholm December 9 the Right Livelihood Award by the Right Livelihood Awards Foundation, a Swedish private institution which commends organizations and individuals promoting environmental protection and healthy life. The foundation lauded the 170,000 household groups for its success in achieving a less wasteful lifestyle in the mass-consumption age.

This award is known as "another Nobel prize" because it is presented one day before the Nobel prize ceremony.

Seikatsu Club Co-op was instituted in Tokyo 1965 as a milk-purchasing group. The Co-op, now covering 11 prefectures in Japan primarily in the Tokyo metropolitan area, jointly purchases milk and chemical-free vegetables, recycles paper, and promotes the movement for a nuclear-free world.

Japanese aid to Asian developing nations rising

Japanese Official Development Aid (ODA) particularly to Asian developing nations, has increased rapidly over the past decade, making it certain that Japan would replace the US to become the world's top aid donor in 1989.

The annual ODA white paper issued by the Foreign Ministry notes that new types of ODA are sought by developing nations. Rather than such project-tied aid as roads and dam construction in the past, now recipients are more eager for technological know-how.

Japan's ODA money in 1988, amounted to \$ 9.13 billion, for second place just behind the \$ 9.78 billion by the US, according to the report.

But for the current fiscal year, Japanese ODA commitments are expected to reach about \$ 10 billion, surpassing an \$ 8.6 billion ODA planned by the US.

Republic of Korea

NACF contributions for national calamity

Late this July, torrential rains dumped by Typhoon Judy inundated more than 51,500 hectares of farmland in the southern part of Korea.

NACF, in an effort to help damaged farmers, collected food and commodities amounting to 60 trucks (200 M/T) from staff members of NACF and member cooperatives. Dr. Ho-Sun Han, Chairman & President of NACF, handed over them to the farmers through the governor of Cheonnam province.

Meanwhile, to assist damaged farmers in restoring destroyed farmland. NACF supplied mutual credit funds and farm inputs including farm chemicals through member cooperatives, serviced soaked farming machinery and decided to reschedule loan periods in inundated regions.

Cooperative scholarships

NACF donated 1,123 million won in cooperative scholarships for the second half of 1989. A total of 3,743 scholarships of 300,000 won each were awarded to college students of member farmers. This project is aimed at invigorating the students to study hard, while mitigating the heavy burden of member farmers' education expenses.

NACF organized the "Scholarship Selection Board" which is composed of 6 members, including principals and representative farmers from each townships. Since 1966, NACF has provided 12 billion won for the Cooperative Scholarship Fund.

Agreement signed between NACF and CENTROSOYUS

In Moscow, on September 4, 1989, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed by both Dr. Ho-Sun Han, Chairman & President of the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of Korea and Mr. Pavel Fedirko, President of the Soviet Central Union of Consumer Societies (CENTROSOYUS).

According to the memorandum, the two organizations will conduct regular exchanges of representatives to strengthen mutual cooperation along with exchanges of cooperative information, documentation, photographs and other materials. Both parties will attend, on a reciprocal basis, congress, international conferences, seminars and other meetings, when invited.

Stressing the significance of trade between cooperative organisations, the two sides will soon establish commercial relations.

It is confidently recognized that the agreement will contribute to active collaboration between the two organizations in the future.

International seminar on integrated rural development and agricultural cooperatives

The international seminar on the "Integrated Rural Development and Agricultural Cooperatives" was held in Seoul jointly sponsored by Hanns Seidel Stiftung of Germany and NACF on October 23-25.

At this seminar, 13 specialists from 5 countries - China, Japan, Philippines, Germany and Korea participated.

The introduced situations of integrated rural development of their respective countries, and discussed the role of agricultural cooperatives for integrated rural development.

Agreement on Mutual Cooperation with Hanns Seidel Stiftung

Hanns Seidel Stiftung (HSS) of Germany and NACF came to an agreement on mutual cooperation.

The memorandum of agreement states that the two organizations will collaborate in every way possible, including exchanges of information and joint activities.

HSS was founded in 1967 on the basis of Christianity with interests in rural development and autonomy of regional communities in developing countries.

Before this Agreement was finalized, HSS and NACF held a national seminar on "The Development of Regional Specialties" in Seoul on June 13-14, 1989. HSS invited 18 Presidents of member cooperatives for a study tour this past August on the system and operation of the German Raiffeisen Cooperative Organization.

The Philippines

CUP celebrated its 10th founding anniversary

Greeting the Co-operative Union of the Philippines, Inc., Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino, President of the Philippines, said in her greeting;

"As your theme, "Cooperativism : A Key to National Development," denotes, the cooperative movement

is indeed a vital instrument for the economic, social and cultural advancement of our country. This is particularly important as we strive to bring progress to our rural areas where most of our farmers, fishermen and other related low income groups live. I know your efforts will help increase their productivity, and ultimately, that of the whole country.

I ask you to continue being a potent force in improving the lives of our people, and in accelerating national development."

Senate okays code

The much awaited passage into law of the Cooperative Code of the Philippines is almost over.

Wednesday, October 18, majority of senators passed the code of second reading after introducing minor amendments. With majority of them voting in its favor, the third and final reading will just be a ceremonial exercise. It coincided with the celebration of coop month.

A conference committee between sponsors in the lower house and the committee of Senator Butch Aquino will soon iron out differences between the two versions. When signed into law, the coop movement shall be on its own.

Leaders in the coop movement viewed the passage of the code a major step in instituting far reaching social and economic reforms especially in the countryside.

Among other things, the code lays down the lawful foundation on which self-reliant cooperative units will be formed without government intervention.

- Tax exemption on capital goods imports by cooperatives,
- Granting cooperatives the right to establish their own banks, be these national, regional, provincial or village based.
- Granting the private cooperative sector the primary duty to organize cooperatives for agrarian reform beneficiaries, a provision derived from grim lessons on government initiated coop development in the past.
- Under the principles of subsidiarity or autonomy, the code also guarantees the right of every cooperative to settle its internal problems without the intervention of higher units unless primary coops request for help.

□

Lorejo is elected CUP President

A cooperative leader from Davao in Mindanao is now President of the Cooperative Union of the Philippines (CUP).

In national elections held by the general assembly of the apex organization last August, members representing various types of coop from all over the Philippines elected Engr. Glicerio E. Lorejo to serve for the 1989-1990 term.

Elected with him were Pacita N. Nefulda of Central Luzon as Vice-President for Luzon, Cresente C. Paez as Vice-

President for the Visayas and Filomeno A. Bautista as Vice President for Mindanao.

Felix A. Borja and Modestol Lopez both retained their posts as Treasurer and Corporate Secretary, respectively.

The co-operative education and training fund

1988 is a record breaking year in the remittance of 5% CETF made by 368 cooperatives throughout the country. Ever since the administration of this Fund was transferred to CUP, it was only this year that CUP reached Peso 3.5 million CETF collections. This resulted from the new sharing scheme.

From outside the Asia and the Pacific Region

European Parliament resolution on co-operatives

The European Economic Community has identified co-operatives as a vital element in its international development strategy.

The European Parliament recently considered recommendations from the European Community Committee on Development at a session of the Parliament and passed resolutions that will prove to be of considerable significance for the world-wide co-operative movement.

Resolution on co-operatives and the co-operative movement in development policy

The European Parliament:

- a) having regard to the enormous international growth in co-operatives, and especially in agricultural, credit, consumer and insurance co-operatives in the industrialized countries,
- b) whereas, although the co-operative movement has had scant impact in many ACP countries, more and more countries are committed to a policy of systematically encouraging the growth of such institutions,
- c) having regard to the relatively important roles the co-operative movement, both in Latin America and in Asia,
- d) firmly believing that co-operatives should be treated as a structural constituent of the communities devel-

opment policy and that in consequence co-operative enterprises are destined to play a front-line role in the socio-economic development of third world countries,

- e) whereas, while there is no single co-operative model which is universally applicable, the growth of agricultural, credit and consumer co-operatives in many LDCs and the development of polyvalent or multi-purpose co-operatives can make a contribution to the achievement of local or regional goals,
- f) whereas co-operative enterprise is an instrument capable of ensuring integrated development which can meet the immediate needs of the population,
- g) whereas co-operative development programmes should be geared not merely to economic goals, but should also take account of social goals,
- h) firmly believing that co-operatives should spring from the people concerned so as to contribute to their endogenous development and self-reliance and that the development of the co-operative movement requires the creation and strengthening of representative and properly structure agricultural organizations,
- i) noting that the financial aid given by certain international institutions and international development banks has fallen owing amongst other actors, to external indebtedness and the imposition of conditions and guarantees which are socially and economically unacceptable,
- j) having regard to the lack of involvement of women in co-operative societies in most developing countries

of studies of their position in this the absence of any special legislative provisions in this regard,

whereas co-operatives in the ACP and EEC countries are among the economic and social partners included in the Lome convention,

having regard to the report of the Committee on Development and Cooperation (Doc.A2.205/88):

- stresses the right of each country to set its own development goals and priorities, but recalls that many LDCs have already made the development of a genuine co-operative system a part of their plans for economic development.
- regrets, however, that insufficient attention has been paid within the framework of ACP-EEC cooperation and the Lome convention to the development of co-operatives and likewise regrets the fact that many ACP countries are insufficiently aware of the development aid possibilities which the cooperative movement within the EEC can offer.
- calls, therefore, upon the community institutions and the member states to consider the possibility of including this sector in the next Lome convention and to do likewise in the context of financial and technical cooperation with the developing countries of Latin America and Asia.
- recommends that the states involved formulate national policies which define clearly the different role of the government and the co-operative movement stresses in any case the need for the government's macro-political-goals and the specific goal of the co-operatives to be attuned and for the latter's autonomy to be fully recognized and respected; calls also upon the developing countries and the international organizations for public development aid to try to channel administrative and financial aid in such a way as to enable co-operative progressively to assume responsibility for meeting their own needs.
- considers that rural development and self-sufficiency in food should continue to be prime objectives of the community's development policy and states its belief that agricultural Cooperatives have a fundamental role to play in meeting these objectives and that food aid should also be directed towards this end.
- believes for this reason that the co-operative movement can make a decisive contribution in this field to the achievement of self-sufficiency, the creation

of food surpluses and the development of the market.

- stresses that existing local resources should be mobilized before resorting to external financial assistance, which should complement, but never replace, the contributions from the members of the co-operative.
- believes for this reason that it is absolutely necessary for the states concerned to show a firm commitment to the creation of systems for mobilizing rural and urban savings via savings and credit co-operatives by introducing legislation designed to foster their creation and development.
- calls upon European co-operatives organizations to do more in terms of a 'movement-to-movement' aid policy and do devote greater economic resources to fostering the development of co-operatives in the developing countries.

Obituary

Prof. Svardstrom passes away - Asian Coop News learnt about the sad demise of Professor K.F. Svardstrom. It conveys heart-felt condolences and prays the God to give eternal peace to departed soul.

Mr. Kasaoka passes away - Mr. M. Kasaoka (51), one of our former colleagues from ZEN-NOH, Japan, passed away in Tokyo on 18th November 1989, after a long illness, Mr. Nakaoka of CUAC informed. ICA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific held a condolence meeting to express its sorrow and prays God to give eternal peace to departed soul and courage to his family.

Principles of Co-operation

1. Membership of a cooperative society should be voluntary and available without artificial restriction or any social, political, racial or religious discrimination, to all persons who can make use of its services and are willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.
2. Co-operative societies are democratic organisations. Their affairs should be administered by persons elected or appointed in a manner agreed by the members and accountable to them. Members of primary societies should enjoy equal rights of voting (one member, one vote) and participation in decisions affecting their societies. In other than primary societies the administration should be conducted on a democratic basis in a suitable form.
3. Share capital should only receive a strictly limited rate of interest, if any.
4. Economic results arising out of the operations of a society belong to the members of that society and should be distributed in such a manner as would avoid one member gaining at the expense of others.

This may be done by decision of members as follows:

- a) By provision for development of the business of the cooperative;
 - b) By provision of common services; or,
 - c) By distribution among the members in proportion to their transactions with the society.
5. All cooperative societies should make provision for the education of their members, officers and employees and of the general public, in the principles and techniques of cooperation, both economic and democratic.
 6. All cooperative organisations, in order to best serve the interests of their members and their communities should actively cooperate in every practical way with other cooperatives at local, national and international levels.