

**A STUDY ON THE UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE  
STUDENTS' COOPERATIVES IN CHENNAI  
METROPOLITAN CITY**

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# **CHAPTER - I**

## **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

The nation is celebrating 50 years of its Independence from foreign yoke. Since Independence, India has made progress in several spheres, including industry, agriculture, education, science, technology, social welfare and other spheres. Nehru was the first Prime Minister of India, who among others spearheaded the freedom movement and architected the development of Cooperative Movement after independence. India's founding fathers saw Cooperatives as an ideal vehicle to much needed economic and social reform.

## **1.2 THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT**

The cooperative movement which received legal sanctity in the year 1904 and will be soon completing its century, could play a dynamic role in achieving our objectives. During the past 93 years, cooperative movement has entered into several sectors like credit, banking, processing, housing, warehousing, irrigation, transport and even industries.

Policy makers in India perceived cooperatives as panacea to solve all its ills and take to an illustrious future. Both public and private sectors were to play their role under the concept of mixed economy and the cooperatives were to play the role of a balancing factor for curbing monopolistic tendencies and exploitation unleashed by the competitive forces. A cooperative is not merely an enterprise like a private enterprise, but a system of thought, feeling and action shared by a group of similarly situated persons based on mutuality giving all its members an objective and a code of behaviour. A true cooperative demands from its members strict adherence to righteous, values-honesty, truthfulness, devotion, equality, equity and avoidance of all that is prohibited in the prescribed moral codes prevalent in the society. The cooperative society is created for meeting some of the needs which a person could not meet by his own self-effort in the prevailing market economy.

With the efforts of the dedicated cooperative leadership the movement made all round progress and India claims to be the largest cooperative movement number wise, 99.5 per cent of the villages are covered by rural network of cooperatives, today there are 4.11 lakh cooperative societies with a membership of more than 19 crores and working capital of Rs.1,31,384 crores. Cooperatives command a predominant share in many segments of the

economy. In spite of the keen competition from nationalised and private sector banks, cooperatives are disbursing nearly 60 per cent of total agricultural credit and are distributing 31 per cent of total fertilizers in the country. Cooperatives share in production of sugar is approximately 60 per cent and also they cover more than 55 per cent of handlooms. The cooperatives are playing a very important role in the public distribution system especially for the weaker sections of the community and nearly 17 per cent of the rural fair price shops are in the cooperative fold.

Further in the wake of Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG) of Indian economy and with the emphasis on the operation of market forces, the cooperatives are finding it difficult to compete with multinationals and even domestic corporate sector. The multinational companies possess enormous capital resources along with the benefit of low rate of interest, high managerial skills, advanced technology and world wide marketing network.

The movement calls for a new orientation and direction. While the movement has completed 93 years, the time is more than ripe to seriously review the progress made so far and initiate necessary measures to revitalise the whole cooperative sector.

The New Economic Policies (NEP) of deregulation and liberalisation initiated in 1991 marked a fundamental departure from the erstwhile administered economy. Business enterprises, whether private, public or cooperative have now to increasingly operate within a nationally and internationally competitive environment.

### **1.3 CONSUMER COOPERATIVES IN INDIA**

In India, the Consumer Cooperative has taken roots in 1904, even before the enactment of the first Cooperative Credit Societies Act, 1904. Since then a number of consumer's societies were formed by voluntary efforts of the people, to meet the pressing needs of the public in time of scarcity caused by drought, famine, wars, etc.

The four tier structure of consumer cooperatives are National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF) at national level, State Consumer Federation at State level, Central/wholesale stores at district level and Primary Societies at the base level. According to the latest statistics (1994-95), the status of consumer cooperative is as follows.

**TABLE 1**

**LATEST POSITION OF CONSUMER COOPERATIVES**

(in millions )

SL.NO	PARTICULARS	PRIMARY	DISTRICT	STATE
1	Number of Store	23,237	666	29
2	Membership	9.19	2.46	15,564
3	Share Capital	558.2	2,614.82	799.89
4	Working Capital	2,447.7	2,617.62	2,075.3
5	Total Sales	9,330.39	16,314.99	8,737.49
6	Stores in Profit	45.9%	45.9%	-

It is clear from the above the table that there are 23,237 primary stores functioning in our country and out of which only 45.9 per cent of the stores are running on profit. As far as District wholesale stores are concerned there were 666 stores and the total sales was to the tune of Rs.16315 million. There were 29 State Cooperative Consumer Federation and total sales was nearly Rs.8737.49 million.

**1.4 COOPERATIVES IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

In India, there are 5,81,305 primary schools, 1,63,605 middle schools and 92,252 SSC/Higher secondary schools. As far as total number of colleges are concerned there are 9,278 with 3,10,532 teaching staff which includes university colleges as well affiliated colleges.

Considering the number of schools and universities in India the number of consumer cooperative in educational institutions look too small. In educational institutions, both credit and consumers cooperatives are a common features in India. Majority of them are credit cooperatives organised by the teachers and staff. University student cooperative was formed in 1915 and by 1930's student cooperative could be seen commonly in schools and colleges.

There are 9,057 student/ university cooperatives functioning in our country with 2 million membership and a share capital of Rs. 5 million. The total working capital was Rs.200 million.



## 1.5 CONSUMER COOPERATIVES IN TAMILNADU

Tamilnadu is the pioneer State in India in Consumer Cooperation, the first cooperative stores, viz. The Triplicane Urban Cooperative Society having started in Madras as early as 1904, without being registered under any statute. It was the humble start of a new movement not only in India, but also in the whole South-East Asia, the start of the consumer cooperative movement in this part of the world. Based on the experience of this, a number of stores have been started in the state.

The consumer cooperatives in Tamilnadu play a predominant role in providing quality goods at reasonable prices to the consuming public, ever since their inception. Effective steps are being taken to professionalise the stores to face competition from local private traders to survive and grow in a steady manner.

The structure of Consumer Cooperatives in Tamilnadu continues to be three tier system with Tamilnadu Consumers' Cooperative Federation at the apex level, 30 Consumer Cooperative wholesale Stores at the District level with the sales turnover of Rs 1294.69 lakhs and 599 Primary Consumer Cooperative Stores at the base level out of which 329 stores are running on profit during 1996-97.

In Tamilnadu, 439 University colleges and affiliated colleges are functioning. In this state during 1996-97 there are 3,000 students Cooperative stores with 7.23 lakhs members are functioning. Its paidup share capital was Rs. 77.12 lakhs and total sales was to the tune of Rs. 662.70 lakhs. 1589 stores are working on profit, and out of the total number of store 236 are dormant.

The object of the College/High School/Polytechnic Students Cooperative Stores is not only to provide text books, note books and stationery articles to the students community, but also to inculcate a sense of cooperative spirit and mutual help in the minds of the students. The present day students are the future cooperators and the students cooperative stores is a training ground for them.

Studies have not been conducted much on the Students Cooperatives area. To have a practical insight into the problem like financial resources, management support, Government support and intervention, infrastructural facilities, members participation etc. it was proposed to undertake a study in the university/college student cooperatives in Chennai metropolitan city. Hence this study.

## **1.6 REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

### **1.6.1 Report on the Study Conducted in the Metropolitan City of Madras by the Consultancy & Promotional Cell of NCCF**

The survey was conducted in 9 students cooperative stores in Madras and 2628 students and hundreds of teachers and parents were also contacted. The report reveals that only 38 per cent teacher-student population was covered and the board meetings were not held regularly, govt. assistance has not reached these stores, furnitures were not sufficient and the main business of the stores is generally sale of note books and text books, the margin ranges between 3 and 8 per cent. Teachers viewed that a separate staff is required to run the stores since students requirement is more and the cooperative spirit is not inculcated among the students.

### **1.6.2 School Students' Cooperative Stores in Tamilnadu-A Study by P.Sivaprakasam**

The author explains the reasons for poor performance of the stores were lack of separate building facility, absence of members participation, absence of full time secretary for the stores, lack of finance, disinterest of the management, lack of supervision, absence of election to the board of management for several years and lack of support from government. The author concludes by stating that a planned approach for reviving and revitalising the students cooperative stores in the need of hour.

### **1.6.3 Student/University Cooperatives in India - Present Position and Future Prospects by T.Paranjothi, et al.**

The authors divide the Students Cooperatives into structural and perceptual. The Student/university cooperatives do not have a national or State level network/education. Development of student cooperatives in India needs to be done at the level of districts and states. They have stated that the teachers detest taking up this responsibility because it is consider as a less remunerative, thankless job.

### **1.6.4 Cooperatives in Educational Institutes in India, Editorial UNICONET, June 1997.**

In India there are nearly 12000 Student / College / University Cooperatives and that the stores are there with or without students members, confined to stationery, will be active during the beginning of the academic year and functions with a small capital base and in a small place. It suggest that to develop the students cooperatives there is a need to develop 'Model Cooperatives'.

### **1.6.5 Youth Vision for the Year 2000, Editorial, ICA Asia Pacific Coop News, 1996**

In the above seminar, the need of youth in the campus / University Cooperatives was stressed, special programme to attract the student population left out from students cooperatives, need to gain management skills for future active roles and it suggests that as the essential services by the cooperatives is the supply of consumer commodities, housing, insurance, and career guidance, travel, publications and banking are other services.

### **1.7 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To study the functions and analyse the business of the university/college students' cooperatives in chennai.
2. To find out the problems faced by the university/college students' cooperatives in chennai.
3. To suggest suitable measures to overcome the problems.

### **1.8 METHODOLOGY**

#### **1.8.1 Sources of data**

Only secondary data were collected for the study. The data were collected from each society's records i.e., Audit reports, sales and purchase register etc.,. For literature journals, books, research reports were referred.

#### **1.8.2 Sampling**

Out of 23 college/university cooperatives registered in chennai, for the study all the registered society were taken. The address were collected from the Office of the Deputy Registrar (Non-credit), Chennai and each society were contacted personally.

#### **1.8.3 Tools for data collection**

A schedule was prepared for the university/college student cooperative stores and it was employed to collect data from the sample stores (Annexture I).

#### **1.8.4 Period of study**

Data were collected from the university/college students cooperatives for 5 years period. The period ranges from 1992-93 to 1995-96.

#### **1.8.5 Limitation**

Out of the 23 university/college students cooperatives only 16 are functioning, remaining societies were either dormant or no records could be traced. Even out of these 16 societies there were no proper records and it was difficult to collect the data.

## **1.9 CHAPTERISATION**

Cooperative Movement present position, Consumer Cooperatives in India and Tamilnadu, Student Cooperatives Stores in India and Tamilnadu, Objectives of the Study and Methodology are presented in the first chapter.

Second chapter deals about the profile of the cooperative stores selected for the study and its membership, sharecapital, working capital, business transactions, working results and problems faced by the stores.

Findings of the study is presented in the third chapter. Suggestions to surmount and conclusions are also given in the same chapter.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE STUDENTS ' COOPERATIVES IN CHENNAI - ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

2.1 Chennai (formerly known as Madras), the largest city in South India and the fourth largest city in the Country, is located on the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal. The city derives its name from a small 17th Century fishing hamlet called Madraspatanam, and a weaver's colony - Chennapatnam, which later merged into what is now called Chennai. The city's development started after 1639 when the British East India Company established a Fort and a couple of Trading posts at the small fishing village called Chennai. Since then three and a half centuries have transformed this small village into a bustling metropolis, particularly known for its spaciousness, which is lacking in the other India cities.

The tapestry of Southern India's rich cultural heritage can be seen at its best in Chennai, which has been acclaimed as a cultural capital of India. Here tradition blends with modernity as the past and the present, the planned and unplanned coexist in harmony. Chennai is widely spread in about 180 square kilometres.

For centuries Chennai had been a traders's Paradise. Chennai has nearly 5 million population. Chennai city has a number of Educational Institutions. Recognised Educational Institutions as far as Medicine & Dental is concerned there are 10 colleges, Engineering and Technical 12 Colleges, 23 Arts and Science Colleges, 15 Technical and Polytechnics.

There are 51 school cooperatives, 29 University / College Students cooperatives stores in Chennai registered under Tamilnadu Cooperative Societies Act. Out of the 29 College students cooperatives, the office of the Deputy Registrar (Non Credit) Chennai noted 6 as dormant. Among the 23 University / College students cooperatives only 16 are working, remaining societies are idle, and do not have any business activities or no records could be traced about the stores.

2.2 The data were collected from the 16 University/College Students Cooperatives Stores. Representation of the University / College students cooperatives are as follows: two Medical Colleges, One Veterinary College, One Engineering College, Six Arts and Science Colleges, four Technical and Polytechnics, one Teachers Training College and one Cooperative

Training Institute. The data collected from these 16 University / College Student Cooperatives are analysed here under.

2.3 The table 2 shows the year on which the selected Colleges were started. The date of the stores Registered and actual functioning is also given. It is clear from the table that the Engineering College (now Anna University) is the oldest college started during 1796 and the cooperatives stores registered and started only during 1938. The next oldest college was Madras Medical College (now M.G.R Medical University) started during 1835 and the stores registered during 1938 next only to Engineering College. The remaining University / College Student Cooperative were started after that but before 80's. The last stores started among the selected was during 1977. ( Serial number wise location of the Stores is given in the Appendix - I).

2.4 Generally the objectives of all selected stores are same except the Stella Mary's College Staff and Student Cooperative Stores, its objective is to encourage thrift & self help and provision of necessities and requirements of the students on a non profit basis. The objectives of the stores in general are:

1. The encouragement of thrift and self-help.
2. The purchase of books, stationery and other articles required by members and associates; carrying on in common for the benefits of members of the society of trade of general dealers and establishment and conduct on Cooperative principles of such work on departments of business as may from time to time be resolved upon by general body of members.
3. The dissemination of the knowledge of the cooperative principles and their realisations as far as practicable.
4. The doing of all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

2.5. Table 3 shows the membership position of the selected stores for the last three years. Queen Mary's College has the highest membership as 12,870 in the year 1993-94 which increased to 15,103 during the year 1995-96 out of this only two per cent are 'A' class i.e., teaching & Non teaching members. The rest 98 per cent are 'B' class student members. Next to this Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores has nearly 11,746 members which includes teaching and non-teaching staff and students, where all members are admitted without any classification as it is the case in the remaining stores. In no case share capital is

TABLE 2

DETAILS OF COLLEGE AND STUDENTS COOPERATIVES STARTED

	STORES NAME	COLLEGE STARTED	STORE REGISTERED	STORE FUNCTIONING
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	1835	06.06.1938	10.06.1938
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	1967	26.08.1967	26.08.1967
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	1903	15.04.1948	17.04.1948
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	1796	07.02.1938	08.02.1938
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	1951	31.03.1958	01.04.1958
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	1972	26.10.1972	03.07.1973
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	1840	09.06.1944	15.06.1944
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	1915	14.07.1976	19.07.1976
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	1947	13.10.1976	29.10.1976
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	1975	12.04.1949	30.06.1949
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	1965	20.01.1997	20.01.1977
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	1972	10.08.1972	11.08.1972
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	1921	29.06.1977	06.07.1977
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	1962	30.11.1963	04.12.1963
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	1948	26.04.1948	28.07.1948
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	1954	28.02.1963	06.03.1963

TABLE 3

DETAILS OF THE MEMBERSHIP IN STUDENTS COOPERATIVES

(in numbers)

S.NO.	STORES NAME	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	11,231	11,491	11,746
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	2,181	2,292	2,406
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	4,539	4,674	4,825
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	9,426	9,784	10,794
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	3,283	3,478	3,680
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	215	230	263
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	534	590	781
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	12,870	14,073	15,103
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	2,384	2,384	2,384
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	5,157	5,849	6,961
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	130	127	114
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	938	913	930
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	3,497	3,762	3,950
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	307	307	307
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	0	171	184
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	2,510	2,577	2,635



refunded and used as working capital. Invariably the membership position of the University / College Student Cooperatives increases every year except Stella Mary's College Staff & Student Cooperative Stores and Dr Dharmambal Government Polytechnic women Student Cooperative Stores where the number of members for the three years study period remains same and in the case of State Institute of Commerce Education (SICE) Staff & Student Cooperative Stores where the membership position declined because no serious drive was taken to admit members.

The College students strength and the stores strength do not match because all the College students do not become members in the stores. The College administration can make it mandatory that all the college students must become members in the stores at the time of admission itself.

2.6 It is crystal clear from the table 4 that no stores have borrowed money from external sources. At the same time except Dr. Dharmambal Government Polytechnic (Women) Students Cooperative Stores no store has received government contribution/assistance. As far as the share capital is concerned the Engineering College Cooperative Society has got Rs.2,17,978 during 1995-96 because it admits all the students as its member and collect share capital. It is the case in the Madras Medical College Cooperative stores, Kilpauk Medical College Students Cooperative Stores, Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative Stores, Queen Mary's College Student Cooperative Stores, Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores.

Except Stella Mary's college Staff & Students Cooperative Stores all the 15 stores have got reserve fund and 13 stores have invested it in the cooperative banks. The Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores had a highest reserve of Rs.1,49,897 among the selected stores. During the same period the Quaid-e-milleth Government College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores reserve was Rs.1,07,488. It is evident from the table that all the stores have considerable reserves.

2.7 For the dissemination of the cooperative principle and to inculcate the sense of cooperative spirit and mutual help in the minds of the students they must be made to participate in the functions of the stores. One way is making the students representation in the board of management. Except in the Government Arts College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores, Nanthanam all the stores have elected board. In all these stores students

TABLE 4

## DETAILS OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE STUDENTS COOPERATIVES

(In Rupees)

S.NO	STORES NAME	1993-94			1994-95			1995-96					
		MEMBERS SHARE	GOVT. SHARE	TOTAL RESERVE FUND	MEMBERS SHARE	GOVT. SHARE	TOTAL RESERVE FUND	MEMBERS SHARE	GOVT. SHARE	TOTAL RESERVE FUND			
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	83,580	0	1,05,104	1,88,684	86,360	0	1,31,488	2,17,848	88,910	0	1,49,897	2,38,807
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	37,667	0	95,658	1,33,325	40,997	0	95,658	1,36,655	44,407	0	95,658	1,40,065
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	32,363	0	54,042	86,405	33,713	0	54,043	87,756	35,223	0	54,043	89,266
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	1,03,618	0	49,547	2,33,165	1,90,778	0	49,547	2,40,325	2,17,978	0	49,547	2,67,525
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	13,870	0	5,239	19,109	14,945	0	5,239	20,184	15,618	0	5,239	20,857
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-WAN	1,650	0	56	1,706	1,800	0	56	1,856	2,130	0	56	2,186
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	26,175	0	4,616	30,791	33,180	0	5,120	38,300	40,885	0	5,665	46,550
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	29,831	0	9,384	39,215	34,644	0	14,736	49,380	38,769	0	14,736	53,505
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	2,384	0	0	2,384	2,384	0	0	2,384	2,384	0	0	2,384
10	QUAID-E-MILLET GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	50,027	0	85,920	1,35,947	56,947	0	95,060	1,52,007	68,067	0	1,07,488	1,75,555
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	7,745	0	588	8,333	8,865	0	588	9,453	9,475	0	588	10,063
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	4,505	0	66,356	70,861	4,350	0	66,356	70,706	4,425	0	66,356	70,781
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	3,866	0	2,768	6,634	3,866	0	3,306	7,172	3,866	0	3,400	7,266
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	126	1,070	19,691	20,887	126	1,070	27,745	28,941	126	1,070	33,363	34,559
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	0	0	0	0	1,104	0	1,467	2,571	1,104	0	1,467	2,571
16	NICH S & S COOP. STORES	13,065	0	3,818	16,883	15,075	0	3,818	18,893	15,325	0	3,818	19,143

TABLE 5  
DETAILS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

S.NO.	STORES NAME	NO. OF MEMBERS			TOTAL
		STUDENT	TEACHER	NON-TEACHING	
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	2	3	2	7
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	2	4	1	7
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	2	4	0	6
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	2	5	0	7
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	7	4	2	13
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	0	0	0	0
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	4	2	8	14
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	2	4	1	7
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	4	3	3	10
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	2	4	1	7
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	2	4	1	7
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	7	3	2	12
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	4	6	0	10
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	2	6	1	9
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	9	7	3	19
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	2	3	2	7

have at least two representatives. The stores have a maximum of 14 and minimum of 7 Board Members.

2.8 In the last five years the New College students Cooperative Stores have convened only one General Body . The Government Arts College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores has not convened even a single general body meeting and board meeting in the last 5 years.

Kilpauk Medical College Students Cooperative Stores has convened 25 Board Meetings, Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative Stores 23 Board meetings in the last five years. Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores conducted only one board meeting.

2.9 Out of the selected 16 University/College Students Cooperatives, 7 do not have paid employees and it was managed by either the Secretary or Vice President of the Stores. The Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores has 6 employees viz., one Manager (incharge), 2 Salesman and 3 assistances. The Manager and one Salesman are cooperatively trained. Kilpauk Medical College students Cooperative Stores has 3 employees out of them two are salesmen who are trained/Cooperative Diploma holders. Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative Stores, Engineering College Coop. Stores and Central Polytechnic Staff and Students Cooperative Stores have two paid employees who are cooperative Diploma holders. The New College Students Cooperative stores, Presidency College Students Cooperative Stores, Queen Mary's College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores each got one paid employee.

2.10 Invariably all the stores were looked after by the honorary staff viz., the Secretary or the Vice-President or both of them who are the teaching staff of the particular college. They have a feeling that its is not remunerative and at the same time a thankless job.

2.11 The table 6 depicts that the sale of articles by the University/College Students Cooperatives increased from the previous year i.e. the sale has increased in 1995-96 while comparing with 1994-95. The sale of articles includes Note books, Books, stationery, toiletries and cosmetics, textiles, laboratory equipments, groceries, coffee, cool drinks and snacks and other articles like electrical items etc. Among the selected stores for the study, Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores stands first in the total sales. The sales was Rs.42,20,854 in the year 1993-94 which increased to Rs.76,94,683 in the year 1995-96. Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative Stores' total sales was to the tune of Rs.22,21,166 during 1995-96 and stand second. All the professional college students stores

**TABLE 6**

**DETAILS OF TOTAL SALE OF ARTICLES BY THE STUDENTS COOPERATIVES**

(In Rupees)

S.NO.	STORES NAME	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	42,20,854	61,75,973	76,94,683
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	8,06,159	8,46,343	15,97,652
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	12,48,182	21,61,747	22,21,166
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	4,76,930	4,22,333	5,91,639
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	32,438	42,794	48,057
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	10,360	16,534	14,325
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	60,854	74,126	90,622
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	2,59,086	2,69,393	3,79,120
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	680	830	870
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	4,07,983	4,04,010	5,10,871
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	36,736	62,579	65,323
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	6,51,044	7,48,222	7,86,850
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	3,36,894	3,09,962	3,16,610
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	37,441	32,421	35,677
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	0	1,400	10,230
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	0	1,03,220	86,532

performance were good. In the Arts & Science College Students Cooperatives, Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores sold articles to the tune of Rs.5,10,871 during 1995-96 which increased from 4,07,983 during 1993-94. Queen Mary 's College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores performance was also equally good. All other Arts and Science college cooperatives performance were not satisfactory because nobody is willing to take up the stores since it does not have paid employees and feel that it is a thankless job. Among the technical/Polytechnic and training colleges Central Polytechnic Staff and students cooperative stores total sales was to the tune of Rs.7,86,610. The teachers college cooperative stores and NICM staff and students cooperative stores were not working for some time and they have been revived from 1994-95 onwards.

2.12 The details of the different articles sold by the stores selected for the study is presented in the table 7. On the whole, the college students cooperatives concentrate more on note books, books and stationery only. All 16 stores sales is compared article wise, 84 per cent of the sales is from note, books and stationery, 4.25 per cent sales is through textiles, 2.8 per cent through groceries, 1.72 per cent through sales of coffee, cool drinks and snacks, 1.65 per cent through sale of Laboratory equipments, 1.18 per cent by way of selling toiletries and cosmetics and 4.23 per cent by selling other articles like electrical goods etc.

The sale of articles by each university/college students cooperatives category wise is analysed below.

The table shows the sale of different articles by the stores during 1995-96. In the total sales Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores Sales was to the tune of Rs.76,94,683, Out of that Rs.72,53,547 worth of books and stationery were sold. It is one of the biggest Medical book seller. It sells almost all Medical books which constitute 94 per cent in the total sales. The sale of Doctors Coat constitute 2.57 per cent , 1.40 per cent sales was through stethoscope and small lab-equipments, 1.74 per cent sales is through coffee , cooldrinks and snacks shop attached to the stores. The stores has letout a small space for a private xerox for which it collects rent. For the books safety it is covered with a thick wrapper at free of cost by the stores and given to the buyer. There is no demand for toiletries and cosmetics since near by number of private shops are available and people wants to go out leisurely and make purchases outside.

**TABLE 7**  
**DETAILS OF THE ARTICLES SOLD BY STUDENTS COOPERATIVES DURING 1995-96**

(In Rupees)										
S.NO.	STORES NAME	NOTE, BOOKS STATIONERY	TOILE- TRIES	GROCE- RIES	TEXT- ILES	LAB EQUIP.	COFFEE & SNACKS	OTHER ARTICLES	TOTAL	
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	72,53,547 (94.27)	1,450 (0.02)	0	1,97,866 (2.57)	1,08,000 (1.40)	1,33,820 (1.74)	0	76,94,683 (100)	
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	13,28,895 (83.18)	50,273 (3.15)	0	73,415 (4.60)	30,741 (1.92)	1,14,328 (7.15)	0	15,97,652 (100)	
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	14,00,000 (63.03)	1,00,000 (4.50)	0	98,000 (4.41)	99,000 (4.46)	0	5,24,166 (23.60)	22,21,166 (100)	
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	5,86,864 (99.19)	3,303 (0.56)	0	0	0	0	1,472 (0.25)	5,91,639 (100)	
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	48,057	0	0	0	0	0	0	48,057	
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	14,325	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,325	
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	90,622	0	0	0	0	0	0	90,622	
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	1,28,940 (34.01)	11,035 (2.91)	0	2,39,145 (63.08)	0	0	0	3,79,120 (100)	
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	650 (74.71)	220 (25.29)	0	0	0	0	0	870 (100)	
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	96,410 (18.87)	4,560 (0.90)	4,04,821 (79.24)	5,080 (0.99)	0	0	0	5,10,871 (100)	
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	65,323	0	0	0	0	0	0	65,323	
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	7,86,850	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,86,850	
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	3,16,610	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,16,610	
14	DR.DHARMABAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	35,677	0	0	0	0	0	0	35,677	
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	10,230	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,230	
16	NICH S & S COOP. STORES	0	0	0	0	0	0	86,532	86,532	
		1,21,63,000 (84.17)	1,70,841 (1.18)	4,04,821 (2.8)	6,13,506 (4.25)	2,37,741 (1.65)	2,48,148 (1.72)	6,12,170 (4.23)	1,44,50,227 (100)	

Kilpuak Medical College Students Cooperative Stores sells more items to the tune of Rs.15,97,652. Out of the total sales 83.78 per cent is from the sales of medical books and stationery, 4.60 per cent by way of selling Doctor's coat, 3.15 per cent through sale of toiletries and cosmetics, 1.92 through sale of stethoscope, hammer etc., and 7.15 per cent by way of selling coffee, cool drinks and snacks. Since near by number of private shops are available the sale of toiletries and cosmetics is less.

Among the 16 stores the Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative stores stands second in the total sales. The total sales was Rs.22,21,166. Note books and stationery constitute 63 per cent, 23.60 per cent is by way of selling electrical items etc. The College has made it a point that all the department notes, publications and practical notes shall be sold through cooperative stores. It sells acids and chemicals to the departments which constitutes 4.46 per cent in the total sales. The College bulk purchases regarding stationery, lab equipments etc. are made outside by calling quotations.

Engineering College Cooperative Society's sales was to the tune of Rs.5,91,639. 99 per cent sales is from books and stationery, remaining meagre sales is through toiletries, cosmetics, bulbs and cells. During the initial days it had wide range of products. Because of the less number of staff and dejected existing staff, procedural hurdles and rigid attitude of the auditors have reduced the business operation and interest to expand further.

Out of the six Arts and Science College four students cooperatives concentrate on Note books and stationery, Remaining two stores viz. Queen Mary's College Staff and Student Cooperative Stores and Quaid-e-milleth Government College students Cooperative Stores sell toiletries and cosmetics, sarees, petticoats and blankets. As an exception Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores was the only stores supplying groceries to its students mess, but that too was discontinued by the mess students this year stating that the price of the provisions purchased through the stores is higher when compared to open market and there was delay in supply.

The technical institutes/polytechnic is also selling to its students only the note books, stationery. General observation is that no teaching staff is interested to spare time and look after the business and even if interested, no idea/ guidelines to proceed further.

As far as NICM Staff and Students Cooperative Stores concerned it was not working for some time and started functioning once again from 1994-95. It purchased the required consumer articles like TV, Grinder, Audio System etc. and sold to the members. Now it has



wide range products like toiletries and cosmetics, Note books and stationery . Textile like banian, briefs, panties, chocolate items and supplying few packed items to the mess, supplying required books to the library etc.

2.13 Regarding the purchase of articles for the stores, only 4 stores out of the selected 16 stores go in for Cooperative Wholesale Stores, even among that one store was not satisfied with the quantity, quality supplied, the price and the time taken to supply the product. All the students cooperative stores purchases its requirements from private dealers by inviting quotations. The stores which were earlier buying the products from Cooperative Wholesale Stores have now discontinued because of the poor quality and goods were not available when required etc.

2.14 Out of the selected stores for the study except Stella Mary's College Cooperative Store which do not keep margin and sells the product at the same price at which it was purchased, and all other stores keep margin ranging between 3 per cent and 11 per cent. For credit sales only the stores fix 10 and 11 per cent margin. Nearly 7 stores have fixed 5 per cent margin. Out of the 16 stores 9 stores allow credit sales restricted to College/ Institution.

2.15 The table 9 depicts that all the stores have been provided with accommodation facility by the University/College. Out of the 16 Colleges 6 felt it was not sufficient. Regarding the furniture and fixtures supplied by the Universities/Colleges 8 stores do not have sufficient infrastructural facilities.

Nine University/College cooperatives function from morning to till evening, 7 stores function for an hour or two.

Except in 2 University/College students cooperatives, 14 stores have name boards.

2.16 As far as audit and accounts are concerned except the professional colleges where paid employees are working in all the other i.e. 12 stores accounts are not properly maintained. They State that the teaching staff who is incharge find it very difficult to spare time and also maintain records. Cooperative Audit department is conducting audit. In all the stores, the audit for 1996-97 has not even started. Audit report is reviewed seriously and that is why the stores are not going in for business expansion.

2.17 It is clear from the table 10 that almost all the students cooperative stores have earned profit except Stella Maris College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores which do not keep margin for the product. The profit is more in the Engineering College Cooperative Society. It was Rs.32,580 during 1993-94 and increased to Rs.55,450 during 1995-96. Madras Medical

TABLE 8

DETAILS OF THE OPINION ON THE PURCHASE FROM COOPERATIVE WHOLESALE STORES & PRIVATE DEALERS

S.NO.	STORES NAME	COOP. WHOLESALE STORES			PRIVATE DEALERS		
		QUALITY	QUANTITY	RATE	QUALITY	QUANTITY	RATE
							TIMELY SUPPLY
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	-	-	-	S	S	S
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	-	-	-	S	S	S
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	-	-	-	S	S	S
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	S	S	S	S	S	S
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	-	-	-	S	S	S
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	NS	S	NS	S	S	S
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	S	S	S	S	S	S
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	S	S	S	S	S	S
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	-	-	-	S	S	S

TABLE 9

DETAILS OF THE INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES AT THE STUDENTS COOPERATIVES

S.NO	STORES NAME	BUILDING ACCOMODATION	BUILDING ACCOMODATION SUFFICIENT	FURNITURES & FIXTURES	FURNITURES & FIXTURES SUFFICIENT	WORKING HOURS	NAME BOARD
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	Y	S	Y	NS	10 AM TO 5.30 PM	Y
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	Y	S	Y	S	9.30 AM TO 5.30PM	Y
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	Y	S	Y	S	9 AM TO 5 PM	Y
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	Y	S	Y	NS	-	Y
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	Y	S	Y	S	12 AM TO 1.30 PM	Y
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	Y	S	Y	S	1.00 PM TO 2 PM	N
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	Y	S	Y	S	12 TO 1 PM	Y
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	Y	S	Y	NS	12 TO 5	Y
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	Y	NS	Y	NS	11 AM TO 12 PM	Y
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	Y	NS	Y	NS	8.30 TO 3 PM	Y
11	WITICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	Y	NS	Y	NS	12.30AM TO 1.40PM	Y
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	Y	S	Y	S	10 AM TO 5 PM	Y
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	Y	S	Y	S	10 AM TO 5 PM	Y
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	Y	NS	Y	NS	12 AM TO 5.30 PM	Y
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	Y	NS	Y	NS	3 PM TO 4 PM	N
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	Y	NS	Y	S	7-8AM,430-6PM	Y

College Cooperative Stores profit was Rs.35,479 during 1995-96. The reason for the profit in all cooperatives is that the establishment cost is much less i.e. not more than 3 per cent of the Working capital and also the margin they fix for the product automatically increases the profit.

2.18.1 Invariably all the students cooperatives are not happy with the too many legal restrictions and do not want to go in for business expansion. These stores are also not allowed to function as an independent business enterprise.

2.18.2 The Vice Presidents or the Secretary who is looking after the stores are of the view that there is no proper guidelines for them. They agree that they lack knowledge in running the stores and are not able to cope with the Cooperative Act and rules/byelaws.

2.18.3 Out of the 16 stores only 9 have paid employees. Almost in all these stores the employees are dejected because of the low wages paid to them. So they are not interested in business expansion. Even if a viable stores like Madras medical, Madras Veterinery and Engineering College Students Coopertives Stores General Body approved for pay hike but it was not approved by the Cooperative Department stating that establishment cost should not exceed 3 per cent.

2.18.4 All the 16 students cooperative stores expressed that the stationery and laboratory requirements of the college shall be made through the stores. Library books, purchase of mess groceries can be purchased through the cooperatives. Earlier 4 stores were supplying the groceries to the mess now discontinued because of price variation, quality and for other obvious reasons.

2.18.5 Except one store, no stores have received government assistance. No store have availed the NCDC assistance and they even do not have any idea about it.

TABLE 10

DETAILS OF THE WORKING RESULTS OF THE STUDENTS COOPERATIVES

(In Rupees)

S.NO	STORES NAME	1993-94 PROFIT	1994-95 PROFIT	1995-96 PROFIT
1	MADRAS MEDICAL COLLEGE C.STORES	35,622	39,309	35,479
2	KILPAUK MEDICAL COLLEGE S.C.STORES	9,918	16,558	31,065
3	MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE S.C.STORE	39,459	42,921	14,826
4	ENGINEERING COLLEGE C.SOCIETY(ANNA)	32,580	44,281	55,450
5	THE NEW COLLEGE S C STORES	2,643	2,455	3,270
6	GOVT. ARTS COLLEGE S&S C.STORES-NAN	2,600	3,144	2,350
7	PRESIDENCY COLLEGE S.C.STORES	2,613	3,722	4,140
8	QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE S&S.C.STORES	7,458	5,910	4,490
9	STELLA MARIS COLLEGE S & S.C.STORES	0	0	0
10	QUAID-E-MILLETH GOVT. COLLEGE S.C.S	15,840	14,805	11,320
11	SICE S & S COOP. STORES(COM. EDU.)	1,224	13,879	13,900
12	C.P.T. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	23,374	36,094	34,610
13	C.N POLY. STAFF & STUDENTS C.STORES	190	3,199	3,069
14	DR.DHARMAMBAL GOVT. POLY. W.S.C.S	8,054	5,618	5,062
15	THE TEACHERS COLLEGE C.STORES	0	355	1,558
16	NICM S & S COOP. STORES	0	5,300	12,851

## **CHAPTER III**

### **FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

3.1.1 Chennai (formerly known as Madras), the largest city in South India and the fourth largest city in the Country, is located on the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal. The city derives its name from a small 17th Century fishing hamlet called Madraspatanam, and a weaver's colony - Chennapatnam, which later merged into what is now called Chennai. The city's development started after 1639 when the British East India Company was established. Since then three and a half centuries have transformed this small village into a bustling metropolis, particularly known for its spaciousness, which is lacking in the other India cities.

Chennai is widely spread in about 180 square kilometres and has nearly 5 million population. Chennai city has a number of Educational Institutions. Recognised Educational Institutions as far as Medicine & Dental is concerned there are 10 colleges, Engineering and Technical 12 Colleges, 23 Arts and Science Colleges, 15 Technical and Polytechnics.

There are 51 School Cooperatives, 29 University / College Students Cooperatives Stores in Chennai registered under Tamilnadu Cooperative Societies Act. Out of the 29 College Students Cooperatives, the office of the Deputy Registrar (Non Credit) Chennai noted 6 as dormant. Among the 23 University / College students cooperatives only 16 are working, remaining societies are idle, and do not have any business activities or no records could be traced about the stores.

3.1.2 Representation of the University / College students cooperatives are: two Medical Colleges, One Veterinary College, One Engineering College, Six Arts and Science Colleges, four Technical and Polytechnics, one Teachers Training College and one Institute of Cooperative Management. The data collected from these 16 University / College Student Cooperatives are analysed here under.

3.1.3 The Engineering College (now Anna University) is the oldest college started during 1796 and the cooperatives stores was registered and started only during 1938. The next oldest college was Madras Medical College (now M.G.R Medical University) started during 1835 and the stores registered during 1938 next only to Engineering College. The remaining University / College Students Cooperative were started after that but before 80's.

3.1.4 Generally the objectives of all selected stores are same except the Stella Mary's College Staff & Student Cooperative Stores, its objective is to encourage thrift & self help and provision of necessities and requirements of the students on a non profit basis. The objectives of the stores in general are:

1. The encouragement of thrift and self-help.
2. The purchase of books, stationery and other articles required by members and associates; carrying on in common for the benefits of members of the society of trade of general dealers and establishment and conduct on Cooperative principles of such work on departments of business as may from time to time be resolved upon by general body of members.
3. The dissemination of the knowledge of the cooperative principles and their realisations as far as practicable.
4. The doing of all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

3.1.5 Queen Mary's College has the highest membership as 12,870 in the year 1993-94 which increased to 15,103 during the year 1995-96, out of this only two per cent are 'A' class i.e., teaching & Non teaching members. The rest are 'B' class student members. Next to this, Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores has nearly 11,746 members which includes teaching and non-teaching staff and students, where all members are admitted without any classification as it is the case in the remaining stores. In no case share capital is refunded and used as working capital. Invariably the membership position of the University / College Student Cooperatives increases every year except Stella Mary's College Staff & Student Cooperative Stores and Dr. Dharmambal Government Polytechnic Women Student Cooperative Stores where the number of members for the three years study period remains same and in the case of State Institute of Commerce Education (SICE) Staff & Student Cooperative Stores where the membership position declined because no serious drive was taken to admit members.

The College students strength and the stores strength, do not match because all the College students do not become members in the stores.

3.1.6 No stores have borrowed money from external sources except Dr. Dharmambal Government Polytechnic (Women) Students Cooperative Stores and no store has received government contribution/assistance. As far as the share capital is concerned the Engineering College Cooperative Society has got Rs.2,17,978 during 1995-96 because it admits all the students as its member and collect share capital. It is the case in the Madras Medical College Cooperative stores, Kilpauk Medical College Students Cooperative Stores, Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative Stores, Queen Mary's College Student Cooperative Stores, Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores.

Except Stella Mary's college Staff & Students Cooperative Stores all the 15 stores have got reserve fund and 13 stores have invested it in the cooperative banks. The Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores had a highest reserve of Rs.1,49,897 among the selected stores. During the same period the Quaid-e-milleth Government College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores reserve was Rs.1,07,488. All stores have considerable reserves.

3.1.7 For the dissemination of the cooperative principle and to inculcate the sense of cooperative spirit and mutual help in the minds of the students they must be made to participate in the functions of the stores. One way is making the students representation in the board of management. Except in the Government Arts College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores, all the stores have elected board. In all these stores students have at least two representatives. The stores have a maximum of 14 and minimum of 7 Board Members.

3.1.8 In the last five years the New College students Cooperative Stores have convened only one General Body. The Government Arts College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores has not convened even a single general body meeting and board meeting in the last 5 years.

Kilpauk Medical College Students Cooperative Stores has convened 25 Board Meetings and Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores conducted only one board meeting in the last five years.

3.1.9 Out of the selected 16 University/College Students Cooperatives, 7 do not have paid employees and it was managed by either the Secretary or Vice President of the Stores.

3.1.10 Invariably all the stores are looked after by the honorary staff viz., Secretary or the Vice President or both of them who are the teaching staff of the particular college. They have a feeling that it is not remunerative and at the same time a thankless job.



3.1.11 The sale of articles by the University/College Students Cooperatives increased from the previous year i.e. the sale has increased in 1995-96 while comparing with 1994-95. The sale of articles includes Note books, Books, stationery, toiletries and cosmetics, textiles, laboratory equipments, groceries, coffee, cool drinks & snacks and other articles like electrical items etc. Among the selected stores for the study, Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores stands first in the total sales. The sales was Rs.42,20,854 in the year 1993-94 which increased to Rs.76,94,683 in the year 1995-96. Madras Veterinary College Students Cooperative Stores sold to the tune of Rs.22,21,166 during 1995-96 and stand second. All the professional college students stores performance were good. In the Arts & Science College Students Cooperatives, Quaid-e-milleth Government College Students Cooperative Stores sold articles to the tune of Rs.5,10,871 during 1995-96 which increased from 4,07,983 during 1993-94. Queen Mary 's College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores performance was also equally good. All other Arts and Science college cooperatives performance were not satisfactory because nobody is willing to take up the stores since it does not have paid employees. Among the technical/Polytechnic and training colleges Central Polytechnic Staff and students cooperative stores total sales was to the tune of Rs.7,86,610. The teachers college cooperative stores and NICM staff and students cooperative stores were not working for some time and they have been revived 1994-95 onwards.

3.1.12 On the whole, the college students cooperatives concentrate more on note books, books and stationery only. When all 16 stores sales is compared article wise, 84 per cent of the sales is from note, books and stationery, 4.25 per cent sales is through textiles, 2.8 per cent through groceries, 1.72 per cent through sales of coffee, cool drinks and snacks, 1.65 per cent through sale of Laboratory equipments, 1.18 per cent by way of selling toiletries and cosmetics and 4.23 per cent by selling other articles like electrical goods etc.

3.1.13 Regarding the purchase of articles for the stores, only 4 stores out of the selected 16 stores go in for Cooperative Wholesale Stores, even among that, one store was not satisfied with the quantity, quality supplied, the price and the time taken to supply the product. All the students cooperative stores purchases its requirements from private dealers by inviting quotations. The stores which were earlier buying the products from Cooperative Wholesale Stores have now discontinued because of the poor quality and goods were not available when required etc.

3.1.14 Out of the 16 stores selected for the study, the Stella Mary's College Cooperative Store sell the product for the cost price with out keeping margin. And all other stores keep margin ranging between 3 per cent and 11 per cent. Only for credit normally the stores fix margin between 10 and 11 per cent. Nearly 7 stores have fixed 5 per cent as margin. Out of the 16 stores 9 stores allowed credit sales restricted to College/ Institution.

3.1.15 The stores have been provided with accommodation facility by the University/College. Out of the 16 Colleges 6 felt it was not sufficient. Regarding the furniture and fixtures supplied by the Universities/Colleges 8 stores do not have sufficient infrastructural facilities.

Nine University/College cooperatives function from morning to till evening, 7 stores function for an hour or two.

Except in 2 University/College students cooperatives, 14 stores have name boards.

3.1.16 As far as audit and accounts are concerned except the professional colleges where paid employees are working, in all the other i.e. 12 stores, accounts are not properly maintained. They State that the teaching staff who is incharge find it very difficult to spare time and also maintain records. Cooperative Audit department is conducting audit. In all the stores, the audit for 1996-97 has not even started. Audit report is reviewed seriously and that is why the stores are not going in for business expansion.

3.1.17 Almost all the students cooperative stores have earned profit except Stella Maris College Staff and Students Cooperative Stores which do not keep margin for the product. The profit is more in the Engineering College Cooperative Society. It was Rs.32,580 during 1993-94 and increased to Rs.55,450 during 1995-96. Madras Medical College Cooperative Stores profit was Rs.35,479 during 1995-96. The reason for the profit in all cooperatives is that the establishment cost is much less i.e. not more than 3 per cent of the Working capital and also the margin they fix for the product automatically increases the profit.

3.1.18.1 Invariably all the students cooperatives are not happy with the too many legal restrictions and do not want to go in for business expansion. These stores are also not allowed to function as an independent business enterprise.

3.1.18.2 The Vice Presidents or the Secretary who is looking after the stores are of the view that there is no proper guidelines for them. They agree that they lack knowledge in running the stores and are not able to cope with the Cooperative Act and rules/byelaws.

3.1.18.3 Out of the 16 stores only 9 have paid employees. Almost in all these stores the employees are dejected because of the low wages paid to them comparatively. So they are not interested in business expansion. Even if the viable stores General Body approved for pay hike, it was not approved by the Cooperative Department stating that the establishment cost should not exceed 3 per cent.

3.1.18.4 All the 16 students cooperative stores expressed that the stationery and laboratory requirements, library books, mess purchases of the college are not made through the stores. Earlier 4 stores were supplying the groceries to the mess now discontinued because of price variation, quality and for other obvious reasons.

3.1.18.5 Except one store, no stores have received government assistance. No store have availed the NCDC assistance and they even do not have any idea about it

## **SUGGESTIONS**

The following are the suggestions to surmount and for the better functioning of the University/Students Cooperatives.

3.2.1 The University/College Administration should make it mandatory that all the college new entrants must become members of the stores also so that the stores share capital base will improve and students may try to understand why they became members and what it is? etc.

3.2.2 The University/Colleges which do not have college cooperatives can be asked to start, so as to supply required articles and to inculcate the cooperative spirit in the students community. The Directorate of Collegiate Education can take steps in this regard.

3.2.3 Cooperative culture must be imparted among the teaching and non-teaching community because, it was found that the staff are not interested to look after the stores. Once these people are motivated automatically they will motivate the student community.

3.2.4 The stores Board Members and the paid employees must be trained on Accounts, Cooperative Law, and business operation.

A meeting shall be arranged by calling the Board Members particularly the Secretary and the Vice-president, the Cooperative Department Officials and the Cooperative Audit Department Officials to sort out the problems generally faced by the stores and guide them to proceed further on the right track.

3.2.5 The stores are not having adequate capital. The government support particular NCDC assistance in the form of share capital and for the purchase of furniture and fixtures were not availed. No stores selected for the study were aware of this assistance.

3.2.6 The University/College administration shall provide spacious, adequate place to accommodate the stores free of rent. It was suggested that 1000 sqft is required for college stores.

The furniture provided to the stores is not suitable for the stores and also not adequate. They must be provided sufficiently.

3.2.7 The College administration shall make it a point to draw its requirements like stationery from the stores. The university/college Departments too buy its requirements only from the stores. The Hostel Mess shall request the stores to supply provisions. The library requirements too shall be purchased through the stores.

3.2.8 The students and staff requirements must also be fulfilled by the stores. Instead of not only concentrating on note books, Books, stationery, the students cooperative stores shall concentrate on Toiletries & cosmetics, textiles etc. The cooperative wholesale stores should also help them to grow by supplying quality products, right quantity, at the optimum price and at the right time. Coffee, cool drinks & snacks is another area where the stores can enter into.

3.2.9 Each students cooperative should undertake Sales Promotion activities to generate interest and create awareness among the students at periodical intervals, this will keep the image of the stores. Arranging special sales during festival and lucky Dips, special sales by manufacturers, gifts, discounts for bulk purchase, once in a way selling one product for cost price.

3.2.10 Each stores should have a paid employee atleast on adhoc basis.

3.2.11 The university/college students cooperatives should adopt a sound and scientific pricing policy. The stores either should not go for 'Profiteering' or selling goods at cost price.

3.2.12 If possible the university/students cooperative stores shall get some advance amount from the students and deduct at every purchase made by them, as followed by some stores. This will enhance the working capital base of the stores.

3.2.13 To encourage the members, the profit shall be shared as purchase bonus, providing some gift articles etc.

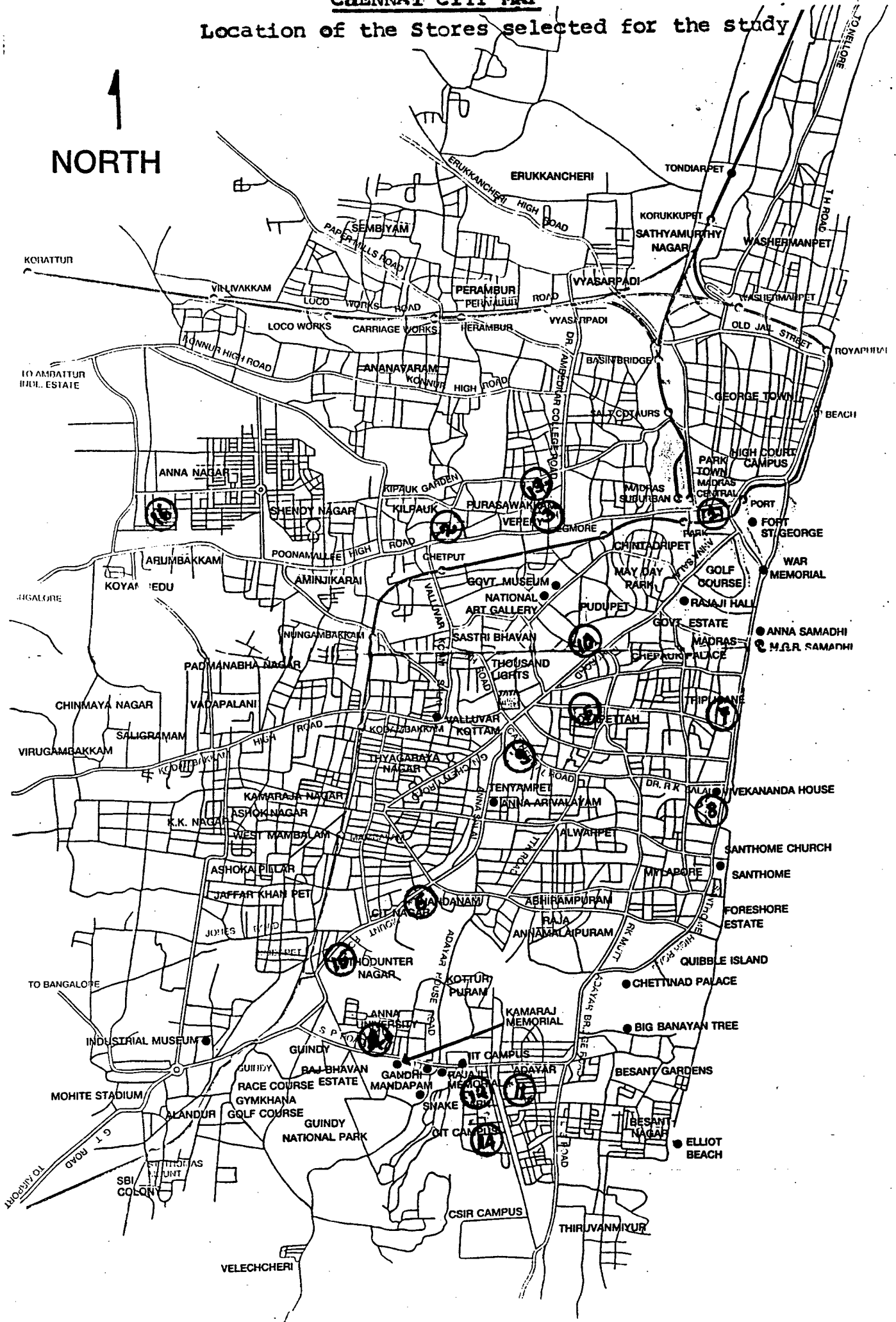
14. Making cooperation as a subject in the college curriculum.

### **3.3 CONCLUSION**

By and large, the objectives is to create awareness among the staff and students to develop this vital cooperative sector particularly students cooperative stores on more scientific lines coupled with cooperative philosophy and values. Students cooperatives aim to create a better society. These values can equip them with a reliable bearing and help them tackle various challenges and problems when they become leaders of tomorrow. So as to build up a strong movement, the students cooperatives have to play a vital role.

APPENDIX - I.  
**CHENNAI CITY MAP**

Location of the Stores selected for the study



## APPENDIX II

### NATESAN INSTITUTE OF COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT, CHENNAI-40

#### SCHEDULE FOR THE UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE STUDENTS' COOPERATIVES

1. Name & Address of the store :

2. When was the University/College started

3. Date of Registration of the students Cooperative Store

4. When actually it started functioning?

5. Objectives of the stores as per Bylaw:

#### 6. Membership

<u>University / College Strength</u>	<u>1991-92</u>	<u>1992-93</u>	<u>1993-94</u>	<u>1994-95</u>	<u>1995-96</u>
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1.No.of students

2.No.of teachers

3.No.of Non-teaching staff.

#### No.of Members of the stores

1. Students

2. Teaching Staff

3. Non-teaching staff

#### 7.FINANCIAL POSITION

(in rupees)

<u>Source\Years</u>	<u>1990-91</u>	<u>1991-92</u>	<u>1992-93</u>	<u>1993-94</u>	<u>1994-95</u>	<u>1995-96</u>
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a.Share Capital

Members Govt.

b.Reserve Fund

c.Borrowings

d.Other Sources

8.Have you received any assistance/subsidy from Govt. or from any other Institution?

9. Have you Invested your money in any other source? Yes/No  
If Yes-give details

10. Details about Establishment Cost and Contingencies of the Store

### ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

11. Composition of Elected Board of Management    No. of Members

a. Students representatives in the Board :

b. Teachers representative in the Board :

c. Non-teaching staff in the board :

d. Others :

12. What are the qualifications to become members of the store as per bylaw.

13. What are the qualifications to become members of the Board of management as per bylaw?

14. How many times the General Body meetings were held for the last five years and number of persons attended.

15. How many times the board meetings were conducted for the last five years.

16. How many paid employees are working in the store

	No.	Working since	Qualification	Trained ?
a. Manager				
b. Salesman				
c. Others				

17. Do you have honorary staff to work? Yes/No

18. Who is looking after the stores?

19. Whether you have made any proposals to the management/Board of management regarding Business operation? What is the response? Give details.



20. GIVE THE DETAILS OF THE PURCHASE, SALE AND STOCK OF THE ARTICLES

(In Rupees)

	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Opening Stock	Purchase Sales Closing Stock	Purchase Sales Closing Stock	Purchase Sales Closing Stock	Purchase Sales Closing Stock	Purchase Sales Closing Stock	Purchase Sales Closing Stock			
A. Note Books & Text Books										
B. Stationary										
C. Toiletries/ Cosmetics										
D. Groceries										
E. Textiles										
F. Cool Drinks, Coffee & Snacks										
G. Other Articles										
Total										

## BUSINESS OPERATION

21. Where do you purchase your requirements ? give your opinion

	Quality	Quantity	Rate	Timely Supply
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A. Coop. Wholesale Stores

B. Private Dealers

22. What is your pricing policy (Margin)?

23. Do you allow credit sales? Yes/No If 'yes' give details.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

24. What are the physical facilities provided by the University/College to the store? Whether it is sufficient to run the store?

	Provided :(Y/N)	Sufficient/Not Sufficient
a. Building/Accommodation		
b. Furnitures & Fixtures		
c. Other		

25. Working hours of the stores : Morning: Evening:

26. Do you have a Name board for the store?

## ACCOUNTS & AUDIT

27. What is the present Accounting System you are following?

28. Whether Audit is conducted regularly? Who conducts the Audit?

29. How seriously the Audit Report is viewed?

**WORKING RESULTS**

30. Profit or loss of the store:

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	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
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A. Profit

B. Loss

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31. Reasons for Profit/Loss?

32. Problems and Suggestions for improvement.

## **APPENDIX III**

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