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COMMENTARY

REPORT ON THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT FOR 1966-67

The last issue of the *Cooperator* carried some comments made by the Commissioner of Cooperative Development in his Report for 1966-67. It is appropriate that what was once called the *Administration Report of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies* should now be titled *Report on the Ceylon Cooperative Movement*. It is also understandable that, say, compared with Mr. W. K. H. Campbell's report of forty years ago, the statistical tables should now occupy much more space in the report than the commentary, taking the commentary in each of the three languages separately. The latter looks too brief for a commentary, too long as annotations on the progress statistics. The fact is that the Registrar then laid down the policy for the movement and commented on it; now, though the Department has the added function of Cooperative Development and the Registrar carries the added designation of Commissioner of Cooperative Development, there is a Minister to lay down policy. Indeed, it is a grave anomaly in independent Ceylon that the report which should be that of the Minister to Parliament should bear the colonial imprint of a departmental head's report. Perhaps, the time should not be far off when the Minister but presents to Parliament a report prepared by a Cooperative Council.

The purpose of a report like this is partly as a record for the future; it is the year's diary for the use of the historian. But primarily, it is a working paper put at the disposal of parliament and people, and the cooperative movement in particular, to promote discussion of such a nation-building force as cooperation.

It may be well worth having a fresh look at what should be included in this report and the form of its arrangement. A study team, or perhaps the Cooperative Commission itself, should be able to sift the grain from the chaff and suggest a pattern for a report that would serve its purpose. There is much to be said for reverting to the earlier practice of assessing the progress of the movement region-wise. The cooperative leaders of an area will be spurred to action by knowing how they measure up, may be by the national or international yardstick, rather than by vaguely contemplating the nation's progress or for that matter mankind's progress in general.

It is worth considering whether we should not have two kinds of reports—an *annual report* consisting of essential comparative statistics, with an explanatory introduction; a *triennial or quinquennial report*, reviewing developments and policy. We base this suggestion on the practice in England in the sphere of higher education. The *Returns from Universities* for each academic year, consisting of comparative statistics, with introductory and explanatory notes, are compiled by the University Grants Committee and presented to Parliament by the Minister. For every quinquennium, the U. G. C. makes available a major report on *University Development*, making a number of recommendations.

What we should be after is that reports on the cooperative movement should be readable, that they should be widely used in seminars as part of the process of cooperative discussion in the country. The triennial or quinquennial report on *Cooperative Development* should be such a document as would appeal not only to the country's cooperators but to social scientists here and abroad. There is a case for the latter document being published (separately) in all the three languages—Sinhala, Tamil and English. It may perhaps be enough if the annual report is Sinhala-Tamil bilingual.

Federation Urges Separate Ministry for Cooperation

The Northern Division Cooperative Federation has urged—in its Memorandum to the Royal Commission on the Cooperative Movement in Ceylon—that there should be a separate Ministry for Cooperation and Community Development. It has also recommended that the cooperative sector be incorporated in the national plan so that it can play a more vital role in the economic life of the country, and that there be a separate Planning and Research Council for the Cooperative Movement: this Council will comprise representatives of the Planning Commission, the Cooperative Movement and the Ministry of Co-operation.

The Memorandum goes on to say that these measures, if implemented, will "enable the Cooperative Movement in Ceylon to play a greater role in national development than at present, helping to raise the standard of living of the peasants and the rural masses".

Some of the other recommendations the Federation has made are:

- Fifty per cent of the shares of the CWE should be owned by cooperatives and at least 50 per cent of the Directorate should be representatives of the cooperative sector.
- The CWE's present retail points should wherever possible, be handed over to MPCs Unions without making it a condition that the present staff be absorbed by them, or closed down.
- Regional Consumers Unions be set up at District Level to undertake wholesale distribution, with the right of importing specific requirements of consumer commodities; they can also undertake inter-district trade.
- All shares of the People's Bank should be owned by the Cooperative Movement and the majority of the Board of Directors should be representatives of the Movement.
- There should be two distinct and independent sections of the People's Bank—one to finance the Cooperative Movement and the other to do commercial banking.
- While economically weak societies may be integrated to form viable units, there should be no general policy of amalgamation, as it would be detrimental to the spirit of the Movement. Moreover there should be no compulsion or pressure.
- Multipurpose societies and single-purpose societies should continue to co-exist but borrowing should be confined to one source. There should be coordination between credit societies and multipurpose societies in the matter of granting and recovering loans.
- Industrial societies should function under the RCS, with RD officials confining

themselves to giving technical advice but having no hand in the management. The textile centres that were opened in the electorates should not be registered as independent societies but be attached to multipurpose societies.

- Cooperation should be included as a subject in the curriculum of secondary schools and higher educational institutions.
- The responsibility for Cooperative Education should devolve on the Movement itself.
- The Jaffna Cooperative Training School should be developed as the Centre of Research and Education in the Tamil medium.
- The Cooperative Department should be made a closed dept.
- The post of CCD should be abolished and the Dept. should be headed by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies. There should be an executive at Senior Asst. Secretary's level under the Ministry of Cooperation to coordinate the national development work to be undertaken by the cooperative sector.
- The Registrar's functions should be limited to registration, liquidation, interpretation of by-laws, approval of MCL, audit, inspection and arbitration.
- Supervision and development work should be taken away from the Cooperative Dept. and entrusted to the Movement itself to be implemented through the respective District Unions.
- The functions of the Dept. should be decentralised effectively so as to obviate bureaucratic control from the top and to cut through red tape.
- The District Unions should set up a Central Body at District level to regulate appointments and to lay down terms and conditions of service of cooperative employees. However ap-

pointments of employees should continue to be in the hands of the respective committees.

- Cooperatives should be exempted from the Industrial Disputes Act. The Central Body at District level should be empowered to adjudicate when disputes arise: if either party is dissatisfied with the decision, it could appeal to the ordinary courts of law in the land.
- The Ministry of Cooperation should in consultation with the Movement, frame a modern Cooperative Ordinance in keeping with the basic principles of Cooperation and the needs of the times.
- If and when supersession is necessary, the management of the society concerned should be entrusted to its secondary union; such supersession should be at the specific request of the general membership of the society.
- The MPCs by-laws should be amended to make the Movement truly democratic.
- Cooperatives should be exempted from the Business Turnover Tax.
- The present structure of the Cooperative Federation of Ceylon should not be changed but larger District Unions should have greater representation in the Federation in proportion to their membership.
- Serious thought should be given to the question of the regionalisation of the Movement itself.

Education Should Precede Registration

Cooperative Education should precede registration of the society and for this purpose a reasonable period for training and testing (at least 6 months) is essential. This is the view expressed by the Cooperative Department in reply to a Questionnaire issued by the Cooperative Commission. It stresses that a new society should be registered only if the feasibility report certifies that it will be a viable economic unit and its chances of survival are good.

LONDON NEWSLETTER

(Our London Correspondent)

Powellism

The immigration policy of Tory M.P. Enoch Powell is an evil influence on society, Canon Collins, Precentor of St. Paul's Cathedral said, while speaking to a mixed Church congregation in London. Canon Collins is one of the most vociferous critics of discrimination in any form, particularly racial. A highly respected Canon for his very considered and forthright positive Christian views.

He further said that, "Clearly Mr. Powell is one of those Christians who supposes that religion and politics ought not to have anything to do with each other". "As a Christian myself, I cannot see how any other Christian can so understand the very nature of the faith he professes". Canon Collins went on: "I question the whole racist outlook that is now associated, unfortunately, with his name—because I think it is an evil influence on the society of Britain".

Mr. Powell's views, the Canon said, are "a serious hindrance to the development of a just and happy relationship among the people of this land and elsewhere and a grave threat to world peace".

Powellism is a canker on the body politic of British society. It is true that there is a very vociferous intellectual minority, particularly student body, which is definitely Anti-Powell in racial policies; also the British Press, daily papers without a single exception, wrote editorials on a particular day challenging the philosophy of Powell's racialism; but the fact remains that in an unofficial census taken, it was revealed that 75—70% of the people of the country are either with Powell or neutral on this issue. Neutrality is not less than confirmation. The Parliament as a body, both Labour and Tories, took Mr. Powell to task.

Powell suggested that there should be repatriation of the so-called immigrants and he said that Britain could follow the example of Ceylon—he meant the Indo-Ceylon pact signed during Mr. Shastri's time. It is really sad that Ceylon has been quoted for a negative philosophy such as discrimination. The 'coloured' people of Britain, a very undesirable term at that, is about 5 million out of a total population of 55 million. Of the 5 million, one million are students who are here, who are actually spending money from their own countries; of the balance, one million are temporary residents; the others earn their living in this country helping to develop the economy of this country; they are not by any means parasitic. Countries which have been built on parasitic traditions are now starting to suggest that people are trying to be parasitic on them.

21-12-68.

Commonwealth

Conference

Twenty four heads of government and four deputies are assembling in London for the Sixteenth Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting. The Conference opens to-morrow.

For nine of the leaders, this is their first meeting and five head governments which have joined the Commonwealth since the last meeting in September 1966.

Papers report here that Ceylon poised for a breakthrough on its crucial agricultural and industrial fronts, attaches great importance to the Conference, especially the world economic and political review. For Ceylon, they say that Rhodesia is expected to be the most important issue but not to the extent of eclipsing other questions. Ceylon is among the countries in the Afro-Asian group that would advocate the use of force to end the rebel regime and enforce 'legal majority rule'.

Ceylon is also expected to discuss the question of Britain's proposed entry into the Common Market and the establishment of a Commonwealth Information Centre.

India, it is suggested, would exact assurances on the future pattern of Commonwealth Trade. It also would put in a great deal of spade work to encourage new regional economic alliances in South East Asia. India would say that economic consolidation is the only answer to political unrest.

Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister has impressed upon the British Prime Minister in a pre-Conference meeting that Majority rule in Rhodesia is the only legal rule.

Two thirds of the 28 Governments represented at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference indicated at the opening session at Marlborough house today that they do not want to join in detailed examination of immigration problems. The Prime Ministers agreed to have immigration wrangled over by a group of officials before they discuss the subjects next week. Some countries perhaps recognized that their countries themselves have stringent immigration controls.

Kenya, Uganda and Zambia are ready for a quarrel with Britain and India: the nations which they want to take upwards of 60,000 Asians with British passports who are now likely to be thrown out of their jobs in these three countries. It is felt that the British Government will request the East African Govts. not to be hasty in this regard.

Mr. Wilson presided over this biggest ever Commonwealth Conference. Canada's Prime Minister Mr. Pierre Trudeau offered to accept more immigrants.

The Conference where leaders of more than one-quarter of the world's population are deliberating, appeared to have got off to a fairly harmonious start.

Mr. Stewart, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, spoke on the international situation for twenty minutes. The Uganda delegation wanted a full rehearsal debate on Nigeria. It was rumoured at the Conference that attempts would be made to make the Nigerian representatives and Biafran envoys now in London meet. If this would bear fruit, it would be a victory for world conscience.

Tanzania's President Nyerere is as bitter as ever about Mr. Wilson's handling of the Rhodesian situation.

For several hours today there was continuous demonstration around Marlborough house by about twelve groups sometimes very divergent groups. They were there to right the wrongs not only of Britain but of other Commonwealth Governments too. Several bus loads of policemen were held in reserve.

Chief Jonathan of Lesotho, is one of the new comers to the Conference. Mr. Dudley Senanayake, the Prime Minister of Ceylon, while not dismissing the Rhodesian controversy, made the point that in the comity of Commonwealth Nations, the question of having rich and poor nations should not be overshadowed.

7-1-69.

Raising the Age

Raising the school leaving age is a highly desirable reform that has to be delayed by the British Government for economic reasons.

Originally the Government named 1970 as target date for raising the leaving age from fifteen to sixteen. That date had to be abandoned. It was a casualty of last year's economic crisis and it had to be deferred by two years.

The Government has now confirmed that September 1972 is still their revised date for making this important change. No target date can be sacrosanct when Britain is still in the middle of an economic battle and when there are so many competing demands on national resources. But the Government is right to reaffirm its determination to plan ahead for school reforms in 1972. They are realistic in re-emphasising the target date well in advance so that the planning for extra buildings and extra teachers can begin right away.

A strong argument for making the change in 1972 is that more and more children are already voluntarily staying on at State secondary schools after the present statutory leaving age of fifteen.

In 1957, about 32 per cent stayed on at school after age fifteen. The 1967 figures show that more than 46 per cent are now still at school at age fifteen plus. The school system has already had to expand to meet this growing demand for an extra year at school. Raising the leaving age by law will complete a splendid reform that has already started.

In the probable future conditions of fast technological change men and women in employment will be called on to learn new skills and grasp new processes, perhaps many times during their working lives. Adaptability presupposes literacy, numeracy and trained intelligence which only adequate education can make general. In an economy of increasingly sophisticated operations there is the prospect that people who lack the capacity to keep up will become unemployed because they are unemployable usefully. Something of that kind has already come about in the United States, and it should be read

'Necessary But Not Desirable'

The collection and disbursement of the Cooperative Fund by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies is considered necessary but not desirable, states the Cooperative Department in reply to a Questionnaire issued by the Cooperative Commission. It goes on to say "for the time being it is desirable to control certain aspects of the disbursement of the Fund but this may be relaxed when the management of the apex organisation grows in efficiency". It suggests that a Committee composed of the CCD, representatives of the Federation and a nominee of the Ministry, be set up to decide the manner of disbursement of the Fund. It wants the purpose for which the monies could be used to be given in greater detail: all

drawings from the Fund should be on an approved budget.

The Dept. has also suggested that the membership of the All Ceylon Cooperative Federation be made more broad-based e.g. by admitting all MPCS Unions. It recommends that the Cooperative Federation should, in due course, take over from the Dept. most of its Extension, Publicity and Supervisory functions, leaving the Dept. free to guide the Movement and carry out its statutory requirements like audit and arbitration.

Another suggestion made by the Dept. is the setting up of a Cooperative Institute of Management to look into the problems of cooperatives and find solutions. It will be in the nature of a consultative service.

'Tis A Pity

It's a pity that Credit Societies are languishing today, observed Mr. Sabapathipillai President of the Islands Supervisory Union at the Union's annual seminar held at Pungudutivu recently.

Mr. M. Ganapathipillai, Hony. Treasurer NDCF, pointed out the need to stimulate greater member interest: it was unfortunate that interest seemed to be declining. He stressed the need for Savings

Schemes to build up reserve funds.

Mr. S. Candiah, Hony. Secretary NDCF, pointed out that the cooperative leaders of today were the products of Credit Societies. Cooperation, he said, was meant not only for economic and social development but also for spiritual progress. He emphasised that it's only in Credit Societies that we can preserve the independence of the movement.

Using homely imagery, Mr. K. Gunaratnam, HQI Jaffna West, compared the MPCS to a 'sambar' while the Credit Society—an independent entity—was like 'ginger sambol.' Credit Societies, he said, had emerged naturally while other types of societies had been imposed from outside. Credit Societies were the foundation of the movement; they would always be needed and therefore it was their duty to make them function effectively.

Pointing out that lack of member interest was a problem found in other countries too, Mr. P. Selvaretnam, Administrative Secretary, NDCF, said that in the prevailing atmosphere, the feeling was "What can a Supervisory Union do?" He advocated the transformation of Supervisory Unions into Development Unions so that their scope would be wider and they could function more effectively.

The following were elected office-bearers at the Annual General Meeting: Messrs. Sabapathipillai (President), Sellathurai (Vice-President), V.V. Nallathamby (Secretary), V. Coomaraswamy (Asst. Secretary) and E. Thambipillai (Treasurer). A Committee of four was also chosen.

as a warning of things to come in countries like Britain.

Similarly the complexity of impersonal relationship in modern society—for example as between parent and education office, citizen and law, the sick and the health service, welfare recipient and welfare organization—demands a rising level of social competence. Its absence is one of the causes of the poverty syndrome and the frequent inability of well-intentioned public schemes to penetrate it. Lack of education, perhaps along with personality failings contribute to social incompetence.

These considerations, together with moral promptings for greater equality of opportunity, make an apparently convincing case to raise the school leaving age.

Education Minister Edward Short has announced a special school-building programme costing £105,000,000 to help to cope with the change over. He has further said that "with schemes for comprehensive schools, this measure will mean for the first time in history, we will have a full and genuine course of secondary education for all children".

23-1-69.

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The Role of Cooperation in Modern Economic Development

In the modern economic set-up, Cooperation is accepted as one of the best forms of organisation. This fact has been increasingly felt mostly in the developing countries. Some of these countries have the firm conviction that economic development can positively be achieved only through cooperation. Therefore in recognition of this fact, we find in many countries that priority and importance have been given to Cooperation. In countries like India and Indonesia separate ministries have been established and ministers are appointed solely to supervise the proper and efficient working of Cooperative organisations and their development. In most other countries separate departments are functioning to supervise the development of the Coop Movement. No further proof is therefore needed to confirm and corroborate that at present Cooperation has been recognised as one of the best and ideal organisations.

Cooperation has been accepted and adopted in almost all the countries irrespective of their political alliance or economic affiliation. Cooperation is found both in America and Russia who openly and unequivocally declare that they are following different and contradictory policies which cannot be reconciled at all. Therefore the acceptance of Cooperation as a means of achieving economic development by these countries in common signifies the importance, competence, greatness

by K. Jayaratnam, M. Com.

and commonness of Cooperation. Apart from its existence in the socialistic and capitalistic countries, it is also extensively and enthusiastically followed in the countries where a mixed economy is prevalent. The governments of these countries vigorously implement their economic plans through the Cooperative organisations.

Via Media

Commonness and special significance are the attributable reasons for the acceptance of Cooperation by the Capitalistic and Socialistic countries. Cooperation eliminates the disadvantages and deficiencies of both the systems, alleged against each other, and contains the advantages and efficiencies of both as claimed by the two. The advocates of extreme Socialism or Communism contend that prevention of concentration of wealth in a few hands is possible only in their set up. And as a result of this, equal distribution of wealth to all is assured. Further the presence of employers, whose only motive is to profit and prosper through the labour of wage earners, is not found.

Communism, according to the opposing ideologists, deprives the freedom of enterprise and private ownership. The refusal of these rights impedes the initiative of individuals. This in turn would hamper the increase of the National Wealth. Denial of these rights are also a negation of democracy.

The assertions of ardent ad-

vocates of capitalism are that it guarantees the freedom of enterprises and recognises the ownership of private property. These cardinal principles make it possible for the achievement of increased national production and productivity. The detrimental outcome of this system, according to the communists, is that it paves the way for concentration of wealth in a few individuals and thereby widens the gap between haves and have-nots. Because of the concentration of wealth the Capitalists persist in exploiting the labourers to enrich their wealth. Therefore this is advantageous only to a few wealthy individuals and detrimental to many.

As has been pointed out at the beginning, Cooperation reconciles and harmonises these two warring polar ideologies. In Cooperation freedom of property is not interfered with, therefore the democratic rights of individuals are not tampered with. The advantages of this system are derived by eliminating the social and economic evils such as disparity in wealth, exploitation etc. Cooperation also achieves the acceptable attributes of Communism such as equal distribution of wealth to all and classless society by eradicating the unacceptable outcome of Communism.

The other modern business organisations such as partnership, Joint-stock company Corporation, etc. are found to be well suited only in the industrial sector. But Cooperative Organisations are com-

patible in Industry, Agriculture, Cottage Industry and in many other allied fields. Because of this reason, greater importance has been given to Cooperation in most of the Agricultural countries like India and Ceylon.

At present in Ceylon greater attention has been given to Cooperation than ever before. During 1911 at the initial stage of Cooperation, Cooperative Credit Societies were established and encouraged to give adequate and controlled credit. But later this was diversified and Cooperation is being used in every field of activity. During the Second World War Cooperative organisations were fully utilised by the government to distribute the scarce and essential commodities to all people equally and equitably. And the Cooperative Movement discharged this to the entire satisfaction of all. Even now the Cooperative organisations are fully utilised by the government in implementing its programme. The government has it as a precondition for granting any aid, that persons desiring the help and aid of the government should form themselves into cooperatives before receiving the aid. It may be the distribution of loans to farmers or providing any help pertaining to Agriculture, Cottage Industry and fisheries; it has been accepted by all peoples and nations that these should be done with the assistance of Cooperative organisations.

Old Wine in a New Bottle

Cooperation is not strange

to us. Cooperation has been in practice since time immemorial. The Cooperative way is also not novel to our people. A new lustre has been given to the word Cooperation which has been in usage for a long time. Cooperation is modernised in order to convince the people to accept this as one of the organisation along with other business and trading organisations, and not to dismiss this as an old method.

If we trace the history of mankind we find that people moved in groups from one place to another during the hunting age, when practising agriculture they lived in groups, sea voyages for the purpose of commerce was also completed successfully in groups. By doing so they were able to protect themselves from dangerous animals, robbers and pirates. If they had tried to survive individually, they would have been annihilated by all the dangerous forces. Later they adopted this way of life in every aspect of their work. People from the same locality harvested together in their fields. Therefore they were able to complete their work without much expense and time. The adoption of this modus operandi can be seen in many villages at present also.

Therefore Cooperation is not novel to us and not imposed upon us by an alien agent. It is only the old wine in a new bottle. The new bottle was made to suit the modern conditions. If any subject is to be accepted in modern times, a precise definition is necessary. In order to convince that Cooperation is also a form of organisation like partnership, Joint-stock company, Corporation etc., many definitions have been given by different schools of thought. But the most acceptable definition is given by Mr. Calvert "Cooperation is a form of organisation wherein persons voluntarily associate together as human beings on the basis of equality for the economic promotion of themselves".

By analysing this definition of Cooperation we may be able to understand and appreciate the principles and importance of Cooperation and distinguish it from other types of organisation such as partnership, Joint-stock company etc. Its superiority over the other types also can be established by the analysis. The definition contains the following salient features and they will be discussed one by one in detail.

1. Persons voluntarily associate together.
2. For the economic promotion of themselves.
3. Join as human beings.
4. Formation on the basis of equality.
5. A form of organisation.

Persons Voluntarily Associate Together

Inclusion of this in the definition signifies the importance of democratic principles of Cooperation. Persons joining into a Cooperative are doing so at their own will and pleasure. They join only after they are convinced of the merits of cooperation. They are not compelled by any legislation to join, though the advantages and principles are taught to

them, they are not forced to join. The existence of continuous relationship is possible only because of this voluntary character. The relationship brought by compulsion is only ephemeral and the members will not have the sense of belonging and attachment. Just as members join when they desire, they also leave the organisation when they wish to do so.

For the Economic Promotion of Themselves

Cooperative organisations are formed by members for the economic development of themselves and not for others' promotion. This fact distinguishes the Cooperative organisation from a charity organisation. Charity organisations are formed for the promotion and assistance of persons who are in distress and difficulties and who are not members of the organisation. It is also appropriate to differentiate a Trade Union from a Cooperative organisation. A trade union is also formed for the economic promotion and welfare of its members. Though it is natural to assume that a Trade Union is also a Cooperative organisation it is not so. A trade union is formed to safeguard the interests of its members from the exploitation of employers and demand more facilities and amenities. But a Cooperative Organisation does not recognise the existence of employers. Further, mostly the cooperative organisation itself is a trading or business organisation.

Join as Human Beings

The prime motive of inserting this also in the definition is to distinguish it from other types of organisations, particularly from Joint-stock companies and also to indicate the superiority of Cooperative organisation over the others. The presence of the human aspect is mainly responsible for considering Cooperation as a way of life. In a joint-stock company importance is given only to capital and not to the

persons who contributed it. But in a Cooperative organisation the members are very important and not the share capital they give. And one can subscribe to a joint-stock company from any part of the country or from any corner of the world. It is not so in a Cooperative organisation. People residing in a particular area or carrying on business within that area are admitted as members. This qualification is stressed for the sake of mutual knowledge. Mutual knowledge is a sine qua non for mutual help. The directorate or the management of a joint-stock company need not know personally the shareholders. At the time of voting also the shareholders presence is not required. They can be represented through proxy. Therefore it is clear that persons are not important in a joint-stock company.

Functions on the Basis of Equality

Equality is a common principle both in Capitalism and Communism. As we have seen at the outset Cooperation is being practised both in the Capitalistic and Communist countries. In a Cooperative Organisation all are equally treated. The rich and the poor are equal. The rights and privileges are equal to all, irrespective of their share holding. Voting rights are also equal, one man one vote, without consideration of their share contribution. In a joint stock company we find that voting rights are given in proportion to their share holding. This democratic control acts as a deterrent to the control and exploitation by a few vested interests.

An Organisation

We have seen at the beginning that the cooperative way of life has been in practice for a long time, but to make this mode to function along with other types, Cooperation is also made an organisation. Cooperation is also a form of organisation for the purpose of trade or business.

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The Nature of Cooperative Principles

I

In the Cooperative Movement the discussion of principles, like the dispute on the soul in Walt Whitman's ideal city, must continue indefinitely. In the last resort it is the only conclusive evidence that the Movement is spiritually alive and awake. No pronouncement on the principles can be final, unless the Movement is already defunct. But there are also more immediately practical reasons. For one thing the Commission had to keep in mind the desire expressed by the 22nd Congress of the I.C.A. and re-iterated by the Central Committee in 1965, that the 23rd Congress should also have on its agenda the discussion of principles, including any proposals for new principles put forward by the national cooperative organisations. Working under a time-limit, the Commission was obliged to concentrate attention on its positive findings and recommendation, after its examination of the Principles of Rochdale, as defined by the Congress of 1937, and their observance or non-observance nearly thirty years later. The Commission might have discussed at greater length various arguments and suggestions for principles it could not accept and stated more fully its reasons for rejecting them. But its report and the opinion of Congress thereon were urgently needed for the guidance of cooperators, both members and leaders, throughout the world who, compelled by rapid-

came very near to expressing the greatest common measure of agreement of the membership of the International Cooperative Alliance. From the very beginning of its work—and it may be desirable to recall that the Commission was composed of one English, one German, one Russian and one American (U.S.A.) cooperator, who unanimously elected an Indian as chairman—the Commission recognised that its primary task was "to attempt to formulate those general principles which should be observed by cooperatives of all types in all social and economic systems." In doing so it constantly kept "in the foreground the consideration that, in varying contexts and historical circumstances innumerable groups of cooperators in their own environment have been trying out how best to attain the ultimate goals of the Movement."

Empirical, Not Dogmatic

The Commission's approach to its task and its method of enquiry were therefore broadly empirical rather than dogmatic. It was much more concerned with the spirit of cooperative action than with the letter of cooperative doctrine. In its own membership it represented cooperative experience in three continents: Europe, Asia and America. It also represented Cooperative Movements working and growing in the mixed competitive and monopolistic economies of Western Europe and North

be explored, transcending the aims defined in its terms of reference. It is the basic thesis of the present essay that the exploration of this larger sphere must begin already, in anticipation of that further re-formulation of Cooperative Principles which will be inevitable within the measurable future. Between the Commission's Report and that of the previous I.C.A. enquiry, which reported to the International Congress of 1937, stretches a period of one generation, more or less. But for the Second World War, this period might well have been shorter. At the accelerating pace at which economic and social organisation is changing today re-formulation will probably be necessary within a shorter period still and it will need to take account of some important questions which this last Commission was not obliged either to raise or to answer.

One of these is the nature of Cooperative Principles. How

far is it justifiable to identify Cooperative Principles with any particular practices? How can that which is essential to be observed to the fullest extent and in the manner that circumstances permit at any time and place, be accepted as equivalent to practices that must be infinitely variable according to social and economic conditions in any part of the globe? Obviously, there must be an intimate relation between Cooperative Principle and practice. It is only the practice of cooperators which can prove whether they understand their own principles and observe them. But it is an oversimplification to say, with the Commission, that principles are practices. They must be distinguished from each other and this distinction, always vital, will become of increasing importance to the Movement's future progress.

Principles Are Not Practices

Now, if Cooperative Principles are not practices, what

are they? They are the ideas, inherent in Cooperation, which determine what it is, as a mode of action. Alternatively they are the ideas which it is the purpose of cooperative activity to realise in the material world. They are different from ideals, which are the ideas conceived as fully realised in all their perfection. Admittedly "principle" is a word difficult to handle. It is one of the hardest worked in the language and, like an old penny of Queen Victoria which has almost lost its image and superscription, is now worn so smooth as to be nearly meaningless. A principle nowadays can signify any point on which anyone is unwilling to compromise. This makes the useful distinction between principle and practice almost impossible to maintain. Thus in common speech it may be said that it is a principle of the Brahmins not to eat beef or of the Moslems not to eat pork or drink alcoholic liquor.

(Continued on page 7)

by W. P. WATKINS

ly changing circumstances to revise their doctrines and policies and to shape their movement's structures, were finding traditional formulations meaningless under contemporary conditions and received interpretations inadequate.

The Commission therefore devoted no time and gave no space in its Report to the discussion of a logically impeccable definition or theory of Cooperation. It concentrated rather on clearing the ground of over-simplifications and narrow-minded dogmatism which flew in the face of factual reality and common sense, on exploding fallacies which had too often led to vain disputes on false issues and on criticising practices which, first adopted for reasons of expediency, tend in time to overlay or nullify the real principle at stake. The direct consequence of the Commission's Report was to let in a great deal of light upon a number of disputed points of cooperative policy and practice and so reveal the truth and safe line of advance between two false extremes, namely, the claim that the traditional principles should be discarded and the refusal to consider any modifications or re-formulation of principle at all.

It is very probable that the Commission did not succeed in convincing all the extremists, on either side, of their errors or in satisfying others who had strong convictions on this point or that. Nevertheless the fact that the 23rd Congress approved the Report with virtual unanimity is proof that it

America, the centrally-planned economy of Western Europe and emergent economy of an ancient society at the beginning of its modern industrial and technical development. In addition, the documentation assembled by the International Cooperative Alliance for the Commission comprised over 100 statements submitted by affiliated national organisations representing cooperatives of every type, besides a number of individuals, describing and commenting upon their experience in attempting with more or less success, to apply the Principles of Rochdale under contemporary conditions.

II

Experience thus formed the ground-work of the Commission's deliberations, whose object was directly to influence cooperative action. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Commission's working definition of Cooperative Principles was "those practices which are essential to the achievement of the Cooperative Movement's purpose." It went on to explain that this purpose went beyond the promotion of the interests of the membership of cooperatives at any given time and included the progress and welfare of humanity in general. Later again the Commission expressed its hope of arriving at formulations of essential values in Cooperation. It seems fair to conclude, from the whole section, entitled "Cooperative Principles and Ideals," in which these statements appear, that the Commission was aware of a much larger sphere that could

Everyone who has studied Gandhi's teaching in some depth must have pondered over what his intellectual, moral and political reaction would have been if he had returned to his India after more than twenty years of independence. Certainly, he would have had to confess to himself that the unbounded optimism that inspired him and his contemporaries in the Congress movement during the struggle for independence had been mistaken.

Little More Than A Sham

The social and economic revolution he had looked forward to had been, first, postponed and, later, shelved altogether—except for some continued rhetorical exuberances in public speaking. Instead of the economic equalisation he had seen coming, inequalities have been widening. The

voured the better-off.

And so the masses of people in the villages, where now, as in Gandhi's time, more than eighty percent of the people live, have mostly remained in relative stagnation. The landless and poorer half of the villagers—Gandhi's dumb and semi-starved millions—may be worse off than they were a quarter of a century ago and are certainly not decidedly better off. Undoubtedly, the still unhampered population explosion has contributed in a mighty way to the severity of what, measured by Gandhi's predictions and honest expectancy, he would now see as a large-scale failure. It is open to speculation whether Gandhi, when facing the population explosion and the cattle explosion, would have modified his views on contraception and cow slaughter. As rational liberalism was a major

disciplined. He would probably have judged this ailment of Indian politics as an *ex post* justification of his recommendation, at the time when India steered out as an independent state, that Congress should stay out of politics, not remaining a political party but becoming a voluntary organisation for social improvement. When Nehru and the majority of the Congress leaders chose to act differently, this was motivated by the fact that there was already a Congress party with an effective machine which could become a national party and which undoubtedly made possible the first ten years of relatively successful government in the country. But it was also during these ten years that the postponement of the social and economic revolution was gradually accepted, the revolution that would have been necessary if the exalted hopes of Gandhi, Nehru, and many others were to have materialised.

If Gandhi could return

If Gandhi could return to India after almost a quarter of a century, he would thus have had to confess that he, together with most leaders of the Congress movement, had been grossly overoptimistic. It is equally certain, however, that he would have stuck to what were his fundamental valuations, rooted as they were in his moral convictions and in his religion. It is unthinkable that today he would have remained silent and idle. He would again have taken to the roads and village lanes and begun anew his crusade, seeking to change the social and economic conceptions of the articulate classes of his nation but at the same time trying to stir up the masses from their stupor. And he would have followers of many diverse backgrounds, now as then kept together as a unified force by his faith, resourcefulness, and humour.

—Sarva Seva Sangh Newsletter

GUNNAR MYRDAL

concentration of financial power has increased. Against the clear condemnation in the Constitution and special legislation, which had been adopted under the influence of the legacy from Gandhi, caste as a social institution has shown an obstinate persistency and may even have gained in importance. The rise in the freedom and status of women which he had propagated has, for the most part, remained a rather empty prescription—except in the top upper classes. The land and tenancy reforms have been little more than a sham. There has been no fundamental reform of education, which still serves to preserve and mark the gulf between those who work with their hands and those who, having acquired the badge of education, do not have to do so. The efforts to lift up and move rural life—agricultural extension, credit and other cooperatives, community development, panchayatraj, and so on—have, contrary to proclaimed objectives, mainly fa-

element in Gandhi's thinking, this does not seem entirely excluded. In any case, he would probably not have laid a main emphasis on these issues, but looked on them as peripheral to the failure in the field of politics.

The development of Indian politics since the attainment of independence, which he himself barely survived, Gandhi would in all certainty have censured severely. He would have seen it to be inflicted with a progressively worsening moral illness, spreading out in the entire polity and society like a cancerous growth, to which the increase of corruption bore testimony. He would have seen another sign of the downward trend of political life in the increasing prevalence of violence—on the one side, riots, usually without a major political purpose, and police brutality on the other side. This, as is often pointed out, has reached a higher level than it did during the struggle against the British which he succeeded in keeping

ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA

The need for the creation of a new Indian architecture has often been stressed by well known architects from abroad visiting the country. In expansive terms they have referred to the wealth of background, the remains from the past and the various problems of the climate, in which they suggest is inherent a solution for the needs of today. The advice has been oft-repeated for the last twenty years or so and still continues, becoming increasingly glib and sophisticated without in any sense taking note of some of the developments that are in fact taking place.

To attempt to make a complete assessment of changes in architectural development in this country over the last decade or so is beset with many difficulties, as some of the achievements are of nebulous character and complicated to define and evaluate in positive terms. Nevertheless changes there have been and of a nature that suggests the gradual emergence of a new architecture.

Contrary to the belief of critics and analysts who suggest a link and development with the traditional architectural background, the more successful examples of recent architecture in India start with a more realistic and straightforward analysis of the needs and aspirations of the mo-

ing in some of our major schools of architecture in the country is also indicative of the trend of development that may be anticipated in the years ahead.

Following the decline of Moghul architecture in the 16th century, the link of continuous development in Indian architecture was snapped. The colonial architecture of the British period although at times brilliant in its achievements was basically formulated and implemented by English architects, and failed to establish any sense of continuity in the Indian context. Occasional recognition of traditional elements particularly in the work of Sir Edward Lutyens, was but an isolated incident designed to serve as a symbol of Imperial grandeur.

Subsequent to Independence and Partition in 1947, interest in architecture was renewed. Much new building took place both in the way of new residential estates and also industrial development. A major event in post-independence architecture was the commissioning of Chandigarh—the new Capital of Punjab at that time. Here the architects Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret, Maxwell Fry and Jane Drew along with a team of Indian architects laid the foundation of a national and experimental approach to building problems. With the use of local materials

new houses is the use of large glass areas. This has become almost a craze regardless of the fact that it is basically unsuitable in terms of the climate, as the large windows tend to let in considerable heat into the houses. Partly this is the result of an approach to planning where the entire house looks outwards to the garden or the road. This is basically different from the traditional form of the house in a hot dry area where all the rooms look inward on to an internal courtyard.

A realisation of the importance and value of some of the traditional features of Indian architecture and planning has stimulated interest in a more objective study of the environment and details of older towns and cities. The narrow shaded streets, the closely built buildings with a strong sense of urbanity, and the gradual unfolding of spaces along the street in definite sequence, are aspects whose value is gradually being recognised and accepted.

In a climate of extremes the juxtaposition of isolated buildings set in open space has no meaning. No wonder that in the past important buildings have always formed an integral part of the total fabric of towns, even when they have been developed as elements in a larger complex. Isolated buildings grouped carefully on an open site to create series of partially enclosed spaces have been one of the hallmarks of development in the Modern Movement of architecture in the West. In the Indian context this has had to be modified with the addition of a series of connecting covered links providing shelter from the hot sun. In extreme cases no connections have been provided as is instanced in the Capital complex at Chandigarh, where the three buildings stand in powerful sculptural relationship against the background of the Shivalik hills. In terms of the intense summer heat movement from one building to another on foot is quite unthinkable on account of the enormous distances between them.

Needs of Climate

The proposed landscaping between the buildings will certainly create more interest in the transition from one part to another, but will not reduce the distance to be traversed. By contrast any of the older historical complexes in this country display a tight-knit relationship leading from court to court with buildings as an integral part of the spatial sequence. This is perhaps the form that will be increasingly used in large scale developments, particularly in educational complexes and universities where movement from building to building is frequent.

The needs of the climate have also influenced the form of buildings more directly.

Breaking away from elaborate overhangs, brise soleil and various other sun control devices, emphasis has shifted to a more simple and direct solution. Invariably this has taken the form of smaller windows, or the replacement of glass in large openings by

wooden shutters which provide better control of light and heat.

In the North where the summer is hot, dry and long, flat roofs and terraces provide convenient comfort at night. Older parts of the city present a complex silhouette of terraces at various levels. Something of the same basic character and form is evinced in some of the new development with its pyramidal outline providing sleeping areas at each floor level, in solutions which aim at providing optimum comfort conditions at minimum cost.

So far most of the more in*

teresting architectural works seem to have been restricted to the work of a few architects in Delhi, Ahmedabad and Chandigarh. In other areas much needs to be done. One can with confidence hope that a more constructive phase lies ahead.

A process based on a sound and rational analysis of facts is self-generative and is bound to extend its influence to many other areas in time. Perhaps, its influence will be widespread and ten years from now one may with ease and certainly be able to identify a genuine Indian architecture.

—Indian and Foreign Review

Canada Ratifies Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

On Jan. 8, 1969, The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp announced that the Canadian Ambassadors in Washington, D.C. and Moscow and the Canadian High Commissioner in London are today depositing in these three capitals, instruments of ratification effecting Canadian accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, which was endorsed by the great majority of United Nations member states at a special session of the United Nations General Assembly last May, was opened for signature in Washington, D.C., London and Moscow on July 1. Canada signed the Treaty in Washington, D.C. and London on July 23 and in Moscow on July 27. More than 80 nations have now signed the Treaty. Before it comes into effect, 43 states, including the three Nuclear Powers which have signed it, must deposit ratifications.

In announcing in the House of Commons on December 19, the Canadian intention to ratify the Treaty, Mr. Sharp expressed the hope that "all nations of the world will recognize the importance of the Treaty and accede to it".

As a member of the eight-nation disarmament committee, Canadian representatives played an important role in the negotiations which culminated in agreement on the Treaty ratified by Canada today. The Canadian Government has supported the prin-

ciples embodied in the Treaty as essential to progress in reducing international tensions and in curtailing the nuclear arms race. The Canadian decision to ratify the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was based in part on the belief of the Canadian Government that there is little prospect of progress towards controlling dissemination of nuclear weapons or towards general disarmament unless this Treaty comes into force.

The Treaty prohibits nuclear parties from transferring nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, or control over them, to non-nuclear parties and binds non-nuclear parties not to produce or otherwise acquire control of such weapons and devices. It will result in the application of international safeguards to the peaceful nuclear activities of non-nuclear parties to ensure that source or special fissionable materials intended for peaceful purposes are not diverted clandestinely to military purposes. The right of non-nuclear powers to exploit nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is reaffirmed and the principle that the benefits of peaceful nuclear explosions should be made available to non-nuclear parties is acknowledged.

Canada is satisfied that these are the optimum provisions available at present and that on this basis the Non-Proliferation Treaty should be brought into force at the earliest possible date.

— Press Release

by RANJIT SABIKHI

ment. Tradition is respected as something to be learnt from, but it is subjected to a metamorphic action extracting only the significant elements, interpreted anew in terms of new materials and methods of construction. Neither the imitation of traditional forms nor the use of traditional elements in solving problems of climate characterise the new buildings.

Hardly Applicable

Present times are far removed from the needs and the methods of construction that were operative several centuries ago, and as such modified versions of the past are hardly applicable. Economy and social criteria dictate a basic evaluation of the problems for themselves in the search for a solution.

The thick rubble stone walls, high ceilings, decorative projections and shelters over doors and windows, with elaborate ornamentation of marble grills and balconies, were the vocabulary of another age and another time. Their application in modern terms has limited value and is certainly not economic.

Rational Interpretation

What is relevant on the other hand is an architecture evolved from a rational interpretation of the social and economic problems of the moment with the limitations of the materials and methods of construction available at hand. That such development is limited to a few areas and is the work of a few architects does not minimise its importance as a forerunner of the future. In addition the fact that this approach also forms the basis of teach-

and improved techniques of building a new architectural vocabulary was evolved. Inevitably some of the architecture reflected the influence of European architectural and planning concepts, but the work of Le Corbusier stood out as major architectural masterpieces unrestricted by the confines of local character or tradition. The powerful forms of his work obsessed many architects and a wave of Le Corbusier influence followed. In some cases the influence has gradually been transformed into a more personal style while in others the self-imposed limitation of choice to the familiar forms and elements of the master's work is still evident.

Architectural Service

With increasing building activity in most cities the importance of architectural service has gradually come to be accepted and regarded as necessary. The result has been that in all cities and also most towns some form or other of architectural service is available. Although the service prevails on many levels from that provided by the draughtsman to the sophisticated skill of the professionally qualified architect or planner, it has helped in a general improvement of detailed design.

In places like Delhi where a large number of private houses have been built over the last twenty years a commendable quality in internal planning and design is evident. Unfortunately the wide range of superficial exterior turnings tend to present a generally confused aspect.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SARVODAYA

Sir,—The recent visit of Jayaprakash Narayan, the great Sarvodaya Leader has given an awakening in the minds of the people towards Sarvodaya. The modern world which is enthralled by the charms of space conquest, nuclear technology, industrial expansion in all directions giving life many comforts, requires peace at any cost. The economic prosperity and scientific achievements of certain so-called advanced countries to a stupendous proportion have brought the world to the brink of total annihilation. As a result there is an all-pervading chaos in the world. There will come a time (which may be before the close of this century) when the achievements in the field of science will reach a peak and climax. Then and then only certain sections of the intelligentsia will come to sanity and realise intensely the necessity for moral and spiritual regeneration and conquest of the senses. If we want to give a reorientation to the structure of our society, if we want to give a lasting peace and solace to this world of turmoil, we must turn wholeheartedly to adhering to the tenets of our religion (it may be any religion) and adhering to the principles of Sarvodaya.

Sarvodaya without a religious foundation and firm faith will not produce any tangible and lasting good. Sarvodaya is not a new principle. It is as old as Adam or Eve or as old as the earth. It has been given a new approach after Mahatma Gandhi. The Hindu Religion is based on Dharma. Lord Shiva's Mount is Nandi which is a symbol of Dharma. The Buddhist religion speaks of Dharma and Compassion. The Christians speak of Christian charity. The Mohamedans talk of the brotherhood of man—all religions have compassion and love as the cardinal principles. Lord Shiva and love are one and the same and are inseparable. Where there is love, God resides. Sarvodaya means happiness and redemption to all living beings. All living beings should live happily and contentedly. According to Karma theory it is not possible for beings to enjoy the same kind of happiness.

Happiness and sorrow are caused by good and bad acts. Although a millennium or Rama Raj is impossible, yet it is within the scope of one and all to pray for the good of all living beings. The five elements, the sun, the moon and the myriads of stars are from the beginning of the world incessantly, spontaneously and methodically doing shramadana. They will continue to do so till eternity. Out of the abundance of His Grace and Mercy the Almighty has decreed so for the good of not only human beings but also of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. Even in the twentieth century there are many Rishis who pray for the general good of all beings. It is on account of their fervent, sincere and good acts and genuine prayer of these Rishis that this world goes on. The Dharma performed by righteous men keeps the world in peace to a certain extent. In Hindu temples regular poojahs and festivals are carried on with the object of appeasing the gods

and invoking their aid and making the world, animate and inanimate enjoy the mundane happiness and in the end enjoy eternal happiness. The Vedic rites, the festivals like the Thai Pongal, the Deepavali and other religious observances are carried on with the object of making the people of the world live happily. The animals, the plants and trees also benefit from these religious observances. We, people of the world enslaved by the fetters of jealousy, malice, avarice, greed, anger and other vicious thoughts must break their knots with the help of the never failing Grace of God.

We must be in constant communion with the Almighty and our minds must be bound by gold chains about the feet of God. We must lift hands of prayer for redemption of ourselves and one and all: "more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." So says Lord Tennyson. Mahatma Gandhi believed in the efficacy of prayer. God is an embodiment of grace and all good Gunas. If we invoke them and get this never-failing help, whatever we do and whatever think will gain strength and momentum, and bear the desired fruit. God is Omnipresent. All service to humanity must be done with a burning flame of divine inspiration and dedication to the feet of God.

A person who believes in the principles of sarvodaya must first begin to cleanse his heart and purify his mind so that a greater good to all beings of the Universe can be obtained easily, quickly and unflinchingly. He or she who believes in sarvodaya must have compassion and love without which the desired effect will not be realised. When a person begins to think and live for the welfare of all beings, and thinks beyond the confines of his home and beyond the circle of his relatives and friends, his personal affairs will be looked after by God with the greatest precision; when a person participates earnestly and wholeheartedly in a shramadana, he begins to loosen the knots which bind him to selfish thoughts and acts. Little by little when he puts heart and soul into a shramadana work, his mind and vision broaden and become clearer and clearer. His heart becomes purer and purer by faithful detached service. Shramadana on these lines will equip a person physically, socially, morally and spiritually. Intensive wishing for the good of all is the greatest prayer one can offer. It is the greatest Jivadana.

It is by thoughts and actions in the above-mentioned ways that Mahatma Gandhi became a dynamic personality of soul force and a cynosure of the whole world. He was able to achieve freedom for India by his dedicated service free from any tinge of personal gain. In the year of Mahatma Gandhi Centenary celebration, we must emulate his glowing example and perform duties not only to ourselves but also to all with a prayerful heart.

"He prayeth best who loveth best bird, man and beast."

C. SINNATHURAI
Earlalai

Changes in Coops

(Continued from our last issue)

In bakery production, main emphasis will be laid on high-quality, hand-made products and luxury pastries which customers demand and which mechanised mass production cannot provide.

"The information about this part of the general conception cannot be concluded without at least a brief reference to the fact that the consumer cooperative movement is extending the scope of activities of its own tourist and travel agency (from purely national to international services), besides which consumer cooperatives will participate more efficiently in the imports and

by L. S.

exports of goods effected through Unicoop, the foreign-trade enterprise of the Central Cooperative Council...

"The substantially increased independence of cooperative societies in their outward relations and the abolition of their management by administrative methods called forth a reappraisal of the function of the national centre of the consumer cooperative movement in Czechoslovakia and a simplification in the hierarchical structure existing so far. This is why the materials presented to the Congress included a draft of new rules, which the Congress subsequently approved after a detailed discussion. Accordingly, the former three-tier hierarchical set-up of the Czechoslovak consumer cooperative movement (i.e., the central union, regional unions, cooperative societies) was changed into a two-tier one, i.e., the Union of Consumer Cooperatives, to which individual cooperative societies are affiliated directly while regional unions have ceased to exist..."

"Unlike the former Central Union, which managed the activities of cooperatives in a direct manner (either directly or through regional unions), the new Union becomes an organisation purely for safeguarding the interests of the affiliated cooperative societies; consequently, its main tasks include various kinds of assistance, auditing, administration of collective (pooled) funds and supervisory activities. For these purposes, the Union either has already established appropriate specialised enterprises (e.g. for designing building projects, for publicity and advertising, for the supply of shop equipment) or intends to do so in the near future (for example, a research institute)".

—ICA Journal

First Society To Export Chank

The Nainativu Beche de-mer, Chank Fishermen's Cooperative Society has the distinction of being the first Cooperative Society in Ceylon to export chank.

The Society, which was registered on 28-12-66, has up to date exported Rs. 50,000/- worth of chanks to Pakistan. The Society has also exported Rs. 27,000/- worth of beche-de-mer: if loan facilities were available, the Society claims it could have exported at least a lakh's worth of beche-de-mer.

Union Brought In Nearly Seven Lakhs Foreign Exchange

The Northern Division Fishermen's Cooperative Societies Union earned nearly Rs. 7 lakhs foreign exchange during 1966 and 1967.

The Union's Report for this period discloses that it exported Rs. 651,879/- worth of beche-de-mer, Rs. 16,355/- worth of chanks and Rs. 3,403/- worth of shark fins, totting up to Rs. 671,637/- in foreign exchange.

During this period, 14 societies were admitted as members, and the Union launched a vigorous drive to form new societies and to revive defunct fishery cooperatives.

The Report confesses that the Marketing Scheme started in 1966 has not proved much of a success. The Union has requested the Northern Division Cooperative Federation to help draw up a successful scheme, with expert advice.

MATHIBALASINGHAM MEMORIAL BUILDING FUND

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Total Amount Subscribed as on 31-1-69 Rs. cts
As per particulars received by Treasurer : 11,728-00
Total Amount received by Treasurer up to 31-1-69 : 5,059-00

	Rs. cts.	
Balance B/F as on 12-1-69 :		4,584-00
Amount received from 12-1-69 to 31-1-69,		
Sri Mahavishnu Fishermen's Coop. Society	25-00	
A. Selvaratnam	10-00	
V. Navaratnam	10-00	
K. Kanapathipillai	10-00	
K. Balasundaram	100-00	
S. Kanagasabai	25-00	
V. Nadarajah	10-00	
K. Nadarajah	10-00	
K. Selvarajah	5-00	
K. Poomany	5-00	
K. Ehambaram	10-00	
P. Somasundaram	5-00	
T. Kandiah	5-00	
V. Shanmugalingam	5-00	
N. Susheela	5-00	
Total instalments recovered	235-00	475-00
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Union Wants Decentralisation

The Thambalakamam MP CS Union has recommended that there should be decentralisation at district level and ACCD's given wider powers.

This suggestion has been made by Mr. M. K. Sellarajah, President of the Union, in a Memorandum submitted to the Cooperative Commission.

The Memorandum also recommends that the Coopera-Department should exercise effective supervision and control and offer guidance to employees in cooperative institutions.

Some of the other recommendations are :

- The fishing industry should be developed through cooperative methods; cooperative fishing societies must be established and due place given to fishery coops.

- Cooperative Farming should be introduced in essentially agricultural areas.
- A School of Cooperation should be established in each province. When making appointments, preference should be given to applicants trained at such institutions.
- Schools of Agriculture and Fisheries should be established in areas where these are the chief occupations.
- Presidents and Vice-Presidents should not hold office for more than 4 years in succession: they should be elected from among persons who have been members of the Committee for at least two consecutive years.
- The Wholesale and Retail Sections of Unions should function separately.

COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

(Continued from page 4)

On closer examination, however, it becomes clear that the real principle is not the abstinence from this or that, but rather the underlying idea of purity or holiness to which the rules regarding eating and drinking are intended to conform. A similar distinction justifies us in the attempt, for the purposes of the present argument, to adopt and scrupulously maintain a clear definition of a principle as an idea accepted as an invariable guide to policy or conduct or action of any kind. The obvious example to illustrate this from cooperative practice is Democracy, the government of cooperative societies by their own members for their own proper purposes. Few will be found to deny that, if cooperative organisations lose their democracy, they cease to be cooperative. The whole difficulty of the problem of observing and preserving democracy in the Cooperative Movement consists in finding the best way to modify the rules and administrative practices as cooperative organisations develop and evolve in a continually changing environment. The idea remains constant; the practices vary in response to needs and circumstances. So also must the rules, the sole purpose of which is to ensure that the practices do in fact realise the principles. As Professor Georges Lasserre told the Congress of French Consumers' Cooperatives at Evian in June 1966, the rules are not sufficient by themselves.

III

It is the insufficiency of rules which causes not a few cooperators some embarrassment, if they are still identifying principles with rules. For they find themselves obliged to divide their alleged principles into two groups: those with greater and those with lesser importance, or else they are obliged to admit so many exceptions that certain principles have to be abandoned, as being no longer capable of being applied universally. The I.C.A. Committee which reported in 1937, for example, enumerated seven principles which it divided into four and three. It declared that observance of 1. Open and Voluntary Membership; 2. Democratic Control; 3. Limited Interest on Capital; 4. Dividend on Purchases, as essential to the cooperative character of any society or organisation. On the strength of that statement the rules of the I.C.A. were amended so that these four points became indispensable qualifications for the admission of any organisation to its membership. Concerning 5. Neutrality in Politics and Religion; 6. Cash payments in buying and selling; 7. Promotion of Education, the Committee remarked that they were "essential methods of action and organisation rather than standards the non-observance of which would destroy the cooperative character of a society." But in fact almost all the "principles" listed by the Committee are "methods of action and organisation." The distinction drawn between the four and the three does not express the real difference between the two groups, which can only be expressed in terms of the true principles, not

stated, which underlie them.

Distinctions Without Differences

Similarly, the conclusions reached by the Conference of French-speaking Cooperators held at Liege in March 1966 seem to try to avoid this difficulty by making no mention of "principles" but of seven "fundamental characteristics" of a cooperative society. The first two refer to democratic administration, the next three to conditions of membership and the last two, to the distribution of surplus and the maintenance of indivisible reserves. Having eliminated the term "principle" with its overtones of obligation the Conference's drafting committee had no choice but to add a short statement defining four "duties" incumbent upon cooperators if the seven fundamental characteristics were to become fully operative. Here again are distinctions without differences. It is as much the duty of cooperators to maintain the "seven fundamental characteristics" as to carry out the four duties. The conclusions begin with introductory paragraphs which mention the promotion of responsibility, solidarity, mutual aid and social justice, the development of enterprises governed democratically and aiming at service rather than profit; the necessity of permanent education reaching beyond the circle of cooperative membership at any time. The relation between these general ideas and the practical rules enumerated as fundamental characteristics is implied rather than stated, yet it is precisely in this relation that the reason is to be found why certain characteristics are fundamental.

A third example is given by Professor R. Henzler in his introductory lecture to a discussion on Cooperative Planning and Cooperative Principles at the fifth International Congress on Cooperative Research, held at Hamburg in September 1966. Professor Henzler, who had been a member of the I.C.A. Commission, expressed his personal view that there were two kinds of principles, namely those which determined the character of Cooperation and constituted the cooperative idea and those which must change with changes in the competitive situation because they are concerned with concrete business processes and affect cooperative societies only at particular times and places. Justifiably he calls the latter "norms," derived by deduction from the invariable principles. These norms are obviously the same sort of things as are termed, in this essay, practical rules and methods, and for the reasons already given it seems a mistake to apply the term "principle" to them. The collective wisdom of the I.C.A.

Commission chose the better course of refusing to draw any distinction between principles in respect of their degree of validity. It maintained that, if every principle denotes something essential, all have equal authority. At the same time it is to be noted that the Commission felt itself unable to accept Neutrality in Politics and Religion and Cash Payments in buying and selling as principles conforming to its definition, while adding a fresh one: Cooperation among Cooperative Societies, which seemed to it to have acquired added importance in the circumstances of today. Whether this last is a new, or a particular application of an old principle is a question more appropriately discussed at a later stage in this essay.

IV

Union Is Strength

For the present, consideration of the foregoing examples and of other earlier ones seems to confirm the present writer in the view, which he has held for many years, that it makes for clarity and logical simplicity if the term "principle" is reserved for those ideas which determine the character of Cooperation as a form of association. They determine its character because they underlie the conditions which people accept when they agree to cooperate. Cooperation is only one among a number of types of association or working together, and is distinguished from the rest by the fact that it consists in working together under certain conditions which other types may not require or accept. For example, for cooperators to unite or act together is no mere matter of expediency or convenience, as it may be for private enterprises. Cooperators base their action on the massive facts of human inter-dependence, solidarity and community or mutuality of interests. They take it as axiomatic that the true interests of individuals are best served when people know how to combine effectively with their neighbours and fellow-workers for common ends. Having accepted association as a principle, they apply it more or less consistently to the solution of problems of economic and social organisation as they successively arise in the course of time and the development of the institutions they create. They thus advance from the union of individuals in cooperative societies to the union of societies in federations. The purpose of association is, of course, mutual aid and support through the acquisition of a power beyond the reach of individuals or societies acting as single units—a fact of experience summed up by immemorial folk wisdom in the three words: Union is strength.

(To be continued)

Ceylon's Income Up Five Per Cent, New York Times Reports

Ceylon is the first of the developing countries to achieve the goal of a five per cent rise in per capita income, the New York Times has reported.

The five percent goal was set by the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development, a special to the New York Times from Colombo said. The target was to have been reached between 1960 and 1970 in what was called the "Development Decade."

The Times story noted that the rate of Ceylon's economic growth in 1968 was seven per cent and the population increased at a rate of two per cent. The difference, and therefore the rise in per capita income, was five percent.

The story was one of three on Ceylon featured in the New York Times Annual Economic Review of Asia. Another, in the special Times section, noted that, according to Food and Agriculture Organization statistics, the next six years will be disappointing for tea-producing nations. The special to the Times from Colombo noted that projections to 1975 indicate the rate of growth in tea production will be about 3.2 percent a year while tea consumption rises about 2.2 percent.

A third Times article, a special from Colombo by H.B.W. Abeynaike, said that in 1969 Ceylon will try to im-

prove its standard of living by increasing its rice production and reducing its birth rate.

Family planning is necessary lest the rapid rate of population growth nullify increased food production benefits, the article noted. It said:

"The intensified family planning program is aimed at reducing the present birth rate of 33 for each 1,000 of population to 25 by 1966, when it is anticipated that the country will be fully self-sufficient in food and clothing."

The article said that in rice production, it is anticipated Ceylon will exceed the target of 71 million bushels in 1969. That figure would mean the country would be 75 per cent self-sufficient in rice.

Considerable progress has been made in milk production, the article noted. Ceylon also hopes to become an exporter of fish.

The article concludes with these words from Ceylon's Ministry of Agriculture and Food:

"If the promising performance in domestic agriculture over the last three years can be maintained, there is no doubt that it will contribute the share expected of it, and perhaps more, toward the economic well-being of the country."

—USIS News Bulletin

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Coop Federation Recommends Integration

The Cooperative Federation of Ceylon has recommended that integrated multipurpose societies should replace the different types of societies.

This recommendation has been made in a Preliminary Memorandum submitted to the Cooperative Commission.

The Memorandum states: "In our opinion, we should not have so many different types of societies but instead we should have integrated multipurpose societies which will be sufficiently large enough to be economically viable units and efficient organisations capable of handling multipurpose activities". It suggests that the area of operation should be that of the present MPCs Unions: "this will remove the need for a Union at this level and will also eliminate the MPCs Union which is a sort of middleman". The Memorandum however adds that "under no circumstances should the government force societies to amalgamate. It should be the responsibility of the Federation and the District Unions to persuade societies to amalgamate and plan out and implement amalgamation schemes".

Legislative Provision

The Memorandum points out that there should be "legislative provision for societies to amalgamate voluntarily without division of their assets and liabilities". The absence of such legislative provision, it states, is one of the principal reasons why amalgamation is uncommon in Ceylon.

The Federation has also recommended that divisional unions be done away with by amalgamating divisional unions and primary societies within their area of operation into primary integrated multipurpose societies: "these large primary societies will then deal directly with the national level organisation". The Federation envisages that if this is done, the National Unions will assume greater significance, and be able to expand their activities. It has recommended however that District Unions and Cooperative Banks be allowed to function.

The Memorandum also urges that cooperative societies be allowed to buy up the balance 50% of the shares of the People's Bank presently held by the Government, and elect four out of the eight directors

immediately. It points out that even when the People's Bank is fully owned by the Cooperative Movement, Government could nominate three of the directors: "they could guide and assist the Bank and clarify government policy on matters pertaining to the Bank". It stresses that the Bank should make "a more positive contribution to cooperative development and be committed to support efforts made to develop the Movement in Ceylon and particularly be committed to make significant contributions for cooperative educational purposes, a fundamental prerequisite for cooperative development". It recommends that the Bank should, "as a matter of policy contribute a minimum of 5% of its profits to the Cooperative Federation for cooperative education and propaganda purposes".

Liquidate CWE

The Memorandum urges that the present CWE be liquidated and some of its functions taken over by a newly formed Board of Trade; its functions of a Cooperative Wholesaler should be handed over to the All Ceylon Cooperative Consumers' Union. In the alternative, the Federation suggests that 50% of the CWE's shares be owned by the Movement and at least four or five of the Directors be elected representatives of cooperatives.

The Federation also recommends that the development of the Movement should no longer be the responsibility of the Cooperative Department: the Department of Cooperative Development should revert to being just a Cooperative Department headed by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, whose primary responsibilities will be registration, cancellation and liquidation. The Memorandum points out that the function of auditing cooperative societies should gradually be handed over to the Federation, which will also undertake the supervision and extension work presently performed by the Department. The Federation also emphasises that the practice of appointing Boards to manage societies should be done away forthwith: instead there should be provision for the general body of the society to hand over the management to a special department of the Federation formed for the purpose.

Pointing out that if the Cooperative Federation is to truly function as the apex institution of the entire Movement, the link between the Federation and its affiliated societies and Unions should be a stronger one, the Memorandum recommends that the basis of representation in the Federation should be on the number of individual members, and societies within a district should be allowed to elect one delegate for every ten thousand members affiliated to them. "In electing these representatives, weightage should be given to the number of members in each society. Judging from the fact that there are over one million members, according to these proposals the Federation General Assembly should get a little over a hundred representatives. Further, even the national apex business unions should be allowed to send one representative each. Thus we envisage the total strength of the Federation General Assembly to be around 120 delegates which should be a fairly representative body". The functions of the Federation will be (a) Cooperative education and propaganda (b) Extension and Supervision (c) Auditing of cooperative societies (eventually).

The Memorandum strongly urges that the Cooperative Fund should be totally owned and administered by the Federation according to an accepted set of rules and regulations incorporated in the by-laws of the Federation. In conclusion it states "the object of our recommendations has been to make the Cooperative Movement efficient, independent and a dynamic force in economic development and in strengthening democracy in the country.... Most of our recommendations are inter-connected and together they are expected to provide an integrated approach to the realisation of the object mentioned above. Therefore if some of the recommendations are not implemented, the effect of some of the other proposals may also be considerably weakened".

The Federation will in due course submit a comprehensive memorandum which will "fully analyse the role played by the Cooperative Movement in the economy of Ceylon and embody our detailed recommendations pertaining to every aspect of the Movement".

Coop Dept. and District Unions Should Work in Collaboration

The Cooperative Department and the District Unions should work in collaboration.

This was the view expressed by Mr. D. E. Hettiaratchi, President of the Galle District Cooperative Union, before the Cooperative Commission when it held its Public Sittings at Galle.

Mr. Hettiaratchi said he was happy that such collaboration existed in Galle District. He pointed out that more frequent audits of cooperative societies could check malpractices to a great extent: their Union had organised a unit of Itinerant Book-keepers to visit weak societies and assist them in the preparation of accounts.

The President of the Matara District Cooperative Union stated that more powers should be given to District Unions to collect dues from societies. He wanted a central body to be set up for the selection of employees so that uniform standards could be maintained.

Mr. L. C. de Silva, President of the Ambalangoda MPCs Union pointed out that the Cooperative Movement was not being fully utilised in the sphere of agricultural and industrial development. He said that the CWE was not a cooperative organisation and therefore cooperatives could not have faith in such an institution. He wanted the credit policy of the People's Bank to be revised. He also advocated a body like a Commission to go into the problems of cooperative employees.

The President of the Niyagama MPCs drew the Commission's attention to the employee problem faced by smaller societies. A manager who had defrauded a society could, he said, when dismissed seek redress from the Labour Tri-

bunal and very often the Labour Tribunal orders reinstatement of such employees.

Mr. P. A. T. Gunasinghe, Govt. Agent, Galle, stressed that Govt. personnel dealing with cooperative development activities should have special training in personnel management and rural development work. Posts such as that of ACCD's should be given to officers experienced in rural work and who looked upon it as a vocation. He said there would be no harm even if these posts are taken out of the CAS: Deputy Commissioners' posts should be given to officers who possess at least five years experience of cooperative work. Mr. Gunasinghe pointed out that the success of Youth Schemes depended on the selection of youth with the right type of background and the efficiency of the administrative staff.

Representatives of the Maha Ambalangoda, Akuressa, Dedugoda—Hirimura, Koholankula and Mahawatte MPCs stated in their evidence that the common problems confronting them are: the inadequacy of consumer commodities supplied to their societies while these are made available at the near-by CWE Depots, the issue of a bigger percentage of important commodities to the private sector and the purchase of paddy by private traders. They said they had no objection to bigger MPCs coming up at DRO Division level, if their requirements of consumer commodities are fully satisfied. Such multipurpose cooperatives could open up branches at places where the present village cooperatives are situated, and manage them from one central organisation: this would result in greater efficiency.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION CONDEMNS LOTTERY

The Parents Association of Jaffna has strongly condemned the lottery being run by the Education Department.

Here's the text of the press statement issued by the Association:

The Parents Association of Jaffna strongly condemns the move of the Education Department to sell sweep tickets to school children as something calculated to promote the gambling instinct and undermine spiritual and moral values accepted by all religions. It is the more reprehensible since it deludes pupils and their parents into thinking that they are helping a good cause when in truth what they are heeding to is the base passion of wanting to make a large gain on a trifling investment.

When schools and teachers promote the sale of sweep tickets, they are giving a false sanctity to an unethical practice. The teachers are thus unfaithful to their vocation and indeed are placing false values before their pupils.

We therefore urge the teaching profession to refuse to handle these tickets as something clearly inconsistent with the trust imposed on them by their noble calling. Besides, despite the Minister's public assurances to the contrary, the near-compulsion with which the Department seeks to use the teachers for this purpose is a gross violation of their rights and dignity as teachers and contrary to their professional Code.

We do not, however, object to money for good causes being raised by the sale of 'gift tickets' to children and their collecting money by means of 'collection cards' on a voluntary basis. That should be for specified and worthwhile causes. In fact, it should be part of a good social and moral training to teach children to share what they have with their less privileged brothers and sisters and to sustain good causes by their efforts.

K. Nesiah
President
S. Ponniah
Hony. Secretary

Union Wants Office Re-opened

A resolution calling upon the Cooperative Dept. to re-open the ACCD's office at Thenmaradchy was passed by the Thenmaradchy East MPCs Union at its Annual General Meeting. Mr. Y. R. Rajaratnam presided.

Another resolution called upon the Union to embark on the manufacture of soap and camphor, and to trade in kerosene. The Union also resolved that arrangements should be made to transport onions from Kodikamam Railway Station.

In his presidential address, Mr. Rajaratnam said the Union had adopted modern business methods and was streamlining its administration.

Mr. T. Murugesu, HQI

warned against rushing into new ventures, without careful preparation: they should gradually expand their activities.

Mr. P. Selvaretnam, Administrative Secretary, NDCF pointed out that there were possibilities now of Unions directly importing some of their requirements: the Union should seriously consider this possibility.

Messrs. C. Velu, V. Saravanamuttu and A. Sinnathamby were elected to fill the vacancies in the Committee.

According to the Statement of Accounts for the period 1-10-67—30-9-68, the Union has made a net profit of Rs. 20,700/.

Government Okays Import of Lorry Chassis

The President of the Cooperative Federation of Ceylon, Mr. Edmund Wijesuriya, MP, has informed all Unions that the Government has permitted the import of Lorry Chassis (Isuzu Diesel Trucks) under O.G.L. This, he states in his circular, will provide an opportunity to Unions to obtain their "full requirements of transport".

Unions are advised to make their bookings with the Manager, CWE Parts and New Vehicles, who will furnish further details. He states that if immediate bookings are made, Unions should be in a position to obtain allocations from the first consignment.

கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கென தனி அமைச்சு நிறுவலு!

விவசாயிகளினதும், கிராமங்களினதும் வாழ்க்கைத் தரத்தினை உயர்த்துவதற்கும், தேசிய அபிவிருத்தியை ஊக்குவிக்கும் பொருட்டும் கூட்டுறவுக்கும் சமூக அபிவிருத்திக்கும் தனி அமைச்சு நிறுவப்படவேண்டும் என வடபகுதி ஐக்கிய மேற்பார்வைச் சபை கூட்டுறவு ஆணைக்குழுவிற்சுச் சமர்ப்பித்துள்ள மகஜரில் குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளது.

நாட்டின் பொருளாதாரத் துறையிலே தனது பங்கினைச் செவ்வனே நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு கூட்டுறவுத் துறை தேசிய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டத்தில் இணைக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என்றும் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கென தனியே திட்ட ஆராய்ச்சிச் சபை ஒன்றினை நிறுவவேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் மேலும் தகவரை செய்துள்ளது. இச் சபையிலே தேசிய திட்டச் சபையின் பிரதிநிதிகளும் கூட்டுறவு அமைச்சு பிரதிநிதிகளும் இடம் பெறுவர்.

கிராமக் கூட்டுறவாளரின் கருத்துக்களும், அபிப்பிராயங்களும் மாவட்ட கூட்டுறவு சமாசங்களுக்கும் அகில இலங்கைக் கூட்டுறவுச் சம்மேளத்திற்கும் ஊடாக இத்திட்ட ஆராய்ச்சிச் சபையினைச் சென்றடையும் என எதிர்பார்ப்பதாக மகஜர் மேலும் குறிப்பிடுகிறது.

கூட்டுறவு மொத்த விற்பனைத் தாபனத்தின் முழுப் பங்குகளும் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தின் சொத்தா இருப்பதே குறிக்கோளாக இருப்பினும் இன்றைய சூழ்நிலையில் இது சாதியமாகாதென்பதனை மகஜர் சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றது; பங்குகள் யாவும் இயக்கச் சொத்தாக இருக்குமாயின் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு இக்கட்டான நிலையை உருவாக்கும் பொருட்டு உணவு விநியோகத்திலே சீர்குலைவுகளை சிலர் வேண்டுமென்றே ஏற்படுத்தலாம் என அரசாங்கம் அஞ்சுகிறது. ஆதலால் இன்றைய நிலையில் கூட்டுறவு மொத்த விற்பனைத் தாபனத்தின் பங்குகளில் 50 வீதம் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தின் சொத்தாய் இருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்றும், நெறியாளரில் 50 வீதத்தினராவது கூட்டுறவுத் துறைப் பிரதிநிதிகளாய் இருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்றும் வ. ஐ. மே. சபை தகவரை செய்திருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது கடமையாற்றும் பணியாளரைப் பொறுப்பேற்க வேண்டும் என்ற நிபந்தனையின்றி, கூ. மொ. வி. நடாத்தும் சில்லறை விற்பனை நிலையங்களை அவ்வப்பகுதி ப. நே. கூ. ச. சமாசங்களுக்கு உடனடி வேண்டும் என்றும் சமாசங்கள் அவ்வாறு பொறுப்பேற்க மறுத்தால் அச்சில்லறை நிலையங்களை மூடவேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் வற்புறுத்திகின்றது. மொத்த விநியோகத்தினை மேற்கொள்வதற்கு மாவட்ட அடிப்படையில் நுகர்ச்சியாளர் சமாசங்கள் நிறுவப்படவேண்டும் என்றும் நுகர்ச்சியாளர்களுக்குத் தேவையான சில குறிப்பிட்ட பொருள்களை இறக்குமதி செய்வதற்கு இச்சமாசங்களுக்கு அனுமதியளிக்கப்படவேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் கூறுகின்றது. இச்சமாசங்கள் தமக்குள்ளே வணிகத்திலே (எடுத்துக்காட்டாக வெங்காயம், தேயிலை தெங்குப் பொருள்கள்) ஈடுபடலாம் எனச் சுட்டிக்காட்டப்பட்டுள்ளது.

பொருளாதார அலங்குன்றிய சங்கங்களை இணைப்பதற்கு ஆட்சேப இல்லை என்று கூறும் இம் மகஜர் அது எல்லாச் சங்கங்களையும் உட்படுத்தும் ஒரு பொதுக் கொள்கையாய் இருக்கலாகாது என வற்புறுத்திகின்றது. இவ்வாறு செய்வது கூட்டுறவுத் தன்மைக்கு குத்தகம் விளைவிக்கும் என சுட்டிக்காட்டும் மகஜர், சங்கங்களை இணைப்பதற்கு எத்தகைய வலுக்கடையோ, வற்புறுத்துவதோ இருத்தலாகாது என அழுத்தம் திருத்தமாகக் கூறுகின்றது.

ப. நே. கூ. சங்கங்களும் தொடர்ந்து இயங்க வேண்டும் என்றும், ஆனால் ஒருவகைச் சங்கத்திடமிருந்து கடன் பெறுதல் வேண்டும் என மேற்பார்வைச் சபை தனது உயர்தரப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலும், கல்வி நிலையங்களிலும் கூட்டுறவு பாடமாகக்

மகஜரில் வற்புறுத்தியுள்ளது. கடன்களை வழங்குவதிலும் அறவிடுவதிலும் ப. நே. கூ. சங்கங்களுக்கு ஐ. நே. சங்கங்களுக்கும் இடையே இயைகூப ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றது. கைத்தொழிற் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்கள் கூட்டுறவுத் திணைக்களத்தின் பொறுப்பிலேயே இயங்க வேண்டும் என்றும், கிராம அபிவிருத்தித் திணைக்கள உத்தியோகத்தர் தொழில் நுட்ப ஆலோசனைகளை வழங்குவதுடன் நின்றுவிட வேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் கூறுகின்றது. கொகுதிகளிலே நிறுவப்பட்ட நெசவு நிலையங்கள் தனிப்பட்ட சங்கங்களாகப் பதியப்படாது. ப. நே. கூ. சங்கங்களுடன் இணைக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என தகவரை செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இப்பொழுதுள்ள ஐ. நே. சங்கங்களின் மேற்பார்வைச் சபைகள் கூட்டுறவு அபிவிருத்தி சமாசங்கள் என பெயர் மாற்றம் செய்யப்பட வேண்டும் என்றும் அவற்றின் தொழிற் பரப்புகளிலே இயங்கும் எல்லாவகைச் சங்கங்களும் அச்சமாசங்களில் அங்கத்துவம் வகிக்க வேண்டும் என்றும் கூட்டுறவுக் கல்வி, பிரச்சாரம் முதலியன அவற்றின் மூலம் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட வேண்டும் என்றும் தகவரை செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. மேலும் மாவட்ட கூட்டுறவுச் சமாசங்களின் நெறியாளரைத் தெரிவு செய்வதற்கு இவ் அபிவிருத்தி சமாசங்கள் வாக்காளர் தொகுதிகளாய் இயங்கும் என மகஜர் எதிர்பார்க்கின்றது.

மக்கள் வங்கியின் பங்குகள் யாவும் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தின் சொத்தாக இருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்றும் நெறியாளரில் பெரும்பாலோர் ஆய்க் சத்தின் பிரதிநிதிகளாய் இரத்தல் வேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் வற்புறுத்துகின்றது. வர்த்தக வங்கித் தொழிலை மேற்கொள்வதற்கும், கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கும் வேண்டிய நிதியுதவியை வழங்குவதற்கும் மக்கள் வங்கியில் இருபிரிவுகள் இருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்றும் கூட்டுறவுக் கல்விக்கென மக்கள் வங்கி போதிய மானியம் அளிக்க வேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றது. மத்திய வங்கி மக்கள் வங்கிக்கு குறைந்த வீத வட்டியில் நிதி வழங்கவேண்டும் என்றும் அவ்வாறும் காணக் கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளுக்கு மக்கள் வங்கி நிதியுதவ வேண்டும் என்றும் மேலும் தகவரை செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகள் இவ்வாறு குறைகளிலே கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகள் நிறுவப்படவேண்டும் என்றும் கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது.

வடபகுதியில் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கத்தால் தயாரிக்கப்படும் பீடி

வடபகுதியிலுள்ள கமக்காரர்களால் பயிரிடப்பட்ட பீடிப்புண்டுகளையே கொண்டு யாழ்ப்பாணம் மலையாளப் புகையிலை ஐக்கிய வியாபாரச் சங்கம் ரதிபீடி என்னும் பீடியைத் தயாரித்து விற்பனை செய்து வருகின்றது. தரத்தில் மிகவும் சிறந்து விளங்கும் ரதிபீடிக்கு வியாபாரத் துறையில் நல்ல மதிப்பு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த பீடி உற்பத்தி மூலம் கமத்தொழிலாளர் கூறு சரற்ப்படைந்த துடைக்கைத்தொழிலாளர் பலருக்கும் வேலைவாய்ப்புக்கள் கிடைத்துள்ளன. இதவரை 20 லட்சம் பீடிகளை இச்சமாசம் உற்பத்தி செய்துள்ளது. வடபகுதியிலுள்ள சகல கூட்டுறவுச் சங்க சமாசங்களிடமும் மன்றார், வவுனியா, முசலி, மாதோட்டம் முதலிய பகுதிகளிலுள்ள கூட்டுறவுச் சமாசங்களிடமும் இந்த பீடிகளை மொத்தமாகப் பெற்றுக் கொள்ளலாம்.

கற்பிக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என்றும் பாடசாலைக் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்களுக்குப் போதிய ஊக்கம் அளிக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என்றும் வ. ஐ. மே. சபை மகஜரில் மேலும் குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளது. கூட்டுறவுக் கல்விக்கு கூட்டுறவு இயக்கமே பொறுப்பாயித்தால் வேண்டும் என்றும் இதற்கு கூட்டுறவு நிதியினை இயக்கம் பயன்படுத்தலாம் என்றும் மேலும் சுட்டப்பட்டுள்ளது. தமிழ்நாடு சங்கங்களின் தேவைகளைப் பூர்த்தி செய்யும் பொருட்டு யாழ்ப்பாணம் கூட்டுறவுப் பயிற்சிக்கலாசாலையினை தமிழ்மொழி மூலம் நடாத்தப்படும் ஆராய்ச்சி கல்வி மத்திய நிலையமாக உயர்த்தவேண்டும் என வ. ஐ. மே. சபை கோரியுள்ளது.

கூட்டுறவு ஆக்க ஆணையாளர் என்ற பதம் நீக்கப்பட்டு பதிவுகாரியஸ்தரே கூட்டுறவுத் திணைக்களத்தின் தலைவராய் செயலாற்ற வேண்டும் என்றும், பதிவு செய்தல், பதிவுழித்தல், உபவிதிக்களுக்கு விளக்கம் கொடுத்தல், கணக்குப் பரிசீலனை, மத்தியஸ்தம் போன்றவையே அவர் கடமையாய் இருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்றும், கூட்டுறவுத் திணைக்களத்தில் கடமையாற்றுவோர் வேறு திணைக்களங்களுக்கு மாற்றம் செய்யப்படலாகாதென்றும், கூட்டுறவுத் திணைக்களத்தின் கடமைகளைப் பன்முகப்படுத்தும் பொருட்டு ஓலவொரு மாகாணத்திலும் பதில் பதிவு காரியஸ்தரோ அல்லது கிரிஷ்ட உதவி பதிவு காரியஸ்தரோ கடமையாற்ற வேண்டும் என்றும் மகஜர் தகவரை செய்துள்ளது. மேலும் மேற்பார்வைச் சபை அபிவிருத்தி வேலைகளுக்கும் மாவட்ட சமாசங்களுக்கு உடனடி வேண்டும் என்றும் வ. ஐ. மே. சபை வற்புறுத்தியுள்ளது.

சட்ட அமைப்பிலே செய்ய வேண்டிய திருத்தங்களைப் பற்றிக் குறிப்பிடுவதில் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தின் அடிப்படைக் கொள்கைகளுக்கும், காலதேவைகளுக்கும் ஏற்ப நவீன கூட்டுறவுச் சட்டத்தினை கூட்டுறவாளர்களின் ஆலோசனைபுடன் கூட்டுறவு அமைச்சு இப்பற்றவேண்டுமென மகஜர் சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றது. சீரெட்ட சங்கங்களின் நிறுவாசத்தினைக் குலைத்து நிறுவக் குழக்கங்களை கூட்டுறவுத் திணைக்களம் நியமிப்பதற்குப் பதிலாக அச்சங்கப் பொதுச் சபையின் விருப்பத்தினைப் பரிசீலனை செய்து நன்மை பயக்கும் உயிரியை நீக்கி அரிசியை எடுப்பது போன்று, கூட்டுறவு ஆணைக்குழுவே நோக்கத்தை நிறைவேற்றக் கூடிய அறிக்கையின் அமைப்பினை வரையறுத்துக் காட்டலாம். முன்புபோன்று கூட்டுறவு இயக்க வளர்ச்சியினை பிரதேச அடிப்படையிலே மதிப்பிடுவது நன்று. இவ்வொப்பியல் முறையின்மூலம் ஒரு பகுதியிலேயுள்ள கூட்டுறவாளருக்கு தமது இயக்கம் எத்துனை வளர்ச்சியடைந்துள்ளது என்பதனையுணர்ந்தி அவர்களைச் செயற்படத்தூண்டலாம்.

இருவகை அறிக்கைகள் இருத்தல் நலம் என நாம் கருதுகின்றோம். ஆண்டறிக்கை அத்தியாவசிய புள்ளி விபரங்களையும், அறிமுகத்தினையும் அடங்கியதாயிருக்கும், மற்ற அறிக்கை வளர்ச்சியினையும் கொள்கைப் போக்கினையும் மதிப்பிட்டு முன்று அல்லது ஐந்து ஆண்டுகளுக்கொரு தடவை வெளியிடப்படவேண்டும். இங்கிலாந்திலே உயர் கல்வித்துறையைப் பொறுத்த வரை இவ்விதமே அறிக்கைகள் வெளியிடப்படுகின்றன.

இறக்குமதிக்கு அரசாங்க அனுமதி-இசுசு 1௨௪ செசி

லொறி செசிகளை இறக்குமதி செய்வதற்கு அரசாங்கம் அனுமதி வழங்கியுள்ளது எனவும், சமாசங்கள் வேண்டிய வசதிகளையும் பெற்றுக் கொள்வதற்கு இச்சங்கப்பத்தைப் பயன்படுத்திக் கொள்ளும்படியும் அகில இலங்கைக் கூட்டுறவுச் சம்மேளத் தலைவர் அறிவித்துள்ளார். கூட்டுறவுத் தாபனமும் ஏனைய பொதுத் துறையினரும் பெருந்தொகையாக இச்செசிகளுக்கு விண்ணப்பிக்க உத்தேசித்திருப்பதால் சமாசங்களை

இவற்றிற்கு உடனடியாக விண்ணப்பிக்குமாறு அவர் கேட்டுள்ளார். உடனடியாக விண்ணப்பித்தால் முதல் இறக்குமதி செய்யப்படும் செசிகளைச் சமாசங்களுக்கு வழங்கப்படலாம் என்று அவர் தெரிவித்துள்ளார். விண்ணப்பங்களை முகாமையாளர், (கூ. மொ. வி. உதிரிப் பாகங்களும் புதிய வாகனங்களும்) 85, மக்லம் வீதி, த. பெ. எண் 990, கொழும்பு-10 என்ற முகவரிக்கு அனுப்பப்படவேண்டும் என்றும் மேலும் குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளார்.

இவ்வாண்டில் முதல் தடவையாக பூரண கலைவிழா 2-2-69 ராயிற்றுக்கிழமை மாலை 6-30 மணிக்கு நிறந்த வெளியரங்கில் நடைபெறும். சங்கீத பூரணம் பொ. இளைய தம்பியின் இன்னிசைக் கச்சேரியும், நல்லூர் சங்கிலியன் நாடகமன்றத்தின் 'நவீன நாரதர்' வண்ணகலைமகள் நாடகமன்றத்தின் 'நல்ல தீர்ப்பு' ஆகிய நாடகங்களும் இடம் பெறும்.

பூரண கலைவிழா

இவ்வாண்டில் முதல் தடவையாக பூரண கலைவிழா 2-2-69 ராயிற்றுக்கிழமை மாலை 6-30 மணிக்கு நிறந்த வெளியரங்கில் நடைபெறும். சங்கீத பூரணம் பொ. இளைய தம்பியின் இன்னிசைக் கச்சேரியும், நல்லூர் சங்கிலியன் நாடகமன்றத்தின் 'நவீன நாரதர்' வண்ணகலைமகள் நாடகமன்றத்தின் 'நல்ல தீர்ப்பு' ஆகிய நாடகங்களும் இடம் பெறும்.



வடபகுதி மேற்பார்வைச் சபையின் வெளியீடு
யாழ்ப்பாணம் 1-2-1969

கூட்டுறவு இயக்க ஆண்டறிக்கை

அண்மையிலே 1966/67 ம் ஆண்டிற்கான கூட்டுறவு ஆக்க ஆணையாளரின் அறிக்கை வெளியிடப்பட்டது. இலங்கை குடியேற்ற நாடாக இருந்த போது திணைக்களத் தலைவர்களுடைய பெயரிலேயே அறிக்கைகள் வெளிவந்தது போல சுதந்திர மடைந்து இத்தனை ஆண்டுகள் கழிந்தும் அவ்வாறு வெளிவருவது முறைகேடாகும். கொள்கையை ஓர் அமைச்சரே வரையறுப்பதனால் இனிமேலாவது ஒரு கூட்டுறவுச் சபை தயாரித்த அறிக்கையினை அவர் நாடாளுமன்றத்திற்குச் சமர்ப்பிப்பார் என எதிர்பார்க்கிறோம்.

எதிர்காலத்து வரலாற்று ஆசிரியனுக்கு இத்தகைய அறிக்கைகள் பயன்பட வல்லது என்பது உண்மையே. ஆனால், அடிப்படையிலே இவ்வறிக்கை நாடாளுமன்றத்திற்கும், மக்களுக்கும், குறிப்பாக கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கும், உதவுகின்றது. இத்தகைய ஆண்டறிக்கை தேசிய இன உணர்வினை ஊட்ட வல்ல கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தினைப்பற்றிய கருத்துப் பரிமாறல்களை ஊக்குவிப்பது திண்ணம். இவ்வறிக்கையிலே சேர்க்கப்பட வேண்டியது யாது? இது எவ்வாறு அமைக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என்பதனைப் பரிசீலனை செய்வது நன்மை பயக்கும். உயிரியை நீக்கி அரிசியை எடுப்பது போன்று, கூட்டுறவு ஆணைக்குழுவே நோக்கத்தை நிறைவேற்றக் கூடிய அறிக்கையின் அமைப்பினை வரையறுத்துக் காட்டலாம். முன்புபோன்று கூட்டுறவு இயக்க வளர்ச்சியினை பிரதேச அடிப்படையிலே மதிப்பிடுவது நன்று. இவ்வொப்பியல் முறையின்மூலம் ஒரு பகுதியிலேயுள்ள கூட்டுறவாளருக்கு தமது இயக்கம் எத்துனை வளர்ச்சியடைந்துள்ளது என்பதனையுணர்ந்தி அவர்களைச் செயற்படத்தூண்டலாம்.

இருவகை அறிக்கைகள் இருத்தல் நலம் என நாம் கருதுகின்றோம். ஆண்டறிக்கை அத்தியாவசிய புள்ளி விபரங்களையும், அறிமுகத்தினையும் அடங்கியதாயிருக்கும், மற்ற அறிக்கை வளர்ச்சியினையும் கொள்கைப் போக்கினையும் மதிப்பிட்டு முன்று அல்லது ஐந்து ஆண்டுகளுக்கொரு தடவை வெளியிடப்படவேண்டும். இங்கிலாந்திலே உயர் கல்வித்துறையைப் பொறுத்த வரை இவ்விதமே அறிக்கைகள் வெளியிடப்படுகின்றன.

கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் பற்றிய அறிக்கைகள் வாசிக்கத்தக்கவையாகவும், கருத்தரங்குகள் போன்றவற்றில் அவை பயன்படத்தக்கவையாகவும் அமைதல் வேண்டும் என்பதே எமது நோக்கம். முன்று அல்லது ஐந்து ஆண்டுகளுக்கொரு தடவை வெளியிடப்படும் அறிக்கை இலங்கைக் கூட்டுறவாளரை மட்டுமல்ல, இங்கும் வெளிநாடுகளிலுமுள்ள சமூக இயலாளரைக் கவரவல்லதாய் இருத்தல் வேண்டும். இவ்வறிக்கை மும்மொழிகளிலும் வெவ்வேறாக வெளியிடப்பட வேண்டும். ஆண்டறிக்கை சிங்களம், தமிழ் ஆகிய மொழிகளில் வெளியிடப்பட்டால் போதும்.

கூட்டுறவு

கிராமப் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தியும்

தனித்தனியாகப் பிடுபுவதைக் காட்டிலும் கூட்டுறவு வாய்ப்பை அடைய கிறது. பூமி விஷயத்தில் தத்தத்துவம் எப்படியோ நபோல் கால்நடைகள் யத்திலும் பொருந்தும். கள் கால்நடைகளை கிராம கள் மொத்தமாக வைத் கூட்டாகப் பராமரிப்பு வதால் அவர்களுடைய சாயத்துக்கு அதிகமான வு நிலம் கிடைக்கும் ப்பு உள்ளது. தவிரவும் ப்பு நடை மருத்துவ வசதி, ப்பு, மேய்ச்சல் வசதி, சேகரம் செய்து விற்றபு விஷயங்களிலும் அவர் நல்ல பலனைப்பெற முடி கால்நடைகளைக் காருண் ள நிலையில் வைத்திருக்க அவைகளின் வளத்தைப் தக்கவும் எளிதாகிறது." இரண்டாவது திட்டம் வாசி வந்த ஒரு சமயத் நமது நாட்டில் கூட்டுற பண்ணையாற்றுக்கு அதிக

நற்காலத்தில் இலங்கை யிலும் இலங்கையையொத்த ஏனைய விவசாய நாடுகளிலும் விவசாயத்தைப் பெருக்குவ தற்காகப் பல முயற்சிகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. இந்நாடுகளின் மக்கள் தொ கையில் பெரும்பான்மையினர் கிராமப்பகுதிகளிலேயே வசித் தின்றனர். ஆகவே இவர்க ளுடைய வாழ்க்கைத்தரத்தை உயர்த்துவது, சமூக நலத்தி லும் மனித முன்னேற்றத்தி லும் அக்கறை கொண்ட அரசாங்கங்களின் பொறுப்பும், கடமையுமாகும். மேலும் இலங்கையின் பொதுவான பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்திக்கு முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும் கிராமத்தினுடைய பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி முதன்மை யானதும், முக்கியமானதும், அவசியமானதுமாகும். கீழ்வரும் முக்கிய காரணங்களுக்காகக் கிராமியப் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி அவசியமாகின்றது.

எமது நாடு வேண்டியிருக் கும். உணவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்குவதில் தற்போது எடுக்கப்பட்ட நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. பஞ்சத்தையே எதிர்நோக்க வேண்டியிருந்திருக்கும். ஐந் தாவதாக, இலங்கையில் வேலையில்லாதவர்கள் தொ கை ஆண்டுதோறும் அதிகரித் துக்கொண்டே வருகின்றது. இப்பிரச்சினையை கைத்தொழிலை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதன் மூலம் கத்தான் தீர்க்க முடியும். அக்கைத்தொழிலை ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கும், அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்கும் தேவையான இயந்திரங்கள் வெளிநாடுகளி லிருந்துதான் இறக்குமதி செய்யவேண்டும். இறக்குமதி செய்ய அதிகமான வெளிநாட்டுச் செலாவணி தேவைப்படும். உணவுப் பொருள்கள் இறக்குமதி செய்வதற்கே ஆண்டுதோறும் கணிசமான செலாவணி செலவிடப்படுமா ளுள்ளிருப்பத தங்கியிருப்பத தனால் வெளிநாட்டு அரசியற் கொள்கையை அந்த நாடுகளின் விருப்பத்திற்கும், எண்ணத்திற்கும் அமைக்க வேண்டிய கட்டாயம், நிர்ப்பந்தம் சிலசமயங்களில் ஏற்படும். உள்நாட்டுப் பொருளாதாரக் கொள்கைகளைக்கூட அந்நாடு களின் கருத்திற்குத்தக்கவாறு அமைத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டியும், மாற்றிக்கொள்ள வேண்டியும் இருக்கும். ஆகவே மேற் குறிப்பிட்ட முக்கிய காரணங் களால் கிராம பொருளாதாரம் அபிவிருத்தி, முக்கியமாக விவசாய அபிவிருத்தி அவசியம் என்பது தெளிவாகின்றது.

பலநோக்குக் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்களும்

குப்தா
பிரம-பிரசார இலாகா

யத்துவம் இருந்து வந் ஆனால் சமீப காலமாக கைவிடப்பட்டது. கூட்டிப்புப் பண்ணை முறையை ியர்களின் நதிஜி ன்ருள்ள கருத்தை ஊன் கவனித்தல் வேண்டும். ட்டுறவுப் பண்ணை பற்றிய து கொள்கை என்னவென் பூமிச் சொந்தக்காரர் யாவரும் ஒன்றுபட்டுத் தன் பூமிகளை மொத்தமாக து விவசாயம் செய்ய னும் என்பதுதான். அவ் செய்வதானது மிக வ பொருட்பலன் களைக் டுக்கும்."

முதலாவதாக, பெரும் பான்மையான மக்கள் கிராமங்களில் வசிக்கின்ற காரணத்தால் அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கைத்தர ஏற்றத்திற்கு அதிகமான வரமானம் அவசியம். வருமானத்தைப் பெருக்கி சீரான சிறப்பான வாழ்வின் அமைத்துக்கொள்ள கிராமத்தின் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி முக்கியமானதாகும். இரண்டாவதாக, நகர்ப்புறங்களிலே வேறு முயற்சிகளில் ஈடுபட்டுள்ளவர்களுக்கும் அவர்களது குடும்பங்களுக்கும் தேவையான உணவுப் பொருள்கள் கிராமப்பகுதிகளிலிருந்துதான் வரவேண்டியுள்ள காரணத்தால், கிராமத்திலுள்ள தொழில்களும் பொருளாதாரமும் அபிவிருத்தியடைந்து உற்பத்திப் பெருக்கத்திற்கு ஆவன செய்வது அவசியமாகும். மூன்றாவதாக, மக்கள் தொகை ஆண்டுதோறும் சராசரி 2.2 வீதத்தில் பெருகி வருகின்றது, பெருகி வருகின்ற மக்கள் தொகைக்கு உணவு உற்பத்திப் பெருக்கமும் அவசியமானதாகும்.

யின் இயந்திரங்களின் இறக்குமதிக்குப் போதிய செலாவணி இல்லாது போய்விடும். ஆகவே கிராமியப் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி மூலம்தான் உணவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கி இயந்திரங்களுக்குத் தேவையான வெளிநாட்டுச் செலாவணியைப் பெறமுடியும். ஆறுவதாக கிராமியப் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தியை அடைந்தால் தான் கைத்தொழில் அபிவிருத்தியை அடையமுடியும். இந்த உண்மையைப் பொருளாதாரத்திலும் கைத்தொழிலிலும் வளர்ச்சியடைந்த நாடுகளின்

வான கடன்கள் கிடைக்க வேண்டியது இன்றியமையாததாகின்றது. தனிப்பட்ட விவசாயிகளின் உற்பத்தியும், சிறுதொழில் செய்பவர்களின் உற்பத்திப் பொருள்களும் சிறியளவுடையது என்ற காரணத்தால் அவர்களுடைய பொருள்களைக் குறைந்த விலைக்கே கிராம வேண்டிய நிர்ப்பந்தம் விராம உற்பத்தியாளர்களுக்கு உண்டு, தனிப்பட்டவர்களின் உற்பத்தி குறைவானது என்ற காரணத்தால் பொருள்கள் தேவைப்படும் இடங்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் செல்ல செலவு அதிகமாகும். இப்படியாக கிராம உற்பத்தியாளர் தங்கள் உற்பத்திப் பொருள்களை உற்பத்தி விலைக்கு வர்த்தகர்களுக்கே விற்கவேண்டிய நிலையிலுள்ளார்களோ அதேபோன்று தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய பாவனையாளர் பொருள்களையும் மற்றும் உற்பத்திக்குத் தேவையான விதை, நெல், பசளை, உற்பத்திச் சாதனங்களையும் வர்த்தகர்களிடமே அதிக விலைக்கு வாங்க வேண்டிய நிலையிலுள்ளார்கள். இதனால் பலவழிகளிலும் செலவுகள் அதிகமாகி வருமானம் குறைகின்றது.

வைக் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்கள்

வாழ்க்கையில் எல்லாத் தங்களிலும் கூட்டுறவு முறையைப் புத்தும் பணி நாடு ஈடுபட்டுள்ளது. தியாவில் இயக்கமானது

பெற்றிருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்பதை கூடிய மட்டில் இந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் கூட்டுறவு முறையில் இயங்கவேண்டும் என்பதை காந்திஜி விரும்பினார் கிராம வாழ்க்கை கூட்டுறவாய் மலர்வேண்டும் என்பதுதான் அவரது கொள்கை. [தொடர்ச்சி 12-ம் பக்கம்]

நான்காவதாக நமது நாட்டிற்குத் தேவையான உணவுப் பொருள்களில் பெரும்பகுதி வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து இறக்குமதி செய்யப்படுகின்றது. முக்கியமாக 50 சதவீத அரிசி வெளி நாடுகளிலிருந்துதான் பெறப்படுகின்றது. உள்நாட்டு உற்பத்தி உயர்வின்னால் இந்த வீதம் இப்போது குறைந்து வந்தபோதும் கணிசமான பகுதி இன்னும் இறக்குமதி செய்யப்பட்டே வருகின்றது. இப்படியாக வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து பெறுவதற்கு வெளிநாட்டுச் செலாவணி தேவைப்படுகின்றது. தற்போதைய நிலையில் வெளிநாட்டுச் செலாவணி பெறுவது பல காரணங்களால் கடினமாகி வருகின்றது. எமது டிரதம் ஏற்றுமதிப் பொருள்களாகிய தேயிலைக்கும் ரப்பருக்கும் சர்வதேசச் சந்தையில் விலை குறைந்து வருகின்றது. இந்த விலைக்குறைவு செயற்கை ரப்பரின் உற்பத்தி பெருகி வருவதாலும், பல நாடுகளில் தேயிலை உற்பத்தி செய்யப்படுவதாலும், தேயிலை உற்பத்தி இந்தியா போன்ற நாடுகளில் அதிகரித்து வருவதாலும், உள்நாட்டிலேயே தேங்காயின் பாலனை அதிகரித்து வருவதால் தேங்காயின் ஏற்றுமதி குறைந்து வருகின்றது. ஆனால் அரிசி போன்ற எமது இறக்குமதிப் பொருள்களின் விலை சர்வதேசச் சந்தையிலும் அதிகரித்து வருகின்றது. இப்பொருத்தே கிராமப் பொருளாதாரத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்து உணவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கா விடில் நெருக்கடியான

இருத்திருப்பத தடையாயுள்ள பிரச்சினைகள் யாவை என்பதனை ஆராய்வோம். இப்பிரச்சினைகள் பலவற்றைப் போக்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்கள் மூலமாக நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்து வருகின்றது. இப்பிரச்சினைகள் கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக போக்கப்பட்டு வந்தப்பாதி இலம் பெருமளவு இன்னும் உள்ளன.

புத்துயிர்

கடவுளிடத்தில் அன்புள்ள சகல சீவராசிகளின் அன்புள்ளவன். "ஈசனுடைய வர் அடியவர்களை வர் எவ்வாறுக்கும் அனவார" என்று சுவரூபனாயார் செப்புகின்றது. லவனையும் உன்னப்பர் நேச என்று கிறித்தவ சமயம் கூறுகிறது. சீலம் புத்த சமயத்தவர் ிவேர், மகமது சமயம் ரதரத்துவத்தை அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டுள்ளது. உயால் அன்புதான் பொய்யம். அன்புதான் சகலாசிகளையும் இணைத்து த்திருக்கும் சக்தி. கடவுள் ாச்சியோடுதான் சர்வேன இயக்கம் இயங்க வேண்டி அதைகைய தொண்டே றறையை சட்டும். எல்லா ளுத்த இன்பமும் துன்ப அனுபவக் முடியாது. நனைவுகளாலும் த்ய ல்களாலும் துன்பம் களுக்குவரும், தாயசிந்த ளும், நற்செய்கைகளர உயிர்களுக்கு இன்பம் உ. இங்ஙனம் நிகழ்வது றவன்ன் ஆணை. ஆயினும் லாருட இன்புறற்றுக்க ாடுமென்று கடவுள் ார்த்தனை செய்வது யாவ ம முடியும். எல்லாருக் பொருளும், உதவியும் நரமும் ஐருவர் செய்ய ாரது. ஒருவருடைய ாரது ஒருவா பொருள் த்த நிரந்தரபூரணம்

அவ்வாயச் செய்யமுடியாது. எள்ளுக்குள் எண்ணெய் போலவும் ஊறுகிற தீ போலவும் எங்கும் கலந்தும் மலையுமாய் வாயாபித்திருக்கும் கருணைக் கடலாகிய ஆறுதவனை இயுடைய ருது பிரார்த்தனையால் வேண்டுவார் வேண்டுவதைத் தவறாது சுவார, பிரார்த்தனையால் வெல்லமுடியாத காரியமில்லை. மகாதமா காந்த அடிக்குக்குப் பிரார்த்தனை தான் உயர். அதுதான் அபரின் சக்தி. அவரின் ஆபுத மும் அதுவே. அதனால் பார்த்தாவிய சாமராட்சயத்தை அடிபணியச் செய்தார். எல்லோரும் இன்புறற்றுப்பத்த சாவோதயதன் ததவலம். தம்முரின பாரம்பரியம் அன்பு தங்கள். "எவ்வுயிரும் மென்னு யிரபோ லெண்ணி யிரவக நன் தெய்வ கருட்கருணை செய்யாய் பராடரமே" என்று தாயுமான சுவாமிகளும், "ஆழ்கதீய தெல்லாட அரன நாயமே குழக வைய கமும் துயா தாகவே" என்று திருஞானசம்பந்த முர்த்த சுவாமிகளும் "மன்னன் கொன்முறை அரசு செய்க குறைவல்லாது யாகள் வாழ்க" என்று கச்சியப்பசிகாச்சாரியாரும் கூறியுள்ளனர். [தொடர்ச்சி 12-ம் பக்கம்]

க. ஜெயரத்தினம்

நிருவாகக் காரியதரிசி, திருக்கோணமலை கூட்டுறவு மாவட்ட சமாச்சம் பொருளாதார வரலாற்றின் மூலம் அறியலாம். விவசாய அபிவிருத்தியடைந்த பின்னர் தான் கைத்தொழில் அபிவிருத்தியடையலாம் என்பதற்கு முக்கிய காரணங்கள யாதெனில், கைத்தொழில் அபிவிருத்தியின் ஆரம்ப காலத்தில் பெரும்பான்மையான மக்கள் கிராமங்களிலேயே வசிப்பதனால் தொழிற்துறைகளில் உற்பத்தி செய்யப்பட்ட பொருள்கள் கிராமத்திலுள்ள மக்களுக்கு ன்றபண செய்யப்படல வேண்டும். இப்பொருள்களை வாங்குவதற்கு கிராம மக்களின் வருமானம் அதிகரித்தால்தான் நகரங்களிலுள்ள தொழிற்சாலைகளில் உற்பத்தி செய்யப்படும் பொருள்களை மேலும் மேலும் வாங்குவார்கள். இப்படியாக பொருள்கள் தொடர்ந்து வாங்கப்பட்டால்தான் தொழிற்சாலைகளில் ஆரம்ப காலத்தில் தொடர்ந்து உற்பத்தி செய்யமுடியும். மேலும் தொழிற்சாலைகளில் முதலீடு செய்வதற்கு முதல தேவை. இந்த முதலீடு மீட்டிப்பதன் மூலம் பெறப்படுகின்றது. மக்களிடம் மிகுது இருந்தால்தான், அதாவது செலவு போக மிச்சம் இருந்தால்தான் சேமிப்பு இருக்க முடியும். அவர்களுடைய பொருளாதாரம் முன்னேற்ற மடைந்தால்தான் வருமானம் அதிகமாய் இருக்கும், சேமிப்பு இருக்கும். அத்துடன் குன்றான குறிப்பிட்ட படி எமது ஏற்றுமதி கூடி இறக்குமதி குறைந்தால் தான் வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து கைத்தொழில் அபிவிருத்திக்கு தேவையான இயந்திரங்களை இறக்குமதி செய்யமுடியும். ஏழாவதாக தொழிற்சாலை உற்பத்திக்கு வேண்டிய சில கச்சாப் பொருள்களை கிராமங்களிலிருந்துதான் வரவேண்டும். இறுதியாக வெளிநாடுகளில் முக்கிய தேவைப் பொருள்களைக் கிராமியப் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி மூலம்தான் உணவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கி இயந்திரங்களுக்குத் தேவையான வெளிநாட்டுச் செலாவணியைப் பெறமுடியும்.

உலகப்பிரசித்திபெற்ற கிராம நாகரிகம்

வாத பிரச்சினை நெடுங்காலம் தொடரே நம் நரட்டில் இருந்து வருகின்றது. கட்டுப்பாடான, மலவன் கடன் வசதி இல்லாத காரணத்தால் சில இடங்களில் விவசாயிகள் பரம்பரை பரம்பரையாக கடனாளிகளாகத் தொடர்ந்து இருந்து வருகின்றனர். மூதா ளையாகள் பட்ட கடனுக்கு இவர்களை பொறுப்பாக இருக்கின்ற நிலைமையை சில கிராமங்களில் இப்போது கூடக் காணலாம். இப்படியாக இவர்கள் தொடர்ந்து கடனாளிகளாகவே இருந்து வருவதற்குக் காரணம் வட்டிக்குக் கடன் கொடுக்கும் தனிப்பட்டவர்கள் அநியாய வட்டி அறவிடுவதாலும், நேர்மையற்ற வழி

