Cotton marketing in India, prior to the introduction of the State agencies was mainly in the hands of private traders as cooperative marketing of cotton had gained importance only in the State of Gujarat. However, with the entry of the Cotton Corporation of India in 1970 and the Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation in 1972 in order to secure for the grower a better price, the situation began to change and the share of private trade in cotton marketing gradually declined. Our thesis is a modest attempt to study the performance and efficiency of the State agencies in the marketing of cotton.

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Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune-411 004

Sangeeta Shroff

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