SUMMARY

Agriculture sector needs finance, short term, medium term and long-term loan to get better production both in the terms of quantity and quality. Multipurpose agricultural co-operative societies are set up for financing the short-term needs of the farmers. The basic purpose to encourage co-operatives in agricultural sphere was to get rid of the exploitation of farmers by indigenous bankers or money-lenders who charge high rate of interest and takes various types of charges as well as in kind of land from farmers.

Farmers need finances for purchasing high yield varieties of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and agricultural implements. These agricultural inputs are also made available through co-operative societies which are functioning level.

Multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies as economic institution play a very important role at the grass roots level in the development of local areas.

It is observed that most of the sample farmers/ members (92.73%) told that the loan provided by the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies are not sufficient. Crop loan supplied by co-operative credit societies is not adequate, small farmer do not get adequate credit to meet their financial requirements during the production period.

The 77.58% farmers/ members are told that they are getting loan from the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies within 8 to 15 days.

It is observed that 92.73% farmers/ members are told that the sample multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies are not accepting the deposits from farmers/ members and from the public. Thus it is clear that most of the societies have been totally unsuccessful in collecting deposits from the members and the public because they cannot offered as much interest on the deposits as the banks give.

Only 78 farmers/ members (23.64%) out of 330 are participate in agriculture exhibition organized by the various authorities and organizations. There is no awareness in farmers. They do not think that exhibition can help them in any way in their farming.

The 63.64% farmers (210 out 330) are reported that there is a political interference in the working of multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies. The local factor involved in politics also affects the functioning of the sample multipurpose agricultural
co-operative credit societies.

The loan given by the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies are of three types that is short term loan, medium term loan and long term loan. The 48.48% farmers/members showed a good opinion about the management of sample multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies. 28.79% farmers/members showed fair opinion and 22.73% farmers/members are not in favor of management of the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies.

It is observed that the farmers/members are expected to increase the amount of loan, minimize the rate of interest, guarantee rate should be adopted, loans should be exempted in case of drought and loan should be sanctioned in time from the society.

There are good relations between farmers/members, secretary and other staff. It helps to solve the difficulties of the farmers of the society. It is observed that the secretary and other clerical staff as well as directors of societies guide farmers while getting loan from the society.

The directors face several difficulties in recovery of loans such as low repaying capacity, not giving attention to reminders, mentality to non-payment of loan, high rate of overdue, local relationship, negligence of employees etc. The participation of women and backward class directors in the working of multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies was nominal. The women/backward class directors do not take keen interest in the working of multipurpose agricultural cooperative credit societies.

The directors felt the need of their role in working of multipurpose agricultural cooperative credit societies and they also felt the need of training for themselves in the area such as co-operative law, book keeping and accountancy, recovery of bad debts, financial management, developing social relationship etc.

The 13 sample societies (39.39%) have full time secretary and 60.61% societies do not have full time secretary. In fact it is essential requirement. It is observed that the present rate of interest of the society is 11% to 12% for crop loan. According to 81.21% sample farmers says that, the rate of interest on crop loan is high while 18.79% farmers opinion is that the rate of interest is reasonable. The secretaries working in multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies are untrained and with inadequate qualification. The 58.59% of the secretary and other clerical staff of multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies
were not trained through training programmes. The secretary and other clerical staff emphasized the need for training.

The amount of crop loan supplied by multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies is insufficient to meet the production cost. It should be increased. The crops loan given to the members should be given on the basis of production cost.

Try to minimize the unnecessary expenditure that is expenditure on social obligators, festivals, marriages etc. The farmers may minimize expenditures by doing a “Group Marriages” Loans are recovered in the usual manner. As a result, percentage of arrears / over dues is very high. In order to recover the loans more efficiently, the societies should make special efforts and give priority to the recovery of loans.

In the study area there is a lacuna in linking credit to marketing. It is expected to check and control the likely miss utilizations of credit which is being advanced. There is a need of linking credit with marketing.

While distributing crop loans, it is taken in to account that the recovery of these loans will be done through the sale of crops. But farmers sell their goods such as fruits, vegetable, etc. themselves in the market whereas the borrowers sell their goods in others names.

For this reason very little recovery is made through the marketing committee.

Marketing of produce through marketing society should be made compulsory to farmers, so that the recovery will be easier and percentage of arrears will be reduced. Well trained secretary should be appointed for each society and continuous training is to be needed to secretary of the society. The societies should make available various types of training programmes to farmers, secretaries and the directors.

For effective administration of the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies, the full time secretary should be appointed. If full time secretary is appointed, he can concentrate on a particular societies working and can manage whole administration smoothly.

It is pointed out by our study that a single secretary is required to work in more than one society which hampers his efficiency. So we feel that the government should try to appoint one full time trained secretary for each society separately. The researcher suggested that there is a need to minimizing the rate of interest.

The directors must develop business attitude for better progress of the society to face
the challenges of globalization. It is a co-operative organization so, they must have social obligations and commitment for better progress of the societies and to face the challenges of globalization directors must develop business attitude. The directors should try to keep the various expenses minimum such as administrative expenses and revenue expenses.

The multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies should think for welfare fund, development fund along with building and general fund. The management of multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies should treat the employees in a best way that they should give best service to the society. The satisfied and efficient staff is the assets of the society. The concept co-partnership can be implemented by giving a chance to the representative of staff on the board of directors. This will increase the confidence and good relationship between employees and management. The steps taken by directors for recovery of outstanding debts were observed and it is suggested that they should concentrate more for this purpose. The responsibility of recovery should be personally accepted by directors. In the era of globalization, the directors, secretary and even farmers should change their mind set. They should have positive attitude. In the age of information and technology, there is a need of not only doing a hard work but also doing smart work by the secretary, clerical staff and the directors of credit societies. Reduction in overdue can be achieved through supervised lending linking credit with marketing emphasis on recovery of loans. For recovery of overdue the directors should give effective steps against willful defaulters. Multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies have to develop their own management system including information technology to face the emerging competitive environment. The government must prepare a new national policy on co-operative with the help of academicians and thinkers. For the weaker sections of society and women, the self-help groups could be set up by the multipurpose agricultural cooperative credit societies. Self help groups can raise the deposits.
CONCLUSION

In the present research study recommendations are made on the basis of detailed examinations of the working of multipurpose agriculture co-operative credit societies in order to improve the efficiency of the societies for benefit of farmers/members and the society as a whole and giving loan and various services to farmers like veterinary services, rationing facilities, farm implements, seeds, fertilizers, manures, pesticides, services of storage, services of transport, library facilities, information regarding prices of farm products, training facilities etc.

If the recommendations given above will be fulfilled, the functioning of multipurpose agriculture co-operative credit societies shall be improve and finally the members will be benefitted.

The researcher studied the role of multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies in rural development.

The researcher studied the functioning, organization and management of multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies in Maharashtra state is specially in Pune district.

He studied the various services provided by multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies to the members.

He studied the salary and other allowances given by multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies to its staff-members in Pune district.

The researcher studied the amount of crop-loan given by the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies to farmers in Pune district is sufficient or not.

After studied the present sample multipurpose cooperative credit societies the researcher came to know that, the services rendered by sample multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies in Pune district are not sufficient.
Amount of crop loan given by sample multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies to farmers is not sufficient. Salary and other allowances given by multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies to its staff-members are very low. The amount of crop loan given by the multipurpose agricultural co-operative credit societies is not used by farmers for the said purpose.