ABSTRACT

Rubber Producers’ Societies are voluntary self help associations of small rubber growers registered under the Charitable Societies Act. They are envisaged to function as a non profit making institution imparting technical and scientific know how to the members for the general improvement of their plantations and thereby achieving economic and social welfare. The objectives of the research study are to evaluate the working and to analyse the problems of Rubber Producers Societies. Statistical samples of 200 Rubber Producers’ Societies are selected for the study by adopting Stratified Random Sampling method.

A theoretical framework for the study is given. It gives the history, development and growth of rubber industry in the world as well as in India. It also includes a detailed description of the Rubber Board and the Rubber Producers’ societies. The workings of Rubber Producers’ Societies are evaluated on the basis of the functions performed by them. The important variables of the functions and problems are treated as investigative areas and a number of questions are framed for each of the investigative areas. The relevant information relating to the variables are gathered from the office bearers and the members of 200 samples of Rubber Producers’ Societies with the help of structured and pre tested schedule of questions. The functional variables evaluated include transfer of technology, collection, processing and marketing of rubber, supply of inputs, linkage with other institutions, membership drive, raising and utilizing the funds, maintenance
of accounts and its audit, management and social commitment. The problem variables of Rubber Producers’ Societies analysed relate to management, members, financial, marketing and other problems. Data analysis is made with the help of tables, diagrams and simple statistical techniques. Upon analysis of the primary data 129 specific conclusions are drawn. A detailed plan of suggestions and recommendations are given with a view to strengthen the working of Rubber Producers’ Societies.

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