CHAPTER V

MANAGEMENT OF MARKETS

Need for Management:

A sound and effective management is essential for the successful operation of any organisation either with profit or service motive. It is true that a good management is one, which enables the group to achieve its objectives with minimum expenditure, resources and efforts and, least interference with other worthwhile activities. Management of regulated markets as such is an instrument which enables concerned authorities to achieve these objectives.

Regulated markets as a concept should thus be viewed as an instrument to transform an essentially subsistence agriculture into a commercial one. Commercial agriculture helps farmers to improve their status as well as helps to develop the nation. Strategies like Green Revolution with high technology production of agricultural produce would remain only partially successful if systematic and orderly marketing channels are not evolved to distribute the marketable surplus in a way which will be remunerative to a grower.

It may be questioned as to why it is necessary to have statutory regulation of markets. In the markets located at the terminal points and major distribution centres, the traders have organised themselves into associations with a view
to safeguard their interests. These associations have adopted agreed sets of rules and bye-laws codifying thereunder various trade practices and business ethics to be followed. Even in secondary markets, traders and other functionaries such as arhatias have formed associations. These trade associations, however, generally tend to concern themselves with the interests primarily of the buyers and not as much with those of the sellers. There is thus a need for a machinery (machinery for effective management of market) to regulate the market practices in the trading centres with a view to safeguard the interests of the sellers. This need is all the more great in primary assembling markets where the majority of the sellers are producers who, on account of their vulnerability, are more prone to be exploited. To be able to function effectively the market regulating agency should not only have statutory backing but should also be properly supervised and controlled by the Government for holding the scales even between the sellers and the buyers. ¹

Khols ² mentions certain points considering the position of farmers and their farm produce, which ultimately may help in determining legislative policy. The legislative policy/the proper management and control of the market should cover the following points:


1. Farmers are very price-conscious. With relative stability in production and the relative lack of control over it, both gross and net incomes have been associated with the level of prices. High and rising prices mean farm prosperity. Low and falling prices mean farm depression. To a large segment of agriculture it is as simple as that.

2. Farmers increasingly believe that they are the tail of the economic dog. They cannot divorce themselves from the rest of the economy and they receive the most severe jolts as the price and business levels zoom up and down over the years.

3. Prices of individual commodities are extremely unstable. Wide fluctuations both within the year and from year to year are the normal pattern. And since many farmers produce only one major product, what these individual prices do is a matter of great concern. With the inelastic demands for many commodities, shifts in supply have resulted in wide sweeps in prices.

In order to ameliorate the above situation of the poor farmer, the markets under legislation should be managed in such a way that the numerous deficiencies are rectified, and a well-planned and efficient market and marketing system brought into existence. Efficiency of marketing depends on the appropriate relationship between various actively participating institutions and their services. For this, a concrete decision has to be developed as to when the crops are to be sold, how much is to be sold, where is it to be sold, what marketing services and transportation vehicles will be needed,
what will be the spread over of marketing costs, what portion
the agriculturist will get from the price taken from consumers
and what will be profit margins of intermediaries. The Royal
Commission on Agriculture in India\(^1\) pointed out:

"The business of sale is not a matter for
amateurs . . . . . . skilled technical
advice and guidance are necessary but even
more important is proper business manage­
ment, unless this is available, the society
must inevitably come to grief".

The discussions in the earlier paragraphs justified
the need of management of markets in a proper manner. Manage­
ment can provide better marketing facilities in the market
place. It controls the unfair and unjust activities done by
the traders and the grower-sellers can be assured of a fair
price for their produce. It is stressed that the regulated
markets should have a fairly comprehensive knowledge of the
modern marketing concepts and techniques. The personnel must
have the necessary skill to practise this knowledge also. One
essential pre-requisite for the successful practice of market­
ing is the ability to think creatively and respond quickly to
changing situations. Decision-making process, organisational
set up and attitude of the personnel in the regulated market
committee must all be geared towards making it possible.

\(^1\) Government of India, Report of the Royal Commission on
Agriculture in India, Government General Press, Bombay.
1928, cited in Sadhu and Sing, Fundamentals of Agricultural
This chapter comprises the discussion of the management system of regulated markets in West Bengal and the management system of notified markets in Bangladesh under legislation. It is, however, felt necessary to study the management pattern of the markets in a separate administrative set up. This study attempts to reveal the efficiency and effectiveness of management pattern and their drawbacks in both the regions.

Regulated Market Management in West Bengal:

In West Bengal, an Act has been passed called "The West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1972" which emphasizes the need for the regulation of markets and market practices. Under this Act, important and assembly type of markets have been brought under the ambit of regulation. The Act provides for management, control and regulation of marketing of agricultural produce in markets falling within the notified market areas of the regulated markets, bringing these under its ambit as notified sub-markets. Once a regulated market has been constituted, its management is vested on the respective Market Committee (MC). The MC is legally bound to implement the provisions laid down in the Act. Further, the MC is also responsible for establishing Regulated Markets wherever and whenever necessary.

The Organisation and Structures of Market Committee:

It was noted earlier that West Bengal is one of the late beginners in line with the introduction of regulation in the field of marketing. It is largely because the State
Government of West Bengal since independence did not give much attention to the need for regulation in market places till 1971. In 1972, an Act was passed and came into force in the same year.

According to the Act, there shall be a Market Committee for every market area.¹ In respect of individual markets, the Market Committee is the Administrative/Management Authority. As the MC is the king-pin in introducing regulatory measures in a market, the first step in the process is therefore to constitute a MC. A Market Committee established under the marketing Act is entrusted with the responsibility of enforcing within the notified area, the different provisions of the Act, the rules and the bye-laws framed thereunder. Furthermore, the Act enjoins a market committee to establish markets within its market area and provide the necessary facilities to persons using it for an orderly marketing of agricultural produce. The MC performs all these as directed by the Government from time to time. A MC is therefore, the pivot of the whole mechanism designed to improve the standards of marketing within its jurisdiction.

A Market Committee is constituted by the Government notification, under Section 5(3) of the Act consisting 15 (fifteen) members including two official members. In the

composition, growers as a group have considerable strength having 7 out of 15 members. According to this Act (as amended by West Bengal Act XXI of 1981, in 1981), the composition of Market Committee is as follows:

Representative of State Government  
(one will be Ex-officio Member-Secretary)  .. 2 (Nominated)

Representative of Co-operative Marketing Society  .. 1 (Nominated)

Representative of Financing Bank  .. 1 (Nominated)

Representative of Local Authority  .. 1 (Nominated)

Representative of Small Growers  .. 2 (Nominated)

Representative of West Bengal Legislative Assembly elected therein from the Constituency comprising the principal market yard or the major part of it.  .. 1 (Nominated)

Representative of Agriculturists of the Market Area  .. 5 (Nominated)

Representatives of Licenced Traders doing business in agricultural produce in the market area  .. 2 (Nominated)

Total  .. 15

There is a need for rationalising the strength of market committees based on some set principles so that the members may not be too many in some and too few in the others, upsetting the balance of legitimate representation of various interests. The number of members on market committees may be kept flexible (based on some principle), depending upon the size and type of market to be controlled. When a range is given, the intention is that the State Government concerned
should weigh various considerations and prescribe the number, if necessary by categorising them instead of fixing the strength at some figure, for all market committees. The number of members can also be enhanced by the Government under Section 5(4) of the Act by another three persons, two from the growers and one from the licensed traders. Then, there can be a maximum of 18 members in an MC in case of requirement.

A Committee constituted initially with members from Government offices, Co-operative Society in Local Authorities, financing bank, agriculturists and traders shall be deemed to have been validly constituted under Section 5(3A) of the Act. The Committee so constituted is, therefore, legally competent to take any decision within the framework of the Act. But, it has been found in some visiting markets that the total number of members are more than the constitution. The Committee of these markets had been formed before amendment of the Act in 1981. These Committees are still existing, though their office terms are for three years [Section (5(7) of the Act]. The following table (Table-5.1) shows the number of members in different interest groups in the surveyed regulated markets.

The table indicates the heterogeneity in the composition of market committees. Regulated Markets such as Islampur, Samsi, Karimpur, Kalna, Pandua and Sheoraphully have more members as in the case of representation of the
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>Members of Different Interest Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Member of Legislative Assembly</td>
<td>Sheo Kutta, Patna, Kali, Puru, Rani, Bala, Sita, Islam, Shil, Cobla, Gori, Dhupia, Jata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Co-operative Bank</td>
<td>Bala, Puru, Rani, Sita, Islam, Shil, Cobla, Gori, Dhupia, Jata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Co-operative Society</td>
<td>Sheo Kutta, Patna, Kali, Puru, Rani, Bala, Sita, Islam, Shil, Cobla, Gori, Dhupia, Jata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Traders</td>
<td>Sheo Kutta, Patna, Kali, Puru, Rani, Bala, Sita, Islam, Shil, Cobla, Gori, Dhupia, Jata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Small Grocery Makers</td>
<td>Sheo Kutta, Patna, Kali, Puru, Rani, Bala, Sita, Islam, Shil, Cobla, Gori, Dhupia, Jata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation of Art. &amp; Cultural Unions</td>
<td>Sheo Kutta, Patna, Kali, Puru, Rani, Bala, Sita, Islam, Shil, Cobla, Gori, Dhupia, Jata</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table showing the Number of Members in Different Interest Groups in the Surveyed Markets

Table - 5.1
Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA), whereas there should be one representative of a MLA elected thereto from the constituency comprising the principal market yard or the major part of it, as per amendment Act, 1981. These Committees were formed before amendment of the Act, and were not reconstituted. Other Regulated Markets have reconstituted their Market Committees as per Amended Act.¹

Under Section 5(5) of the Act the member of a Market Committee is to be appointed by the State Government. The Act gives an exclusive power to the State Government in the matter of selection and appointment of members. The Government shall appoint one from among the members of the Market Committee to be the Chairman and another to be the Vice-Chairman

|Section 5(6) of the Act|.

When Market Committees are constituted for individual markets, their duty is to look after the

¹ According to Section 5(3) Clause (ddd), of the amendment Act, 1981, where a Market Committee was constituted prior to the commencement of the West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Amendment) Act 1981, with more than one member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly as members of the Market Committee, the State Government may declare the names of the Chairman (from among the members), the Vice-Chairman and other members of the Market Committee by a fresh notification under Section 6 with only one member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly as a member of the Market Committee under this Clause and upon such declaration the other members of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly who were members of the Market Committee prior to such declaration shall be deemed to have vacated their offices as members of the Market Committee.

Prior to this amendment Act, all MLAs of the notified area of the regulated market were supposed to be the members of the Market Committee.
regulation of trade on the basis of the Act and rules and bye-laws made under it. The Act (Section 5(2) of the Act) states that every market committee shall be a body corporate by such name as the Government may specify, shall have perpetual succession and common seal. All aspects relating to the organisation, administration and day-to-day management are vested with this committee.¹

The organisational structure of Regulated Markets in West Bengal is defined by the Act itself. In other words, it is a legal structure emphasizing a social need, viz., protecting the interests of farmers against the exploitation of traders. As such, it cannot be presumed that much economic or managerial considerations are involved in the present structure. In some cases, if any decision is taken by the Market Committee, that decision requires the approval of the Government or the Agricultural Marketing Board.² For this, the RMs cannot perform well when need arises and it is one of the reasons perhaps attributable to this structural incompetency. This affects the proper management of markets.

Duties and Functions of the Market Committee:

For better management of the regulated markets, the Market Committees are assigned duties and functions. According to Section 12 and Sub-section (1) of the Act, the following are the assigned duties of the MCs under the Act:

¹ The rights are not absolute rights but are only qualified rights which will be discussed in the subsequent paragraphs and chapters.

² Section 14(3). The MC may appoint other officers and employees as the Board may sanction.
(i) to establish/market for providing facilities in connection with the marketing of agricultural produce,

(ii) to grant or renew licences to traders, brokers, weighmen, measurers, warehousemen, surveyors and other persons as admissible by the Act,

(iii) to administer market committee fund, and maintain the accounts thereof,

(iv) to maintain and manage the principal market yard including the sub-market yard or yards,

(v) to keep a set of standard weights and measures in each principal market yard and sub-market yard against which weighment and measurement may be checked,

(vi) to collect and furnish statistics and information relating to the marketing of agricultural produce from the market yards,

(vii) to publish and disseminate market information for the benefit of the general public,

(viii) to settle disputes between buyers and sellers or their agents,

(ix) to promote grading and standardisation of agricultural produce,

(x) to control and regulate market functionaries and to prosecute persons operating without a valid licence in the market area,

(xi) to bring, prosecute or defend any suit, action proceeding, application or arbitration in regard to any matter,

(xii) to perform such other duties and discharge such other functions as are imposed or conferred upon it by or under this Act or the rules made thereunder,
(xiii) to frame bye-laws for the purpose of carrying out
the provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder,

(xiv) to inspect and verify scales, weights and measures
in use in a market area and also the books of accounts
and other documents maintained by the market functionaries.

By examining the 'management functions'¹ and their
defects under the Act mentioned above, we can analyze the
working performance done by the management authority.

Notified market area has been declared by the State
Government as per Section 2(1) of the Act, on the basis of
the flow of notified agricultural produce towards the market.
As a result, market area is not uniform for all markets,
Declaration of market area on the basis of the above method
have an advantage, i.e., where there is flow of produce to-
wards the market, the farmers will be interested to bring more
produce to that particular market when regulation is done in
full force. In some other States in India, this market area
has been declared as the whole administrative district and
notified market area is determined as a 10 or 15 kilometre
radius area surrounding the regulated market area. Under
this system some area may lack the regulation effect. But in
West Bengal, notified market area under regulated markets

¹ 'Trading Practices' and 'Supporting Services' relating to
management function will be discussed in the subsequent
chapters.
will come under effective regulation. The Table-5.2 shows the notified market areas under regulated markets in West Bengal according to flow of produce coming to the market.

Table - 5.2
Table Showing the Notified Market Area Under Visiting Regulated Markets in West Bengal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of Regulated Market</th>
<th>Area Declared as Notified Market</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Dinhata</td>
<td>Whole of Dinhata Sub-Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Dhupguri</td>
<td>Dhupguri and Banarhat P.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(ii) Belcoba &amp; Barapatia Natunbas Panchayats of Jalpai-guri P.S.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4.      | Shiliguri                | Shiliguri P.S., Naxalbari P.S.,  
|          |                          | Khoribari P.S., Dabgram-2nd and Binnaguri-3 of Phulbari Anchal of Rajganj P.S. |
| 5.      | Islampur                 | Islampur P.S., 9 Mouzas/Chopra P.S., 12 Mouzas of Goalpokher-1 P.S. |
| 7.      | Sheoraphully             | Whole P.S. of Balarampur, Borabazar, Baghmundi and part of Arsha. |
| 8.      | Karimpur                 | Whole of Karimpur-1 & 11, Tehatta-1 and Chapra Block. |
| 9.      | Kalna                    | Whole of Kalna Sub-Division. |
| 11.     | Sheoraphully             | Srimampur Uttar-para Block, Chandan Nagar, Singur, some portion of Haripal Block & Jangi Para Block, Chenditola. |

It is thus seen that the State Government may, by notifications, declare any area as market area within which purchases and sales of notified agricultural produces shall be regulated. The law is interested in having purchases and sales of agricultural produce regulated and leaves to the executive decisions on the area over which such regulation could be effectively carried out. Accordingly, for declaration of market area of a regulated market committee, the concept of command area or hinterland of that particular market was taken into consideration. There has however been a change in the principle for having at least one market area for one Sub-division.

At present, regulation has been effected only in the market yards. The transactions outside the yard but within the 'notified area' are still going on. Grower-sellers sell most of their produce in the house/villages to farias or paikars and those in the village hat/primary markets to petty intermediaries. For example, Jute is a cash crop to the farmer and has secured a special position in the economy. This jute passed on to the terminal market from the growers crossing two stages. A study has been done by the Secretary, Belacoba Market Committee showing stages of arrival of Jute (Table-5.3) in the market. In the first stage i.e., in the village itself where about 60 per cent of the marketable surplus is disposed off by the growers in a loose and unassorted form at their own doors having been pressed by financial circumstances. In the secondary stage, only 10 per cent of Jute is brought by
Table - 5.3

Table Showing the Position of Sale of Jute in the Market and its Surrounding Market Area or Villages

I. At the Primary Stage:
   (a) From Villages .. 60% of the total production.
   (b) From hats and primary Markets .. 37% of the total production
   (c) Passed on to the Secondary Market(a+b) .. 97% of the total production
   (d) Retained by the Growers for domestic uses .. 3% of the total production

II. At the Secondary Stage:
    (Arrival at the Secondary Market Belacoba)
    (a) Through Growers .. 10%
    (b) Through Fariahs .. 50%
    (c) Through Katcha bailers and arathdars & their agents .. 40%

    Passed on to the terminal market .. 100%

Source: A Report prepared by the Secretary, Belacoba Market Committee, Jalpaiguri : District, West Bengal (Unpublished).
the grower and the rest is brought by different intermediaries. From the above table and discussion it can be concluded that the marketing of produce by the growers is still a far cry. Intervention through regulated markets would be complete and effective only when all marketing functions are brought under regulation.

To conduct the business of a notified commodity in a notified market area, a trader or any other user of the markets has to obtain a licence from the Market Committee. As per Section 13(1) of the Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1972 (as amended in 1981), "after six months from the declaration of any area as a market area, no person shall, within the market area, carry on business or act as a trader, commission agent, broker, weighman, measurer, warehousemen or surveyor, or sell or purchase agricultural produce, or engage in processing or preservation of agricultural produce, or set up, establish or continue a place for storage, sale or purchase of any agricultural produce, except in accordance with the prescribed terms and condition of a licence issued in this behalf by the market committee'. Once the licence is granted nothing prevents him from doing business anywhere in the notified area. Provided that the trader should have to produce his accounts of business transaction/time to time to the market committee. But, the performance of issuing licence to the market users are not satisfactory. Licence issued (all categories) by the market
committees of the markets visited in different years are shown in the Table-5.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Market Committee</th>
<th>Total number of licence issued</th>
<th>1980-81</th>
<th>1981-82</th>
<th>1982-83</th>
<th>1983-84</th>
<th>1984-85</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Dinhata</td>
<td></td>
<td>3258</td>
<td>882</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>792</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Dhupguri</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Belacoba</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Shiliguri</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Islampur</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Samsi*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Balarampur</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Karimpur</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Kalna</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Pandua</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Sheoraphully</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Collected from MC offices during field survey.

# Licence of all categories include traders, commission agents, brokers, weighman, measurers, warehousemen or surveyors or persons engaged in the sale or purchase of agricultural produce, or engaged in processing or preservation of agricultural produce, etc.

* In 1975-76, a total of 225 licences of all categories were issued by the Samsi Regulated Market Committee. But, after court cases were filed by the traders against the imposition of certain rules and regulations under Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1972, no trader took licences from the Market Committee. Licences were issued only to the Government agencies such as, Jute Corporation of India, Co-operative Marketing Society, etc.

+ Licences were issued only to two Government agencies (Jute Corporation of India and Karimpur Marketing Society).

Note: Maximum annual fees (under Rule 5(i)(a) for grant of a licence payable by different categories of market functionaries have been shown in Appendix-V.I.
The above table shows that in Dinhata regulated market a reasonable number of market users came under the licence issued by the market committee in 1980-81. But in subsequent years, the number of licences decreased. The condition of other markets in this regard is also very deplorable. The Market Committee is not in a position to force the market users to come under licence. In recent years i.e. in 1984-85 onwards, very few of the traders and other market users were taking licences to conduct their business in the notified market area. One of the major reasons for the inability of the Market Committee in issuing licences to the traders and other market users is that traders in different Regulated Markets have filed cases against the implementation authorities and the West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1972.

"The traders within the jurisdiction of market committees lodged cases at the High Court against certain provisions of the Act and received injunction orders. To remove the loop-holes the Act was amended in 1975, 1977, 1978 and 1981. This will facilitate smooth execution of the regulation programme and is expected to remove the constraints, mainly legal, which are hindering progress of work. Altogether 47 cases were filed till 1980-81 by the traders and others at the High Court and those were defended by the

1 This fact has been revealed at the time of discussion with all the market Secretaries of MC during the survey period.
State lawyers. During the year 1981, the number of Court Cases were reduced and there were only 20 each cases pending at the High Court."¹

It was reported during field survey that the Court cases were getting favourable judgment from the High Court towards the implementation of the provision of the Act by the Market Committee. This has facilitated the proper implementation of different provisions of the Act and paved the way of proper management of the market. In recent years, traders and others are showing their interest towards the regulation of market and marketing activities and are coming under the ambit of regulation measures for performing their business activities.

To discuss the different problems for smooth functioning and management of the regulated market, a meeting is necessary of the committee members. Every Market Committee shall hold its meeting at least once in every month (Section 15(i)). If any necessity comes for taking quick decision by the Market Committee, then an emergency meeting will be held at any time. The Secretary of the market will fix the agenda and convene the meeting with the approval of the Chairman of the Committee |Sec. 15(1A)|. The committee will have to take decisions within the purview of the Act and Rules.

and Rules. Any decision taken by the Market Committee out of the purview of the Act will become a bye-law of the Act and the decision must need approval of the West Bengal State Marketing Board [Sec. 38A(2)]. This may be considered as the loop-hole of the Act, because, it stands in the way of immediate solution to the problem. As such, a development proposal formulated by the Market Committee is examined by the Directorate and thereafter transmitted to the Board for approval, instead of the committee submitting the proposal to the Board directly. Because of this multi-point examination system, the proposal in question is inordinately delayed and the purpose of the programme sometimes is frustrated.

It is not possible for the market committee members to meet frequently for taking decisions regarding the working and management of the market. A market committee may delegate duty/duties to a sub-committee or sub-committees constituted by it from among its members. So, a sub-committee is a small body constituted for the performance of specific work or for sharing the general duties of a Market Committee. Any

1 If the Board is satisfied that the proposed bye-law is not contrary to the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder, it shall register such bye-law within a period of three months from the date of receipt thereof and forward to the Market Committee a copy of the bye-law so registered together with a certificate of such registration, and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence that the bye-law has been duly registered.
decision regarding functions of the regulated market under the Act, and over which it has jurisdiction, will be dis-
cussed in the general body meeting of the MC. The MC may
accept, reject or revise the decision of such sub-committee
or sub-committees. This provision of the Act also stands
in the way of immediate solution of the problems relating
to day-to-day function and management of the RM.

Different provisions of the Act applicable to the market and the decisions taken by the Market Committee in
a meeting to fulfil those provisions shall be executed by
the Market Secretary with full assistance of other officers
and employees of the market committee. The market committee
the staff along with/Secretary will discharge such duties as may
be entrusted to them by the MC (Section 16). The Secretary
of the RM will be appointed by the State Government from among
the officers of the Directorate of Agricultural Marketing,
Government of West Bengal. In most of the RMs in West Bengal,
the Sub-Divisional Agricultural Marketing Officer or the
District Agricultural Marketing Officer has been appointed as
an Ex-officio Market Secretary of the RM. The Secretary of
the individual regulated market has to look after the activities
of whole administrative and management functions of the RM along
with their general administrative work.\(^1\) Only in Shiliguri

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\(^1\) It was revealed during discussions with the market
Secretaries of visiting regulated markets (except Shiliguri)
that it is very necessary to appoint a full-time Secretary
for each and every RM, because, the Ex-officio Market Secre-
taries have assigned duties and functions to look after general
administrative work relating to agricultural marketing under
their jurisdiction as well as administrative and management
functions of the regulated markets. So, it is very difficult
for them to manage both sides as Ex-officio Secretaries.
Regulated Market, there is full-time market secretary to look after the whole regulation affairs of the market.

The Secretary who got the appointment from the State Government from among the officers of the Directorate of Agricultural Marketing, shall be the principal officer of the Market Committee and shall carry into effect the resolution of the Market Committee and shall be responsible for keeping the accounts of the market committee and also for timely submission of all returns, statements and reports by the market committee to the Director, Board and the State Government. He shall also discharge such other functions as are entrusted to him by the Act and the rules and the bye-laws made thereunder. So, it is clear from the above assigned work on the Secretary that a Sub-divisional Agricultural Marketing Officer or District Agricultural Marketing Officer as an Ex-officio Market Secretary of the Regulated Market is overloaded with work.

Internal Arrangement of the Regulated Market:

Some markets are held daily and some once or twice in a week. The Regulated Market Committee is supposed to arrange all facilities (both physical and service) for the grower-sellers/sellers and traders/buyers in the market. The MC has market yard where transactions between sellers and buyers will be held. As per Section 4(1) of the Act, the State Government may, by notification, declare any enclosure,
building or locality in any market area, to be the principal market yard and other enclosures, buildings or localities in such area to be one or more sub-market yard or yards for a market area. Following this declaration, different market committees possess areas as 'market yards' as is shown in Table-5.5 given below:

Table - 5.5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Market Committee</th>
<th>Principal Market Yard Possessions (Area in acres)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Dinhata MC/RM</td>
<td>30.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Dhupguri MC/RM</td>
<td>23.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Belacoba MC/RM</td>
<td>29.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Shiliguri MC/RM</td>
<td>50.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Islampur MC/RM</td>
<td>20.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Samsi MC/RM</td>
<td>32.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Balarampur MC/RM</td>
<td>22.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Karimpur MC/RM</td>
<td>40.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Pandua MC/RM</td>
<td>30.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Sheoraphully MC/RM</td>
<td>38.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Collected from RM Office during field survey.

Most of the sellers and traders in the markets are coming from nearby areas, i.e., within a distance of 5 to 6 kilometres in average. Some come from areas lying within 15 kilometres or more. Where the routes of transport and
communications are well developed and the market has more importance, sellers and traders will come from a far, i.e. from other districts of the same States or from the neighbouring States. In this case, Shiliguri Regulated Market is an exception.¹ Traders transacting their business in the regulated markets are commission agents, stockists, wholesalers, paddy and wheat crushers, itinerant traders, processors and others. Itinerant type of traders are more than other types of traders.

Both grower-sellers and non-grower-sellers coming with their produce in the RM stay during market hours. Sellers are selling their produce to the individual traders/buyers in the market immediately after reaching the market. Sometime a seller has to stay in the markets yard for the whole period, if any of his produce remains unsold. He has to wait till the produce is sold. When the market time is over, the seller/forced to sell his produce at a lesser price than the existing market price.

¹ It was revealed from the survey that sellers and traders are travelling towards the Regulated Market from the adjoining areas. But, in Shiliguri RM, sellers and traders are coming from adjoining areas as well as from far distant places from other districts of the same State or from other States. Very few of grower-sellers are coming from nearby area. Because, notified areas of this market has no excess marketable surplus produce. Agricultural products (whichever produced) consumed locally. A very small surplus of locally produce vegetables and fruits are sold in this market in the harvest season only. The only surplus product 'tea' is sold in the Calcutta auction market instead of selling here. The study also revealed that in Shiliguri RM 98% of the sellers are non-grower-sellers and only 2% are grower-sellers. Most of the sellers are bringing their produce by truck.
But the system of selling and stay required in the Shiliguri RM and Sheoraphully RM is somewhat different from other markets. In Shiliguri RM, sellers have to stay a longer than the prescribed market hours for selling their produce. This is because the sellers are mostly non-grower-sellers who usually come from distant places. They deposit their produce to the commission agent for selling and the commission agent sells the deposited produce to the traders/buyers on behalf of sellers. Different kinds of vegetable products brought by the sellers are displayed in gunny-bags or in baskets in front of the commission agents' shop-cum-godown. Transactions mostly occur in the first-half of the day and by auction system. The commission agent fixes minimum price as per market rate (per quintal), buyers' check the produce and bid the price. Accordingly, those who bid the highest price, get that produce. After bidding, the labourer employed by the commission agent weighs the produce and on the basis of weighment the buyer pays the price of the purchased produce to the commission agent. The commission agent after deducting his commission (at the rate of Rs.4/- to Rs.6/- per quintal of produce) and weighment charges, pays the entire amount to the seller. If any produce remains unsold, the seller can keep his produce in the commission agent's godown for the next market day. For storing, the seller does not have to pay any charge. In Sheoraphully market, grower-sellers of jute are selling their raw-jute (ungraded) to the trader who has a business establishment equipped with storage facilities in the
market. Prices are fixed through bargaining with the trader at the present market value. After fixing the price, jute is weighed by the trader's labourer and the price of the sold jute is paid to the seller after deducting traders' commission (at the rate of Rs.4/- to Rs.5 per quintal) and other charges. In most cases, traders purchase jute on behalf of big jute bailer.

As per Section 13(1) of the West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Rules, 1982, all kinds of agricultural produce brought into or produced or processed in the market area except such quantity for retail sale shall be sold in the principal market yard or sub-market yard or yards as the case may be, and not at any other place within the market area and the sale and purchase of such agricultural produce in such yards shall be made by open auction or by tender system or by sample or by open agreement as may be permitted by the market committee.

The sale and purchase in the market yard will be conducted by the market committee staff. This system has not been introduced so far because of lack of sufficient staff of the market committee.

The traditional system of sales and purchases in other RMs for all agricultural produce is still existing. Sellers of agricultural produce bring their produce to the market for sale. They enquire about the prevailing market
price for saleable produce. Buyers check the quality of the produce and after checking, bargaining take place between the seller and the buyer for settling the price. When the price is settled, the produce is weighed and the price paid to the seller after necessary deductions.

But the selling and purchasing of jute in the RM yard is different from that of other agricultural produce. In some RMs in West Bengal, Jute Corporation of India (JCI) is purchasing jute from the grower-sellers and itinerant traders (farias). This agency issues purchase orders to the grower-sellers in advance. Under this purchase order, grower-sellers are supposed to bring jute for sale to the JCI. Since the small grower-sellers do not have the holding power of their produce, they dispose it off to the village farias or beparies immediately after harvesting or at the time of need. As a result, in most cases, the purchase orders ultimately are handed over to the big or progressive farmer in someway or other.

Farias and also some grower-cum-farias purchase jute as village level from the small growers visiting door to door and sell the same to the big traders and their agents in the primary or assembly markets. They also sell it to

1 The position of village sale and sale in the market has been shown in Table-5.3 earlier in this Chapter.

2 Buying price in the village/farm level and price received in the primary or assembly market by farias during the survey period has been shown in Appendix-V.II.
the JCI when the price offered by the latter is profitable compared to that offered by the traders. The progressive farmers also bring their jute to the primary or assembly market for direct sale to traders and agents of Jute Mills. The traders send the jute to Jute Mills at Calcutta after grading and bailing the same in bailing press machines installed at their premises.

Sellers of agricultural produce (both grower-sellers and non-grower-sellers) who resell in the surrounding area having access to the market, prefer to sell their produce in the regulated markets. This is because the prices prevailing in the RMS are higher, compared to other markets and due to nearness of the market to their home or farm, they can easily manage transportation facilities either of their own or hired for carrying the produce to the market. Some grower-sellers and non-grower-sellers prefer to sell in private markets due to their earlier habit. Sometimes they sell their produce both in the regulated market and in private market, when they find out the feasibility and convenience of the markets (RM and private) considering time, distance, etc.

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1 For clarifying time, it revealed from the discussion with the sellers at the time of survey that some markets sit once or twice in a week. In between two-market-days in one week, when the sellers find necessity to sell their produce, they sell either of the markets (RM or Private) which is convenient to them.
During the time of the weighment of produce, settlement of price, payment and receipt... of price of sold agricultural produce, some misunderstanding may arise between the sellers and the buyers which may be the cause of discontentment and may affect smooth functioning for the management of regulated market. The affected party from among the sellers and buyers may raise the matter of dispute to the market committee. For settlement of disputes, there are some provisions made under the West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Rules, 1982. If any dispute arises in any regulated market between buyers and sellers of agricultural produce or their agents, the Market Committee shall arrange for the settlement of such dispute. If any affected party reports his dispute immediately to the Market Secretary, the Secretary himself or any person authorised by him shall settle the same amicably. As far as possible, the dispute will be settled on the spot and on the same day [Section 19(a) of the West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Rules 1982]. If the Secretary or the authorised person fails to settle the dispute, each of the two parties to the dispute shall, as soon as may be, select one arbitrator, and the Market Committee shall select one arbitrator other than the two selected by the parties, from the panel of arbitrators prepared for the

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1 Market Committee shall prepare in April every year a panel of twelve arbitrators (except any member of the market committee or any professional lawyer) from agriculturists or traders living in the market area [Section 19(c) of the Rules 1982].
purpose by the Market Committee (Sec. 19(b) of the Rules 1982). There is an exemption that if both the parties to the dispute select the same arbitrator, the Market Committee shall not select any other arbitrator. Another arrangement that has been made under the Rules is that where three arbitrators are selected, the Market Committee shall, immediately after such selection refer the dispute to them and the three arbitrators shall expeditiously decide the dispute by majority of votes and make an award accordingly, and where only one arbitrator has been selected, the Market Committee shall immediately refer the dispute to him and he shall expeditiously decide the dispute and make an award.

From the above discussion regarding disputes and its settlement on sale and purchase of agricultural commodities, it is clear that settlement of dispute on the spot and on the same day will benefit both the parties mainly in terms of time saving. But how far will it be possible on behalf of a Market Secretary? A Market Secretary as the chief administrative officer of the RM has to look after the whole management functions of the market. Persons authorised by Secretary who has no other job except settlement of disputes, can play an effective role in this regard. On the contrary, settlement of dispute through arbitrators, if it is not finalised on the same day, may take some more days, which may affect the grower-sellers specifically. Because, small grower-sellers come to the regulated market for selling of their produce only when they feel the need for cash to fulfil other needs of their
own or family. It is sheer waste of time. The grower-seller cannot spend some more days for this purpose.

Different kinds of "agricultural produce" grown in the State has been notified for sale and purchase in the regulated market yard or notified market area. The State Government by notification declares the name of agricultural produce. All agricultural produces are not available in all notified areas of the regulated markets. So, the State Government by notification declares the name of agricultural produce for individual regulated market according to the availability of produce in that particular notified area. The following table (Table-5.8) will show the agricultural commodities notified under individual regulated market which are available in the notified area of the market and has the tendency to flow towards the Regulated Market.

1 'Agricultural Produce' means any produce of agriculture, horticulture, pisciculture, sericulture, forestry or animal husbandry and includes any related product [Sec.2(i) of Clause (a) of the West Bengal Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act 1972 (as amended upto 7-7-1981)].

2 A schedule of notified agricultural produce for the whole State have been shown in Appendix-V.III. The State Government may, by notification, include any item of agricultural produce in the schedule or exclude any such item from it.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Regulated Market</th>
<th>Name of Notified Produce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Dinhata</td>
<td>Jute, Tobacco, Mesta, Paddy, Rice, Mustard, Pulses, Cattle, Goat and Sheep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Dhupguri</td>
<td>Paddy, Rice, Jute, Tobacco, Mustard seed, Cattle, Wheat, Animal Husbandry Products, Betalnuts &amp; Sugarcane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Belacoba</td>
<td>Paddy, Rice, Jute, Vegetables and Cattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Islampur</td>
<td>Paddy, Rice, Jute, Oilseeds, Vegetables, Fruits (Mango, Pineapples), Animal Husbandry Products, Fish &amp; Meat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Samsi</td>
<td>Paddy, Wheat, Barley, Pulses, Jute, Cattle, Hids &amp; Skins, Fruits (Mango), Poultry Birds and Eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Balarampur</td>
<td>Paddy, Rice, Vegetables, Cattle Poultry &amp; Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Karimpur</td>
<td>Paddy, Rice, Wheat, Pulses, Oil seeds, Fruits (Banana, Jack-fruit), Vegetables, Jute, Mesta, Animal Husbandry Products, Betal Leaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Pandua</td>
<td>Paddy, Jute, Wheat, Rice, Potato, Onion &amp; Cattles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Sheoraphully</td>
<td>Jute, Potato, Onion, Wheat &amp; Vegetables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Collected from the Regulated Market Office during the period of survey.

*Data have been collected from the selected RMs only.
Each and every Market Committee is responsible individually to bring all market users under the ambit of market regulation, who are dealing with above mentioned commodities in the notified market area. From the above table it is seen that commodities have been notified under each market which are available in the surrounding area. The activities of sales and purchase between sellers and buyers in the market yard will be supervised and managed by the market committee staff for smooth functioning of the market and to check the illegal malpractices done by the stronger parties to the affected parties. The market committee will create facilities for proper management of the market/ grower-sellers will bring their produce to the market for sale instead of selling in home or in village to the itinerant traders (farias or beparies) at a considerably lower price than the market price. But in practice, a very few of the varieties of agricultural produces notified under the Act are transacted in the regulated market in West Bengal. Grower-sellers/sellers and traders are still transacting their business outside the regulated market yard as well as in the privately managed market.

Mostly, the 'Regulated Market' in West Bengal is seen only as a physical institution. The regulation in the regulated market would become effective only when these markets are used by all the concerned parties. If these concerned parties do not use regulated markets properly,
regulation under this concept can only be partial and limited. Spread effect is necessary for regulation of marketing. Intervention through regulation of market would be complete and effective only when all marketing functions are brought under the ambit of regulation. Presently, in West Bengal, regulation is practiced only in the market yards. The transactions outside the market yard, but within the notified area are still existing. Transactions outside the market yard are excluded from regulation for some practical reasons.¹

Another limiting factor is that 'private markets' are out of the ambit of regulation and these markets are flourishing with equal or more efficiency within the notified areas of the market. Market Committee has no control over it. Field study revealed that some private markets are working efficiently within the "eye sight of" RM. Traders in these markets are not supposed to take any licence from the market committee or to produce any accounts of their business transaction. In essence, traders in the RMs allegedly complain that market regulation discriminates traders in the RM and those in the private market. This is one of the major reasons to show disinterest towards market regulation by the traders and other market users. This causes the very slow development of regulated markets in West Bengal.

¹ Some 'Court cases' have been moved by the traders in different RMs against the implementation authority.
Notified Market Management in Bangladesh:

In Bangladesh, all the markets belonging to the landlords (Zamindars) and other tenure holders come under the ownership and management of the Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reforms under the State Acquisition and Tenancy Act, 1950 with the exception of some markets which were managed by the Court of Wards and Religious Trusts. Before 1950, the Landlords organised these markets as a regular source of revenue through collection of tolls, rent, etc. In exchange they looked after the maintenance and development of these markets.

With the termination of the 'Zamindari' system in 1950, the rural markets (locally called 'hats') had difficulties in readjusting themselves to the new situation and some were adversely affected.¹

Establishment, management and development of all markets owned by the Government were governed by the Government Estates Manual which contained details of their direct management and principles for settlement of Government markets and conduct of auction for temporary settlement or lease to private parties for the purpose of collection of revenue and day-to-day management. The Ministry of Land

Administration and Land Reforms undertook the administrative activities of the markets through the District and Sub-divisional and local officials of the Revenue Department posted at Police Station and at Union level.\(^1\)

The Revenue Department of the said Ministry leased\(^2\) out the markets to third parties who bidded the highest price through an auction system. Consequently the highest bidder would get the authority of toll collection from the market users from the beginning of the Bengali New Year month 'Baisakh'. With the transfer of the ownership to the Government, the administration and management of the markets became the responsibility of that Ministry. The actual day-to-day management of rural markets was done by the local officers/staff of the said Ministry either directly or through the lessees to whom the toll-receiving interests of the markets were leased out.

Since the markets are situated away from the revenue department office (except two or three Thana based markets), the officials or staff of the said department were not so interested to look after the management of the market, as well as for the well-being of the market users, after leasing

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\(^2\) The System of lease out the market is locally called "Isaradari" system.
it out to the Leassee (Auctioner). The Lessees also were only interested to increase their income through toll collection rather than upkeep of the day-to-day management of the markets. As a result, supervision and management were badly affected of these markets and subsequent development were not done by the authority.

In 1964, the then Government passed an Act called, "The East Pakistan Agricultural Produce Markets (Regulation) Act 1964 (after liberation of Bangladesh in 1971, it is called "The Bangladesh Agricultural Produce Markets (Regulation Act 1964), to intervene and manage some of its important market places by certain rules and regulations.¹ But this Act has not yet been enforced in full. Instead of this Act and rules, different Governments in power in different times tried to manage the markets according to their will framing laws and rules.

So, the 'Isaradari' (Lease) system continued from the time of acquisition of the markets by the government and till the end of the Pakistani regime.

After independence of Bangladesh in December, 1971, the then Government abolished the 'Isaradari' (Lease) system.

¹ Under this Act of 1964, 202 of the important markets (which have been taken as study areas for the purpose) have been 'notified' for supervision and management under various provisions. This has been mentioned in Chapter-II. Different provisions of this Act and how far these provisions will be effective for proper supervision and management of these notified markets shall be discussed of these notified markets shall be discussed in this section.
Then the management of the government notified markets (including all markets) was vested upon committees nominated by the local Revenue Officers belonging to the Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reform under the Bangladesh Government Hats and Bazaars (Markets) Management Order 1972. The Committee was entrusted with the following responsibilities:

(a) Formulating proposals for fixation of rates of tolls for different classes of commodities/sellers/buyers and also proposals for exemption of commodities/sellers/buyers from payment of tolls;

(b) Preparing annual budget;

(c) Supervising collection of tolls;

(d) Preventing collection of tolls in excess of the approved rates or exempted from payment of tolls;

(e) Looking after cleanliness/upkeep and proper sanitation;

(f) Formulating proposals for improvement of the market for approval by the appropriate authority and so on.

The members of the Committee were to be nominated and to be management, control and administration were/handed over with a the view to achieve/three main objectives, viz.

(i) adequate collection of revenue,

(ii) better management, and

(iii) physical development of the market.

The Committee would collect tolls through toll-collectors from the market users (buyers and sellers both). As per/provisions of the said government order, one-third of the net
The income from the market was to be spent for development of the same market, one-third for Thana Development Fund and the rest one-third to be deposited in Government account. The government reviewed the matter from time to time and found that the results achieved by this system were far from satisfactory.

After about three years, i.e. in 1975, Government decided to hand over the markets (including notified markets) to Izaradars through auction. So, ultimately the system of toll collection and day-to-day management of markets through Izaradars (lease holders) were reintroduced in place of management through committees in respect of all markets including those which used to be managed by the local bodies under lease from the Government. Although it was conceived that government earnings under this head of account during post-independence period would be TK.3 crore, but it was not fulfilled due to the cancellation of the Izaradari system.

For the development of rural markets, there has to be a Market Advisory Committee in each District or Sub-Division. About TK.10 crore (ten crore) was not deposited in the government's exchequer for the last three years on account of

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1 Rahman, A.K.M. Bazlur, "Report on the Rural Market Survey in Bangladesh". This paper was presented in the National Seminar in Dhaka on Rural Market Centre Development Programme in Bangladesh from 19th to 21st November, 1979 (Department of Agricultural Marketing, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh) pp.21-22 (unpublished).

2 Ibid.
rampant corruption. Hence, the government decided to do away with the committees nominated by the Local Revenue Department.¹

It was a fact that by the Izaradari system, the government could earn revenue from the market, because, markets were leased out in the month before the beginning of the Bengali New Year and the lease holders were supposed to deposit lease money in the first month of the Bengali New Year. After taking lease, the Izaradars considered the markets (collecting tolls from the market users) as their business. So, they were very much interested to increase their income rather than to look after the smooth operation of the market. After leasing out the markets, the respective department of the Government did not show any interest in looking after the proper management and function of the market.

So, the lease system through the Local Revenue Department was continued up to the second half of 1978. It was felt that the income derived from such arrangement did not commensurate with the cost involved for the management. A class having vested interests had been exploiting the

¹ Cited in, Islam, Md. Anwarul, op. cit., p.67 (taken from The Daily Ittefaq, the 14th July, 1975). It was also revealed during discussions with the officials of the Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reforms that the nomination of committee members by local Land Revenue Department of the said Ministry was totally influenced by the then ruling political party and government. As a result local politicians as well as influential persons would be nominated as committee members whose motive was to manage and collect tolls from the markets. So, they deliberately manipulated the income derived from the markets for their personal interest. Only a negligible amount was deposited by them in the government accounts.
situation in their favour. Because of such a situation and changed circumstances, the government decided to hand over the management of notified markets (including all rural markets) in the country to the local bodies viz., Union Parishads/Pourashavas (Municipalities/Corporations) with immediate effect from November 1978 by an order.\(^1\) As per the order, the markets are to be managed for development and maintenance by the management committees duly nominated by Union Parishad/Pourashava consisting of the members taken from the business class, shop-keepers, etc., who conduct their business in the market. The Chairman of Union Parishad/Pourashava under which jurisdiction of the market is situated, would be the Ex-officio Chairman of the management committee. The management committee has to arrange toll collection from the market users. From the total collection, one percent (1\%) has to be deposited with the Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reforms of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh as premium. All expenses for maintenance, development and management of the market have to be spent from the income accrued from that respective market. Any balance amount after meeting all expenses has to be deposited.

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\(^1\) Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co--operatives, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh - Memo No.S-IV/IV-4/78/629(83), dated November 2, 1978 (Bengali) The transfer of management of notified markets was effective after the government order was communicated to the concerned departments and the Union Parishad/Pourashava/Corporation. The markets which were situated within the geographical boundary of particular Union Parishad/Pourashava/Corporation and cater to the needs of that locality were transferred to the concerned local bodies for control and management.
in the concerned Union Parishad/Pourashava's account and should that money / be spent for general development activities.

The objectives of such a new arrangement were mainly to help increase the financial resources of the Union Parishads/Pourashavas/Corporations, /allow them to spend additional funds for development of markets and also to help the said Institutions to initiate development plans of urgent public importance out of the funds from such new sources. Another specific objective as eloquently declared by the government was to break the monopoly of the middlemen in the management of markets and free the people from their exploitation. ¹

Within a period of one year, the Government again changed the order. In September 1979, the collection of market fee was assigned to Jubo-complex (Youth Complex) for which it would get 10 per cent of the total annual income collected from the markets. The order also directed the respective Union Parishads/Pourashavas to constitute market the management committee for day-to-day management of the market regarding toll collection, maintenance and development. ²

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As per the rules of the order, the markets were supposed to be managed by a Managing Committee consisting of nine persons which included the following:

Chairman of respective Union Parishad/Pourashava .. 1
Two representatives of the Shopkeeper and traders .. 2
One representative of Jubo-Samity (Youth Samity) .. 1
Nominated Members by the prescribed authority, i.e., Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) .. 5

Total .. 9

The Chairman of the respective Union Parishad/Pourashava would be the ex-officio Chairman of the Market Committee. In case of Corporation, the respective Ward Commissioner of the area where market situated would be the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee. The Secretary of the Committee would be elected by the members of the Committee.

In the said order, there was no indication of the procedure of management of markets, and from which categories of the people, members would be nominated by the prescribed authority. Alam and Rahman's study observed that the S.D.Os concerned nominated some members after being influenced by the top leaders of the ruling party and as a result these people (members of the market committee) did not care for the

1 Ibid.
2 Alam, Md. Munjurul, et. al., Op. cit., pp.5-6. (Details has been given in the research report.)
Union Parishad/Pourashava Chairman in matters relating to the management of the markets. It was also observed that committees were formed as per criteria laid down in the government order. But within the fixed criteria mostly the influential ones among the various categories of people were included/nominated in the committees. In all the committees, the nomination of the people of the ruling political party was seen.

So, it is seen from the above discussions that the government had to find out the source of finance to strengthen the Union Parishads/Pourashavas financially and it was one of the prime reasons for transferring the management of local notified markets (including all markets) to these bodies. Though, committees were formed for the respective market for proper management, actually, there was no management. The income accrued from the respective market was not properly utilised for the development of the market. Consequently, no substantial physical development came. In fact, lease holders did not come into the scene for toll collection during that period, but the people or market users were not free from their exploitation.

Under the order issued by the Ministry of LGRD & C in 1979, the criteria for distribution of realised income from the markets were fixed. According to the criteria 1% (one per cent) of the total income has to be deposited in
the Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reforms. From the balance amount, the distribution had to be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collecting Agent (Youth Complex or Jubo Complex)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Market)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bazaar/Development</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Development</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Commissioner's Fund</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency Fund</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As per government order, Jubo-Complex used to collect market fee from the buyers and sellers in the markets and were supposed to deposit the collected money to the Union Parishad/Pourashava respectively. But, most of these samities (complexes) were irregular in depositing the collected money and manipulated the accounts of actual collection. Since the Jubo-Complex in all cases had the blessings from the ruling political party, as they made a good co-ordination among themselves (Chairman and Members, etc.) and deliberately manipulated the accounts. But co-ordination was lacking when the Chairman of the Union Parishad/Pourashava as an ex-officio Chairman of the Market Committee did not owe any political affiliation to the ruling party. Alam and Rahman's study observed that where some problems of co-ordination was reported, the Chairman of the committee tactfully adjusted with the Jubo-Complex without going for any clash or hitch, although it was very difficult for that Chairman to adjust.

1 Ibid., p.9.
Though the committees were responsible to look after the overall management of notified markets, which included:

1. Preparation of market development plan,
2. Review of collection of toll,
3. Deposit of collected money, etc., most of the committees did not show keen interest about their responsibilities except market fee collection.

Because of anomalies in toll deposit, distribution as per the criterion laid down in the order and in other related works regarding management and development, the government decided again and issued an order\(^1\) in September 1982 to lease out (Izaradari system to the third party under open auction) the markets under the supervision of the respective Union Parishads/Pourashavas/Municipal Corporations. The said order directed to constitute a market committee under each market in the following manner:

(a) Chairman/Chairmans
(Markets which catered to the economic needs of the people of UP/UPs, Pourashava/ Pourashavas)

(b) Representative from among the Shop-keepers and traders
(Nominated by Controlling Authority)

(c) Nominated members by prescribed Authority

The said order directed the criteria for distribution of realised income from the markets. According to the criteria 1% (one per cent) of the total income has to be entrusted to the Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reforms. From the / amount, the distribution had to be as follows:

(i) Market Management Committee for Market Development .......... 16%

(ii) Contingency Fund for managing office work .. 4%

(iii) Up/UPs, Pourashava(s) participating in the management/on the basis of population, if there is participation of more than one) .. 45%

(iv) District Market Committee (30% of money would be distributed on the basis of population to the UP(s) those had no market, or having markets but annual income less than Tk.1,000/- 5% would be reserved for inspection and audit expenses) . 35%

100%

The said order also directed to constitute a District Market Management Committee in each District. The Committee's constitution is as follows:

(a) District Commissioner .. Chairman

(b) Concerned Sub-Divisional Officer(s) (Under which market, were situated within the geographical boundary of Sub-Division) .. Members (No. would be as per numbers of Sub-Division)

(c) Two nominated members by District Commissioner from each Union Parishad - Chairman and a Trader. .. Members (No. would be as per Nos. of Ups)

(d) Assistant Director of the Local Government and Rural Development. .. Member-Secretary.
From the above discussions it is clear that under the order, the committee was formed at the Union level without any specific number of members in the committee. Chairman/Chairmen would become the member of the Committee in the geographical area under the market which is situated/or the markets which catered to the need of the people of UP(s) or Pourashava(s). It would difficult to determine the number of UPs or Pourashava(s) which were benefitted by that market, because, market users used to come to a market place from a distance which might even cover a number of UP(s) or Pourashava(s). Moreover, under the geographical area of UP(s) or Pourashava(s), there might be situated a number of markets. There was a provision to nominate members by the prescribed authority, but that provision failed to indicate the specific criteria or category from which two members should be nominated.

Market Development Fund was reduced and the consequent percentage of fund was very meagre for developmental work in the market places. A large part of percentage of income from the markets were utilised for other general purposes of the UP(s)/Pourashava(s).

A market management committee was formed in the District level. This committee had no function actually except the distribution of 35 per cent of income derived from
the markets to the deserving UP(s) or Pourashava(s) as per the criteria of the order.\(^1\)

So, from past experience it is seen that the system of management of notified markets had changed several times due to the change of government and government's decision. But, no system gave fruitful results regarding the administration and management of the markets. Moreover, in all the systems, there were no constructive methods for efficient supervision and management of the markets, except market fee collection, leasing out, distribution of income, and formulation of development plan to a little extent. But, proper management and development work of the markets were very unsatisfactory.

In November, 1982, the government took the decision to replace the originally colonial administrative structure with a system based on devolution of executive adjudicial authority. Under this system, Upazillas (called Thanas or Police Station) have been made the lowest self-contained administrative unit. To this end, all Thanas have been upgraded and named as Upazilla. The new system has brought down the administrative machinery to the doorstep of the rural

\(^1\) From the 35% of total income, 30% would be distributed to the Union Parishad, those having no hats and bazaars (markets) or having hats and bazaars but its income from each market was less than TK.1000/- per annum. This 30% money would be distributed on the basis of population of those Union Parishads. The rest 5% of money would be earmarked for meeting the expenses of inspection team and audit work (order of the 7th September, 1982 mentioned earlier).
majority. Additionally, the government machinery has been streamlined to improve efficiency, save time and money and to induct a measure of rational co-ordination in the executive branch.\(^1\) In different phases, the upgradation of Thanas into Upazillas were completed by the end of 1983.

Under this new administrative reforms and changed circumstances, the government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh decided to hand over the notified markets (including all markets) to the Upazilla/Pourashava/Corporation which are situated within the geographical boundary of particular aforesaid local body for supervision and management. The order was issued on March, 1984.\(^2\) This system is now in vogue.

As per the order, the Upazillas/Pourashavas have been empowered to lease out the markets to the third party under open auction. The concerned executive officer or a person nominated by him will conduct the auction operation and the person who bids the highest price in the auction will get the authority of toll collection from the particular market(s), that of provided that the bidding average must be higher than the last handed three years. The market under lease will be over to the by the lease-holder/the authority to collect market fee from the buyers and sellers as prescribed from the beginning of the Bengali year for one year.

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The Upazilla Parishad/Pourashava Parishad\(^1\) is responsible to look after the overall administration and management of the markets.

The Parishad (Council) will assign some duties such as, day-to-day management, up-keep of the market places, etc., to

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\(^1\) The Upazilla Parishad will constitute in the following manner by the order of the Ministry of LGRD and Co-operatives (Local Government Division), Government of Bangladesh under gazette notification No. S.R.O.10-L/84/S-VIII/2E-3/83/13, Dhaka, the 10th January, 1984:

(a) Chairman (Elected)

(b) Representative members (Chairman of the Union Parishads and Pourashavas within the Upazilla, ex-officio);

(c) Three women members residing in the Upazilla (nominated by the Government);

(d) Official members as under:

(i) Upazilla Nirbahi (Executive) Officer .. Ex—officio

(ii) Upazilla Health & Family Planning Officer .. "

(iii) Upazilla Education Officer .. "

(iv) Upazilla Agriculture Officer .. "

(v) Upazilla Engineer .. "

(vi) Upazilla Co-operative Officer .. "

(vii) Upazilla Livestock Officer .. "

(viii) Upazilla Fishery Officer .. "

(ix) Upazilla Social Welfare Officer .. "

(x) Upazilla Rural Development Officer .. "

(xi) Upazilla Mass Communication Officer .. "

(xii) Upazilla Revenue Officer .. "

(xiii) Officer-in-charge, Police Station .. "

(e) Chairman of the Thana Central Co-operative Association within the Upazilla; and

(f) One Member nominated by the Government.

Pourashava Parishad: The Pourashava Parishad will constitute in the following manner:

(1) Chairman (Elected)

(2) Ward Commissioners (Members, elected) (Nos. are flexible)
the Izaradars. But in practice Izaradars are not interested in such matters. They are only interested in fattening their income by collecting fee from the market users.

The total lease money collected from markets under each Upazilla/Pourashava/Corporation will be distributed and utilized as per government instruction. According to the criteria fixed by the government the distribution is to be as follows:

1. Land Revenue Fund as premium to the government (LALR Ministry) from the total income .. .. 5%

2. Market Development Fund .. 30%

3. Revenue Income of Upazilla/ Pourashava/Corporation* .. 70% 95%*

   Total .. 100% 100%

(*The balance amount after the deduction of 5% will form the base as 100%)

The Parishad will review the matter of market management and development work in a meeting. They will sketch a plan and execute it with the approval of the concerned department of the government. For development, 30% of the income derived from all markets is also very meagre. A large amount of income (70%) is distributed to the revenue fund of the concerned Upazilla/Pourashava/Corporation and is utilised for other purposes (general developmental activities), whereas the income derived from the markets should be spent for the purposes of markets only.
The members of the Parishads are responsible for performing their normal administrative functions. So, as ex-officio members of the market committee, it may be difficult for them to look after the management activities in full. The said order also has not mentioned clearly the procedural measure of management of the markets.

In the said order it is mentioned that government officials can visit the market places at a time to examine the functions relating to market fee collection by Izaradars and other market related activities. But, it was reported by the market users (respondents) during the time of visiting market places that none of officials of the concerned department were paying visits to the market places.

Out of the 40 surveyed notified markets, 75% of the markets were assembly/secondary; 7.5% markets were terminal and 17.5% markets were both secondary and terminal type of markets.* Most of the markets functioned twice-a-week. A few markets functioned daily and they were mostly terminal type of markets. Some markets function once-a-week and these were big markets as compared to others which sit twice-a-week, some of them were functioning daily also. But, gathering of people on weekly market days are more than daily gathering. People from the adjoining areas and also from distant places come to these markets for performing their business transactions and other social activities. Most of the markets cover 7 to 8 sq. miles in average and serve more than five

* See Appendix No.II.II.
unions. Roads and water ways have access to the bigger markets which are better than the smaller ones. Smaller markets cover less than 5 sq. miles and serve less than 3 Unions.

Grower-sellers/sellers who sell directly to the buyers/traders do not need space, because, they come with their produce to the market and after direct contact sell produce in the traders premises. But, those who are selling on retail basis, do need space and they occupy space according to their requirement. All these sellers come before market hours and stay till their produce are sold. Grower-sellers/sellers sell one kind of produce. A very few of them sell more than one kind of produce.

In most of the markets, auction or lease change happened each year. Any one can take lease of markets by bidding the highest price in the open auction. But, in some cases lease go to the same person for years together. It is because

1 In Rangarh and Tangail market grower-sellers/sellers occupy allotted space given by the Bazaar Fund Committee and Municipal Authority respectively. This space varies commodity to commodity.

2 One peculiarity has been revealed in Bibir Hat during the time of survey. This is a very big market in Chittagonj District and famous for cattle transactions. Other agricultural produce: like vegetables, pulses, etc. are also assembled here and distributed to the Chittagonj City (Terminal) market. In this market (hat), there is an organisation of lease holders consisting of 18 members and taking lease of this market is their business. They bid the price, during the time of an open auction in one of their partners name and the following year, they bid by another's name. This way, auction of that market is moving among themselves. Nobody from outside can come forward and bid that market against them. It was also revealed from the discussions with contd......
the man who bid for taking lease of the market, either is an economically very solvent or politically influential person. Nobody can bid against him. Some lease holders take this as their business. So, they try to get hold of lease and continue it for several years.

Farmer-sellers/sellers do not come to the market regularly for selling their produce. The farmers come when they feel the need for cash to fulfil other needs of the family, to pay debts to the creditors and for lack of holding power and proper storage facilities in their home. The latter comes when accumulation (purchasing at the door step or villages of growers) of a certain quantity of produce is

(Contd.....)

the lease holders that they invest money in the cattle trade and encourage the bringing of cattle to this market for sale and purchase. If auction of this market changes to some other hand, traders will not bring or purchase cattle to/from this market. Selling and purchasing of cattle will decrease to a considerable extent. For fear of that, no one except these people step forward to take the lease of that market. As a result, lease goes to that party every year.

Of the surveyed markets, only Ramgarh market is not leased out to the private party. This market is being managed by the Bazaar Fund Committee constituted in the District level under the control of Additional District Magistrate. All markets in Chittagonj Hill Tracts Districts are managed by Bazaar Fund Committee. Under this system, the District Commissioner will nominate a person residing in the market area who has some social respect, who is responsible to collect tolls/fees from the market users with the help of assistants employed by the Bazaar Fund Committee. The tolls/fees are fixed by the District Administration. The person responsible for toll/fee collection is called "Bazaar Chowdhury". From the total collection, he is paid a certain percentage as honorarium.
over. The sellers resale the purchased produce to the big traders or processors. The grower-sellers prefer to sell their produce in the market. But in unavoidable circumstances they sell in the villages or at home itself. They prefer to sell produce in the market, because in a big market place the competition among the buyers enables them to get higher price than they do when they sell in villages. Some grower-sellers/sellers prefer to sell in the market because of the nearness to their homes or producing point and where transportation through road, river and other modes are easier.

Non-grower-sellers purchase agricultural produce mostly from the growers in the villages. Of the total saleable produce, about 80% purchase from the growers in the village and 20% purchase from other small farias or beparies (small traders) in the primary markets.

Grower-sellers/Non-grower-sellers and Traders both come to the market for reasons other than merchandising. Sometimes they come to buy daily necessaries of life, viz., to buy agricultural inputs, to hear local news, to gather information on farming, to collect receivables, to visit friends and to perform some other social contacts. A few traders have their permanent establishments within the market area itself.

More than 50% of the traders who attend in the markets are itinerant type or petty traders. They purchase produce from the small sellers in a small quantity and resell the produce to the big trader for a small margin of profit.
Others are local stockists, commission agents, local processors and small consumers. In some markets or adjacent to the market area, government agencies like Jute Marketing Corporation (JMC), Jute Mills Corporations (for different mills), Food Procurement Department are also trading. These traders have business establishments within the market area or adjacent to the market area or come from a near place. They transact their business or visit market regularly. Normally, they purchase one kind of commodity. Some of them purchase more than one kind.


Under this Act, important and assembly type of markets have been brought under the ambit of regulation. The Act provides for management, control and regulation of marketing of agricultural produce in the notified market. The Enforcement of Agricultural Produce Markets Regulation Act, 1964, is one of the functions of the Department of Agricultural Marketing. So, markets (hats/bazaars) declared as notified ones will be managed by the Department of Agricultural Marketing of the Government of Bangladesh. Different provisions of the Act and Rules made therein will be enforced by the Director (as the Head of the Institution Department).
It may be difficult for the Department without strong support of the administration and local authorities to enforce this Act. Necessary instructions may, therefore, be issued from the Ministries of Agriculture and Local Government for extending their full support for enforcement of the Act. There is an Office of the Agricultural Marketing Department at the District level headed by a District Marketing Officer (DMO)/Marketing Inspector (M.I), who is hardly assisted by office personnel. A number of markets have been declared as notified markets in each District (before November, 1982 the newly formed Districts were called Sub-division). So, it may be difficult for this local District level office and officer to enforce and supervise market regulation activities. This local office is responsible in looking after general administrative work relating to agricultural marketing.

But for actual day-to-day supervision and management and enforcement of the regulatory and improvement measures, there must be a full-time official at the Notified Market level. A Market Committee consisting of members from various interests and an office with perpetual succession and a common seal is needed at the market level for supervisory work. The MC will be the king-pin in introducing regulatory measures in the market and this committee established under the marketing Act will be entrusted with the responsibility of enforcing within the notified area, the different provisions of the Act, the rules and the bye-laws framed thereunder. The MC will
perform all these as directed by the Government, i.e. by the Department of Marketing as an apex body from time to time.

There is a provision to constitute a Market Advisory Committee at the District level. As per Section 9 of the Bangladesh Agricultural Produce Markets Regulation Act, 1964, the Government may, by notification in the official gazette, constitute a District Market Advisory Committee for a District which shall consist of the following members:

1. Deputy Commissioner or any other officer nominated by him. .. 1 Chairman

2. District level Agricultural Marketing Department officer nominated by the Director. .. 1 Secretary (Ex-officio)

3. One representative from among the elected members of the Zilla Parishad (District Council) nominated by the Chairman of the Zilla Parishad. .. 1 Member

4. One representative from among the licenced market functionaries from each of the Notified Markets nominated by the Deputy Commissioner (Number not fixed and it depends upon the numbers of Notified Markets in the District) .. Member

5. One representative of the public nominated by the Deputy Commissioner. .. 1 Member

6. Two representatives of the growers nominated by the Deputy Commissioner .. 2 Member

The Market Advisory Committee constituted under this Act has a limited number of members specially in the case of representation of the growers. In each District, there may be a number of Notified Markets. Just 2 members from the position to protect growers may not be in the interest of the growers. It is

1 This Act was amended on the 24th March, 1985, and was published in the Bangladesh Gazette, Notification No. 430, Dhaka, dated, the 7th April, 1985.
said that the growers are exploited in different ways by astute traders and others in the society and in the market because they sell their produce individually to the traders. They have no organization of their own. So, they are unable to protest against malpractices and manipulations done by the exploiters. But the traders have their own organisation and they are very much aware of their own interests. In such a situation, as this, the majority of the members in the Market Advisory Committee should be drawn from the growers.

As per Section 11 of the Act, the Market Advisory Committee shall perform some duties and functions which are as follows:

1. To advise the Director in the matter of regulation of market practices;
2. To advise the Director in the matter of fixation of market charges for different kinds of agricultural produce for different market functionaries operating in the Notified Markets;
3. To advise the Director in the matter of improvement of markets;
4. To make arrangements for settlement of disputes between purchasers and sellers arising in a Notified Market;
5. To undertake arbitration in respect of disputes between purchasers and sellers arising in a Notified Market;

1 Ibid.
(f) To maintain a set of standard weights and measures; and

(g) To perform such other duties as may be entrusted to it by the Director or as may be prescribed by rules.

In fact, a provision is made in the Act to constitute a Market Advisory Committee at the District level and some functions have been laid down for the Committee in the provision, but how far these functions will be fruitful are questionable? This is because the MAC is not attached directly with the activities of the markets, viz., the execution of regulatory measures to control market practices; the fixation of market charges for different kinds of agricultural produce for different market functionaries operating in the notified markets; the need of improvement of markets, etc. Whenever a Committee is directly attached with market activities then only they can find out the problems and advise the apex body to take necessary action on the affected matters.

Market functionaries in the Notified Markets will have to come under licence for performing their activities. As per Section 4(1) of the Act, the Director or any other officer of the Agricultural Marketing Department authorised by him shall issue licences in such form as may be prescribed by rules to the market functionaries for operating in a Notified Market under such terms and conditions as the Director may deem it fit to fix. Licences shall be valid
for one year from the date of issue and may thereafter be renewed annually (Sub-section 3). Section 5 indicates that for every licence issued and for every renewal thereof, such fee as may be prescribed by rules shall be paid to the Government.

Regarding settlement of disputes, Section 14 of the Bangladesh Agricultural Produce Markets Regulation Act 1964, indicates that in case of a dispute arising between a purchaser and a seller, the dispute will be referred to the Market Advisory Committee for amicable settlement or, if necessary for arbitration.\(^1\)

For settlement of dispute, whom the affected party should contact is not mentioned in the dispute refused the Act. Perhaps it may be to the Market Secretary of the Advisory Committee. The District Marketing Officer who is an ex-officio Secretary has an office in the district headquarters. Notified markets are away from this office and are held on different days in a week. As far as the producer-seller is concerned, he comes to the market for the disposal of his produce at the time of need of cash for fulfilling

\(^1\) The dispute may arise on account of (a) deviation from sample when the purchase is made by sample; (b) deviation from standard when the purchase is made by a reference to an accepted standard; (c) difference between the actual weight of a container and the standard weight; (d) payment of price; (e) delivery of goods; (f) damage of goods; (g) admixture of foreign matters; (h) the presence of moisture in excess of the natural moisture content; and (i) such other matters as may be prescribed by rules.
family exigencies. If any dispute arises between the two parties (seller and buyer), an immediate and on-the-spot settlement of that dispute on the same market day is called for. Putting a dispute to the Market Secretary and its settlement requires considerable time. Moreover, the dispute put by the affected party will be referred to the Market Advisory Committee by the ex-officio Secretary. As per the Bangladesh Agricultural Produce Market Regulation Rules 1969, the Committee will sit to discuss the matters under its purview once in three months. So, the dispute referred to them for settlement may need more time which may affect badly the producer-seller and the purchaser also.

Another thing which is to be considered is that sellers and buyers may not be known to each other. After the transaction is over they may not meet again. Moreover, the producer-seller visits the market place at the time of need. In this case, if any dispute regarding sale and purchase arises between them, it also needs immediate and on-the-spot settlement.

From the above discussions it may be said that the Market Advisory Committee at the District level constituted under the Act will not be effective for actual day-to-day supervision and management. MAC cannot function as an authority to advise the Apex Body like the Department of Agricultural Marketing.

Market Committees constituted at the market level select members from different interest groups (a
majority or at least half of the total members are from the grower-sellers group) who are using the market place and from the public and local representatives who will effectively manage the markets. There should be a market committee office at the market level for giving full-time service headed by ex-officio market Secretary. Different provisions of the Act will be executed by the Secretary and he/she should be responsible for day-to-day management and up-keep of the market along with the market committee staff. The Secretary should be empowered to execute the provisions of the Act. The Committee will review the matters relating to market management and improvement and will take necessary steps in this regard with the approval of the Government.