Basically the consumer co-operatives are voluntary associations of consumers to protect the legitimate interest of consumers. In the present scenario, the consumer co-operatives have come into existence to protect the interest of consumers. The primary objective of the consumer co-operative societies is to procure all essential items of qualitative and quantitative nature in order to supply them at reasonable and affordable prices to consumers. The consumers have been exploited and become the victims of middle men for a plethora of decades. They have always had their hold on consumers and made them almost helpless. These situations paved the way for the establishment of consumer co-operatives to curb the malpractices of merchants and middle men and also to check the price escalation and artificial scarcity created by them. In this regard government has extended helping hand for the development of consumer co-operative societies. In spite of getting prosperity or development with the support of government, the co-operatives could not reach the standards owing to many a reason, viz. severe competition from private traders, scanty financial resources and inefficient financial management practices. In addition lack of business acumen, commitment on the part of the personnel, a sense of belongingness, proper assortment of goods and also lack of proper location for the societies contribute other factors. Among them imprudent financial management is the most crucial and complex matter in the entire sector.

Infact, working capital is vital input for every business organization irrespective of the size and nature of the business. The business organization cannot get fruitful results without free flow of financial resources for its various business activities. Adequacy of working capital is prerequisite for the success of any business organization. The financial performance of a firm depends upon proper utilization of its working funds. At present the organizations are facing competition among themselves due to globalization. Hence the prudent management of the current funds is the very need of the hour. The firm has to employ the current funds to maximize the profitability without diluting liquidity. Both inadequate and excessive working funds are detrimental to the financial health of a business unit. So, organizations should maintain optimum
level of working capital. Efficient management of working capital has become an important consideration in all the business operations since maintaining equilibrium between profitability and liquidity is a difficult task for any organization, anywhere.

Efficiency in managing vital current funds and also in implementing the latest business techniques is compulsory to overcome the aforesaid problems of inefficient financial management in general and working capital management in particular in the corporate sector. Unhealthy business practices are at their heights in financial management in almost all the super bazaars. The co-operative super bazaars are unable to supply un-adulterated goods at reasonably lesser prices because of imprudent working capital management. This is the present situation of co-operative super bazaars in Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, it is imperative to review the prevailing situation and also the overall working capital performance. That is why the present empirical investigation has been undertaken to study the working capital management of the selected co-operative super bazaars in all the three regions in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Some relevant and viable measures are suggested for the better performance in these co-operative super bazaars after making a deep insight in the issues of working capital management. The suggestions stated can be helpful to improve the working capital performance of super bazaars, if they are adopted and implemented with good spirit.

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