

NCUI Celebrates International Cooperative Day *"Youth, the Future of Cooperative Enterprise"*

National Cooperative Union of India an apex organisation of Indian cooperative movement organised a **National Symposium** on the occasion of International Cooperative Day on 2nd July, 2011 at New Delhi. The Symposium addressed the theme of this year celebration "**Youth, the Future of Cooperative Enterprise**". The eminent speakers and distinguished guests were Dr. Chan Ho Choi, Regional Director, International Cooperative Alliance (ICA-AP), Shri R. K. Tiwari, Joint Secretary and Central Registrar, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, Shri Rakesh Mohan, Joint Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India and Director General Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Dr. G.N. Ghosh, Assistant FAO Representative in India, Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations, Dr. Dinesh Kumar, Joint Commissioner, Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangathan. Dr. Chandra Pal Singh, President, NCUI presided over the Symposium and Dr. Dinesh, Chief Executive, NCUI, gave his presentation on Youth, the Future of Cooperative Enterprise".

Chairman and Managing Directors of National level Federations, officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, Govt. of India, ICA, FAO, NCDC, ILO etc. were also presents besides the student of different educational institutions in Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion **Shri R. K. Tiwari, Joint Secretary and Central Registrar, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India** said that cooperative movement should launch a campaign in mission mode to attract the youth of the country. He further said that the cooperative model of doing business has all the capability to address the problems faced by the youth of the country pertaining to unemployment, entrepreneurship, capacity building etc. The youth will join cooperative when cooperatives are professionalize in their working, he said. The training and education of cooperative movement should be in tune with the change of time and should not be confined to old ways of doing. He had also shown concern for dormant membership and able leadership as being more accountable to their stakeholders.

Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President NCUI emphasis the need for cooperative education right at the school level to degree and professional courses for which NCERT and University system needs to be sensitized for developing the course curriculum for the youth the students in the country. He call on the youth to join the cooperative sector for mutual benefits - it will give them employment and sharpen them on leadership as well as on entrepreneurship.

Dr. Dinesh, Chief Executive, National Cooperative Union of India presented a theme paper on "Youth, the future of cooperative enterprise" and said that cooperative sector has immense possibilities for the youth of the country. In order to popularize the cooperative model he emphasis the promotion of more school and campus cooperatives in the country.

Dr. Chan Ho Choi, Regional Director, International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) Asia Pacific share the international experiences i.e. working of youth and campus

cooperative in Japan & Singapore and said that there is enough possibilities & scope for youth to participate in the cooperative movement.

Shri Rakesh Mohan, Joint Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India and Director General Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, said that the youth network available both in the urban and rural area through the network of Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) and National Social Service (NSS) wing are capable to help cooperatives to create awareness, capacity and personality and building of the youth.

Dr. G.N. Ghosh, Assistant FAO Representative in India, Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nation said that youth problem in the rural areas pertains to unemployment due to non-lucrative agriculture profession. They are also suffering for socially trauma and erosion of human values. He also said that unless we make the agriculture profession profitable and social acceptable, through cooperatives with intellectual inputs and creativity, youth will be not interested in the agriculture profession any more. He also emphasis strengthening of KVIC, agro industries corporation, village knowledge centre and agri-business to strengthen both farming and non farming activities through cooperative fold.

Dr. Dinesh Kumar, Joint Commissioner, Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangathan promise the inclusion of cooperative subject in school education through NCERT system and also the Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangathan will make academic collaboration with NCUI for popularizing cooperative subjects for the youths of the country.

Delivering the vote of thanks Shri Mohan Mishra, Director (PR) said that the theme of day also encourages understanding among the different generation about the cooperative for socio-economic development, peace, freedom, human rights and solidarity. In case of India age group 16 to 32 constitutes 60 per cent of population work force of the Indian economic. Therefore India in dominated by youth in terms of numbers.
