INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

The Co-operative movement begins in Europe in the 19th century, primarily in Britain and France, although 'The Shore Porters Society' claims to be one of the world's first co-operatives, being established in Aberdeen in 1498. In Industrial Revolution and the increasing mechanization of the company transformed society and threatened the livelihood of many workers. The concurrent labor and social movement and the issues they attempted to address describe the climate at the time.

The first documented consumer Co-operative was founded in 1769 in a barely furnished cottage in Fenwic East Ayrshire when local weavers manhandled a sack of oatmeal into John Walkers whitewashed front room and began selling the contents at a discount, forming the 'Fenwic Weavers Society'.

In the decades that followed several co-operatives or co-operatives societies formed including 'Lennoxtown Freindly Victualling Society' founded in 1812. By 1830 there were several hundreds co-operatives. Some were initially successful but most co-operatives founded in the early 19th century had failed by 1840. However 'Lockhurst Lane Industrial Co-oprative Society (founded in 1832 and now Heart of England Co-oprative Society) and Galashiels and Hawiks Co-oprative Societies still trade today.

It was not until 1844 when the 'Rochdale Society Of Equitable Pioneers' established the Rochdale principels on which they ran their co-operatives, that the basis for development and growth of the modern Co-Operative movement was established.

In India Co-operative movement starts from 1904. The background for this movement created from1875. In 1870 to 1903 so many efforts are made towards the Co-operative movement. But the proper direction for Co-operative movement is given by the Act passed in 1904 and their amendment made in 1912. The first Co-operative society started in India to provide finance to the farmer. In independent India Co-operative movement is run and developed through fifth year planning programme.

CO - OPERATIVE BANKS IN INDIA:

The origins of the Co-operative Banking movement in India can be traced to the close of 19th century when inspired by the success of the experiments related to the Co-operative movement in Britain and the Co-operative credit movement in Germany, such societies were set up in India. Co-operative Banks are important constituents of the Indian financial system. They are the primary financiers of agricultural activities, some small scale industries and self employed workers. The Anyonya Co-operative banks' in India is considered to have been the first Co-operative Banks in Asia.

Co-operative Banks are Government supported financial agencies in India, which are organized and managed with the dictime of Co-operative, self help and mutual help. It functions with the "No Profit No Loss" model. As other banks in the
country Co-operative Banks performed all basis banking functions like borrowing and lending of credits.

In India Co-operative Banks are working for nearly hundred years. Co-operative Banks are considered as one of the important financial institutions in the country. The major contributions of these banks are mostly in rural areas, where they play the most vital role in rural financing and micro financing. The major strength of Co-operative Banks their easy local reach, transport interaction with the customers and their efficient service to common people.

CO – OPERATIVE PATHSANSTHA

In Maharashtra Sangli District is the one of main District in which Co-operative movement was started and well established. Sangli District is known as ‘Sahakar Pandhari’. Late Mr. Vasantrao (Dada) Patil, Late Mr. Rajaram (Bapu) Patil, Late Mr. Gulabrao Patil, Late Mr. Vishnu (Anna) Patil was the main leaders who run the Co-operative movement in Sangli District. As a part of such Co-operative movement in 1927 Sangli District Central Co-operative Bank was formed.

The first Education Officer of Sangli District Late Mr. Bapusaheb Paranjape was formed first Co-operative Pathasanstha for Teaching and Non Teaching salaried employee of Sangli District on 10th May 1933 named ‘Shikshan Sevak Sahakari Society Ltd. Sangli’. The main object of this Pathasanstha is to lend loans to Teaching and Non Teaching salaried employee of Sangli District. Afterwards on 20th December 1966 ‘Sangli Zilla Madhyamik Shikshan Sevak Sahakari Pathasanstha Ltd. Sangli’ was started by MR. T. D. Lad, D. L. Thorat, V. S. Patil, V. D. Patil etc.