

# **SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE COOPERATIVE**

(A Case Study of Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit Cooperative, Gorkha)

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## **LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

The Thesis entitled “SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE COOPERATIVE, A Case Study of Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit Cooperative, Gorkha” has been prepared by Mr. Devendra Bahadur Thapa under my supervision and guidance.

I hereby recommend it for the examination by thesis committee as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Economics.

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## **APPROVAL SHEET**

We certify that thesis entitled SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE COOPERATIVE, A Case Study of Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit Cooperative, Gorkha” submitted by Mr. Devendra Bahadur Thapa to Central Department of Economics, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Economics has been found satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, we accept this thesis as a part of the said degree.

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## **ABBREVIATION/ACRONYMS**

CIF: Citizen Investment Fund

DOC: Department of Cooperative

FSDS: Financial Sector Development Strategy

GDP: Gross Domestic Production

HMG: His Majesty of Government

ICA: International Cooperative Alliance

ILO: International Labour Organization

MDGs: Millennium Development Goals

SAARC: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

SCCs: Saving and Credit Cooperatives

SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals

SSE: Social Solidarity Economy

UK: United Kingdom

USA: United State of America

USDA: United Stated Department of Agriculture

UN: United Nations

UNFAO: United Nation Food and Agriculture Organization

VAT: Value Added Tax

# CHAPTER-I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 General Background

Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal is a landlocked country in South Asia. It is bordered by China to the north and India to the south, east and west. The Himalayan mountain range run across Nepal's northern and western parts, and eight of the world's ten highest mountains, including Mount Everest, are within its territory. The total area of Nepal is 147,181 sq. Km with an East to West length of about 885 Km. and a North to South width of about 90-245 Km. Nepal is located 26<sup>0</sup>22' north - 30<sup>0</sup>26' north latitude and 80<sup>0</sup>4' east-88<sup>0</sup>12' west longitude. The elevation of Nepal starts at 59M above sea level and ends with Mt. Everest at 8,848m. Nepal has a population of about 30 million people. Education is not compulsory here so only 65 percentage of the population is literate. The primary religions in Nepal are Hinduism and Buddhism. There are also some Muslims, Kirats, Jains, Christians and others. There are more than 60 different ethnic groups in Nepal. (District Profile of Gorkha)

A cooperative (coop) or co-operative ("co-op") is an autonomous association of people who voluntarily cooperate for their mutual social, economic, and cultural benefit. Cooperatives include non-profit community organizations and businesses that are owned and managed by the people who use its services (a consumer cooperative) or by the people who work there (a worker cooperative) or by the people who live there (a housing cooperative), hybrids such as worker cooperatives that are also consumer cooperatives or credit unions, multi-stakeholder cooperatives such as those that bring together civil society and local actors to deliver community needs, second and third tier cooperatives whose members are other cooperatives Wikipedia, (2016).

A cooperative is an autonomous association. Its members voluntarily cooperate for their mutual, social, economic, and cultural benefit. Cooperatives include non-profit community organizations and businesses that are owned and managed by the people who use its service or by the people who live there. Cooperative is owned and controlled by its member. Benefit is distributed in proportionate among the members of cooperatives.

Cooperative movement is on operation in Nepal. Increasing cooperatives density, weak legal, institutional and regulatory arrangements cooperative are said become less monitored. Government identifying cooperative as a pure community organization has deep faith on self sustaining and democratic governed cooperatives. The need for cooperatives is in the rural, remote areas. But, urban areas where financials access is already being taken care of by a range of banks.

## 1.2 Statement of the problem

Nepal is still recognized the least development countries. The main characteristics of developing countries are inequality, poverty, high population, high unemployment, low economic growth. Nepal also suffers from those aspects. Government has been implemented various economic policy and used instruments to address those problems. But, it could not be used successfully. World widely cooperative is one adopted tools to raise economic development. Various types of cooperative have been practiced in Nepal. Most of cooperatives members are from poor and middle class household.

Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit cooperative Ltd. is one of four hundreds two cooperatives of Gorkha. This cooperative has been established in 2012 A.D. Thirty three members mutually cooperate here. This study tries to explain how cooperative contribution to social and economic changes to its members. How members are involved in economic activities. So, it focuses on need of cooperative for income generating activities and other social activities of its members.

Especially, this study focuses upon the following questions.

- What types of activities has been done by the cooperative implemented?
- How have those activities helped its members' social and economical for the upliftment?

## 1.3 Objectives of study

The general objective of the study is to analyze socio-economic contribution of Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd, Gorkha. The specific objectives of the study can be shown as follows;

- To assess the activities of Lekhapadhi saving and credit cooperative and

- To find out the socio-economic by the contribution of cooperative to its members through saving and credit program.

#### 1.4 Significance of the study

The study is related to the saving and credit cooperative's activities and its social and economic contribution to its members. It finds out the main strengths and weakness of the cooperative and socio and economic status of its members. Specially, the findings will be important for cooperative members and shareholders. The study will be multi dimension which helps to individual and institutional aspect. Outcomes will be fruitful its members and cooperative management team also. The study is focused only on saving and credit cooperative. It will be equally important to government bodies for policy formulation and implementation. Financial institutions will be helpful to their sectors. Researchers, teachers and students have been very useful to their further studies.

#### 1.5 Limitation of the study

The main limitations of the study are as follows;

- The study focused only Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd, Gorkha.
- This study is mainly based on primary data, but secondary data can also be used if needed.
- Simple statistical tools are used to analyze the data.
- Conclusion or generalization of this study may or may not application in the other prospects.

#### 1.6 Organization of the study

The research will be divided into five chapters. First chapter introduces background of study, statement of problem, significance, limitation of the study and organization of the study. Second chapter includes review of literature and textual concepts with regard to conceptual framework on cooperative movement. Third chapter includes research design, source of data, sampling design, tools, and techniques of data collection. Forth chapter discusses the overall setting of study area and deals with the presentation and analysis of data. It analyses the data and interprets the results using different statistical tools. The final chapter of the study summarizes the results and suggestive framework.

Besides these, references and annexure will be presented at the end of the thesis. Similarly acknowledgements, table of contents, list of tables, list of figures, abbreviations will be included in the first front part of the thesis reports.

## CHAPER-II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Review of literature is important to any research work. Different published or unpublished related articles, previous reports, bulletins, magazines are studied. It helps to make the research work easy and also helps to find out new things. It also controls researcher in provide different directory to do different research work.

Generally, the portion of literature review has divided into two parts;

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

##### 2.1.1 Basic Concepts and Definitions of Cooperatives

**Dogarawa, (2005)** describes today in era when many people feel powerless to change their lives, cooperatives represent a strong, vibrant, and viable economic alternative. Cooperatives are formed to meet peoples' mutual needs. They are based on the powerful idea that together, a group of people can achieve goals that none of them could achieve alone. For over 160 years now, cooperatives have been an effective way for people to exert control over their economic livelihood. They provide a unique tool for achieving one or more economic goals in an increasingly competitive global economy. As government around the world cut services and withdraw from regulating markets, cooperatives are being considered useful mechanisms to manage risk for members in Agriculture or other similar cooperatives, help salary/wage earners save for the future through a soft felt monthly contribution that is deducted from source, own what might be difficult for individuals to own by their efforts, strength the communities in which they operate through job provision and payment of local taxes. Cooperatives generally provide an economic boost to the community as well. Incidentally, cooperative despite its old age is not very popular in Nigeria.

**David, (2007)** claimed that credit cooperative is an organizational form by which numbers of people, each with small savings, can pool their savings together to finance non trivial business opportunities (in addition to some consumption oriented lending). There are many ways that donors could subtly help to catalyze and facilitate the development of savings based credit cooperatives. One way is to foster and partially fund up stream organizations whose mission is to catalyze and help animators

organize savings cooperative and to help those cooperative learn on a peer to peer basis from each other about propagating the examples and about overcoming the obstacle they face. Another way is to promote partial insurance schemes for small depositors in credit cooperatives so that the fear of losses through organizational or financial collapse will not paralyze individuals from becoming involved in such a collective activity. In the developing world (and in the depressed parts of the developed world), donor funded organization are thick upon the ground to “help the poor”. Instead of really helping the poor to become the agents or doers of their own development, the poor are seen as the clients and customers of the multitude of externally funded organization with the ostensible purpose to deliver services such as microfinance lending services to the poor.

**UNFAO, (2010)** reports say that Cooperative Federation of Nepal is the apex of cooperative movement in Nepal. It launches several activities mostly in the area of training i.e. Cooperative Trainings, Leadership Development Training, Capacity Building Training, Member Awareness Campaigning, Agriculture Marketing Training, Product Diversification on Agro Products, Success Case Replication etc. Likewise, the project also develops model cooperatives, support to women cooperatives, distribute seed money for the expansion of agriculture business related to production and marketing. Cooperative Federation of Nepal is the apex body of cooperative movement in Nepal. It launches several activities mostly in the areas of training i.e. Cooperative Trainings, Leadership Development Training, Capacity Building Training, Member Awareness Campaigning, Agriculture Marketing Training, Product Diversification on Agro Product, Success Case Replication etc.

### 2.1.2 Values and Principles of Cooperatives

**Values:** Cooperatives are based on the value of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility, and caring for others.

**Principles:**The cooperative principles at present are nothing but the statement on the cooperative identity, which was approved in the Manchester Centennial Congress 1995 (Abadi & Hailu, 2013). Statement on the Cooperative Identity-1995: There has been a concerns among cooperators in recent years that there has been a seriously

erosion in the values of cooperation and the same was echoed in ICA Tokyo congress held in 1992. The congress, therefore, recommended ICA Executive Committee to initiate the process to review the current ICA Cooperative Principles as amended in 1966 and make recommendation for the possible change. As a result, ICA General Assembly in Manchester in September 1995 approved the draft including the statement of Cooperative Identity which includes a definition and, value and principles. The following is the poster of ICA on Statement on the Cooperative Identity,

### **1<sup>st</sup> Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership**

Cooperatives are voluntary organization; open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities to membership without gender, social, political, or religious discrimination.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Principle: Democratic Member Control**

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives members have equal voting rights, and cooperatives at other levels are also organized in a democratic manner.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Principle: Member Economic Participation**

Members contribute equitable to the capital of their cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Principle: Autonomy and Independence**

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative economy.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Principle: Education, Training and Information**

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public particularly young people and opinion leaders about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Principle: Cooperation among Cooperatives**

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structure.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Principle: Concern for Community**

Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

#### **2.1.3 Development of Cooperative**

Cooperative model has been adapted to numerous and varied business. According to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) cooperative is a user owned, user controlled business that distributes benefits on the basis of use. This definition captures what are generally considered the three primary principles: user ownership, user control and proportional distribution of benefits. The “user owner” principle implies that the people who use the cooperative help finance the cooperative and therefore, own the cooperative. Members are responsible for providing at least some of the cooperative’s capital. The user control concept means that member of the cooperative govern the business directly by voting on significance and long term business decisions and indirectly through their representatives on the board of directors. Equitable voting right or democratic control is hallmark of cooperative. Distribution of benefits on the basis of use describes the principle of proportionally, another key foundation of cooperative. Members should share the benefits, costs and risk of doing business in equal proportion.

Housing cooperatives have played an important role in developed economies. Much of the housing built in Norway and Sweden in the second half of the last century has been cooperative. Housing cooperatives in the USA have been popular among higher

income dwellers and retired people. They have proved effective wherever private or public renting has failed; in New York 27,000 homes abandoned by private landlords have been taken over and renovated by housing cooperative designed for low income people. In Britain, management cooperatives have taken over unpopular ‘council’ estates, and tenant owned cooperatives are challenging conventional social housing landlords to involve more tenants in the governance over social housing.

Consumer cooperatives, which emerged in Britain in the 1840s along the Rochdale system, are today the market leaders in Italy, Switzerland, Singapore and Japan. They are also very active in the Scandinavian countries and Atlantic Canada. In the UK, which has seen the fiercest competition among consumer chains, consumer cooperatives are fifth in market share and are preeminent in the small supermarket sector. Consumer cooperatives have a strong record of creating decent work for their employees, engaging in fair trade with producer cooperatives in developing countries, setting industry standards for honest labeling, and promoting healthy diet.

#### International Summit of Cooperatives, Quebec 2016

The United Nations proclaimed 2012 the “International Year of Cooperatives”, and invited the world to take a fresh look at cooperatives and mutual. That same year, Quebec City, Canada, hosted the first International Summit of Cooperatives. In 2014, at the second edition of the International Summit of Cooperatives, the cooperative and mutual movement set itself the objective of demonstrating the capacity of cooperatives to innovate and adapt. As a result of the discussions that took place at that event, the participants indicated their wish to promote the emergence of more and stronger innovative cooperatives. The goals was to get cooperatives to come together to ensure food security, to pursue their role as creators of wealth and employment, and to intensify their actions to promote access to health care and services, and to financial services, for all people, as well as continuous supporting sustainable development.

In 2016, the cooperative enterprises gathered in Quebec City addressed the issue of cooperatives’ capacity to act in the social, environmental and economic spheres. In regard to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to 2030, cooperatives and mutual recognize that they are a significant level for introducing sustainable development strategies and for resolving the key goals issues. Cooperatives also

highlight the central role of young people and women in achieving those sustainable development goals, and are aware of the upcoming challenges that will have to be overcome so that these two groups can become full partners in achieving those goals. Cooperatives undertake to place a priority on getting youth and women to participate in decision making processes. Women and youth must become involved in serving as agents of change. With more than 1.6 million enterprises, 1.3 billion members and close to 15% of the global economy, cooperative enterprises were the first group of enterprises worldwide to endorse the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Cooperatives maintain that, due to their cooperative nature and values, they are in a position to fulfill the organization's commitments to sustainable development to everyone's benefit.

The SAARC countries have been found to uplift the socio-economic status of their people by collecting the scattered small capital and skill through cooperatives. It has been noted in the 18<sup>th</sup> SAARC Summit held in Kathmandu on 26-27 November 2014 concluded with the endorsement of the 36 point Kathmandu declaration. Among other, the governments of south Asia have reiterated their commitment to end poverty in the region. In particular, under item no 11 of the declaration, the SAARC heads of state/government have recognized the potential of cooperatives in achieving inclusive, board based and sustainable economic growth and development, and called for sharing of experiences, expertise and best practices in this sector. The convention accepted that cooperative principle and norms will be effective to explore the region. They are also committed to exchange the experience, knowledge and better practices of the region.

#### 2.1.4 History of Cooperative Movement in Nepal

**Mishra (2013)**, modern cooperative began in Nepal in 1954 when a Department of Cooperatives (DOC) was established within the Ministry of Agriculture to promote and assist development of cooperatives. The first cooperative formed in Nepal were cooperative credit societies with unlimited liability created in the Chitwan district as part of a flood relief and resettlement program. They had to be provisionally registered under an Executive Order of HMG and were legally recognized after the first Cooperative Societies Act of 1959 was enacted. The history of cooperative in Nepal closely related to government's initiatives to use cooperatives

as parts of its development programs. Therefore, the development of cooperatives will be described in eight phases corresponding.

During the First Five Year Plan (1956/57-1960/61): Government embarked on an ambitious program to organize 4,500 agricultural multipurpose cooperatives.

During the Second Three Year Plan (1962/63-1964/64): A Land Reform Act came into force in 1964 including a compulsory saving scheme, according to which farmers had to save a portion of their crop.

During the Third Five Year Plan (1965/66-1969/70): The total number of cooperatives reached 1,489 operating in 56 out of 75 districts. During the Fourth Five Year Plan (1970/71-1974/75): A massive reorganization program launched already in 1969 was pursued, placing emphasis on the quality rather than on the quantity of cooperatives.

Under the Fifth Five Year Plan (1975/76-1979/80): A massive Cooperative Expansion Program was launched, the Sajha Program.

During the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980/81-1984/85): An “Intensive Sajha Program” was launched in 1981 focusing more on and made more responsive to the needs and problems of small farmers.

During the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985/86-1989/90): Efforts were made to reshape the cooperative movement.

It appears that until 1990 most cooperative ventures were limited to credit and finance and were controlled by the government. The Cooperative Act of 1992 provided freedom for the farmers themselves to organize and establish cooperative societies.

He adds that past initiatives for the cooperative movement in Nepal have not shown much impact on the overall food self sufficiency, agricultural commercialization, and socio-economic transformation of the nation. A scientific farmer cooperative movement that empowers farmers, commercializes agriculture, enhances food security, transforms socio economic conditions, and contributes to rural development in Nepal is necessary. A renewed and revitalized cooperative movement should be all inclusive, fully managed at the grassroots level, and must have strong governmental support in terms of cooperative formation and safeguarding. Appropriate educational,

research, and extension support programs are essential for a successful cooperative movement. Farmers' income and quality of life must be the yardstick of success of the cooperative movement in Nepal.

## 2.2 Review of Related Studies, Journal and Thesis

**Shutang & Apedaile, (1989)**, Agricultural cooperative can offer a balance among individual productive initiative, imperfectly competitive markets, imperfect government, and concentration of land and wealth. They make a stand against monopoly pricing, and ideally aim for competition among equals. Cooperatives not only promote cooperation among their members, but also seek to cooperate with other similar organizations. They are competitive for resources and in the market place, but cooperative practice is likely to be most successful as economies change and restructure.

**Global Finance Magazine, (2007)**, in the developing countries, international effort by ICA, ILO and the UN, have been instrumental in the formation of new cooperatives that are independent from their governments. The ICA Identity Statement and cooperative principles, the United Nations Guidelines of 2001 and the ILO Recommendation No. 193 on the promotion of cooperatives have served as guidelines to form cooperatives, as well as limit the role of government to one of providing and enabling environment and level playing field so cooperatives can operate on a sustainable basis alongside other types of business. These mechanisms recommend that there should be an early and complete disengagement of governments from the internal affairs of cooperatives. The ILO Recommendation No. 193 emphasizes the need to promote the business potential of cooperatives so that they can contribute to sustainable development and decent employment. It does not advocate the complete withdrawal of government but recommends an institutional framework in which government registers cooperatives as simply and efficiently as possible, regulates them in the same way as other forms of enterprise, and support services for marketing, all without infringing cooperative autonomy.

**Acharya, (2009)** focuses that cooperatives, as economic enterprises and as self- help organizations, plays meaningful role in uplifting the socio-economic conditions of their members and their local communities. Over the years, cooperative enterprises have successfully operated locally owned people centered businesses while also

servicing as catalysts for social organization and unity. With their concern for their members and communities, they represent a model of economic enterprise that places high regard for democratic and human values and respect for the environment. As the world today faces unstable financial systems, increased insecurity of food supply, growing inequality worldwide, rapid climate change and increased environmental degradation, it is increasingly compelling to consider the model of economic enterprise that cooperatives offer. The cooperative sector, especially in developing countries, also presents itself as an important element that can contribute to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

**Paudel, (2011)**, Saving and credits cooperatives are the only source of financial services to the community people in the rural areas where commercial banks do not operate. In addition, during insurgency, when all commercial banks withdrew from the rural areas, the rural areas, the sources of microfinance services in the rural areas were community based (SCCs) .Saving and credit cooperatives provide a variety of microfinance services to various households living in the Hills, Terai and Kathmandu valley. Nearly all Nepali SCCs are self funded. Most of these SCCs are profitable, including those locate in poor remote areas of the hill region. Key regions for the SCCs strong financial performance include reliance on member savings and control of administration costs. Savings and credit cooperatives (SCCs) provided a variety of microfinance services to various households living in the Hills, Terai, and Kathmandu valley. Nearly all Nepali SCCs are self funded. Most of these SCCs are profitable, including those located in poor remote areas of the hill region. Key regions for the SCCs strong financial performance include reliance on member savings and control of administration costs.

**Bharadwaj (2012)**, Nepal has recognized three pillar economic model. Government, cooperative and private sector has been identified as the three major stakeholder of nation economic building. Existence of registered cooperative has crossed half century. Nearly 5 million members cooperate in nearly 20 thousand cooperative. Huge amount of saving, capital formation, and transaction occur. Though unaccounted, the role of the cooperatives for livelihood earning and access to credits and product marketing in rural areas has positively been supported. Nepalese rural societies are now familiar with cooperatives. Majority of cooperatives members are from poor and middle class household. Access to capital and market with equitable

benefit sharing has positively contributed to poor household. The level of confidence on enterprising has increased through capital access, risk sharing and community support. Cooperative movement is on operation in Nepal. Increasing cooperatives density, weak legal, institutional and regulatory arrangements cooperative are said become less monitored. Government identifying cooperative as a pure community organization has deep faith on self sustaining and democratic governed cooperatives. The faiths are reflected on provisions. Weak monitoring and over confident in cooperative institutional arrangements; the unethical practice of cooperatives has groomed recently. Some of the cooperative has become a wonderful private business. This has fostered a discouragement for ethical and a lesson of benefiting for corrupted. Still there is severe need of cooperative awareness. Regulation of cooperative norm is becoming challenge.

**Mishra, (2013)**, Past initiative for the cooperative for the cooperative movement in Nepal have not shown much impact on the overall food self sufficiency, agricultural commercialization, and socio-economic transformation of the nation. A scientific farmer cooperative movement that empowers farmers, commercializes agriculture, enhances food security, transforms socio-economic conditions, and contributes to rural development in Nepal is necessary. A renewed and revitalized cooperative movement should be all inclusive, fully managed at the grassroots level, and must have strong governmental support in terms of cooperative formation and safeguarding. Appropriate educational, research, and extension support programs are essential for a successful cooperative movement. Farmers' income and quality of life must be the yardstick of success of the cooperative movement in Nepal.

**ILO, (2014)** describes that by their very nature cooperatives play a triple role; as economic actors they create opportunities for jobs, livelihoods and income; as social organization built on a common goal and a common bond they extend protection and security, and contribute to equality and social justice; and as democratically controlled association of individuals they play a constructive role in communities and nations, in society and politics. These three roles cannot be dissociated one from another because they are inherent to the very nature of cooperatives. In many respects cooperatives constitute just the tip of an iceberg formed by the less visible but more widespread social and solidarity economy (SSE). The SSE consists of a wide variety of

organizations, associations and institutions that, despite the lack of a common definition.

**Khatiwada, (2014)**, poverty, inequality and exclusion are key challenges to sustain democracy and maintain peace and social harmony in a post conflict situation of Nepal. Escaping poverty and exclusion depends on improving personal and community capabilities through higher access to resources, institutions services, and opportunities along with social protection scheme in place. Poor health, illiteracy, inadequate schooling, social exclusion, powerlessness and gender discrimination contribute to poverty. And, poverty has not only exposed people to vulnerability and to human insecurity, it has also impeded the exercise of sovereign political power of the citizens. There is high expectation from cooperatives to deliver this development and democratic deficit and also fill in the economic democratic deficit. This can be done by creating a synergy among the production, processing, marketing, distribution and financial service roles of the cooperatives, complemented by the government and the private sector in these areas. Overly entrusting the weak institutions of the state to deliver these developments in a short span of time or expecting a profit seeking and socially less responsible private sector for the same would also be a tall order. In the mixed economic system intending to develop institutions towards a socialistic economy, there is hope in cooperative institutions and this should not fade due to their mismanagement and the movement being captured by the elites and well to do persons of the society. Cooperative movement in Nepal and elsewhere is seen with much expectation and also with some skepticism. The expectation is for an inclusive and democratic society where people are economically empowered along with political one. The skepticism is because of its loose organizational structure, weak monitoring mechanism, and political orientation.

**ILO, (2015)**, cooperative are already present in all the areas that the proposed Sustainable Development Goals envisage the direction the world will take in its journey to make sustainable development the reality. Cooperatives are central to realization of sustainable development around the world, but with their focus on members and local needs, they have not always been proactive in national and international debates. With little visibility at national and international levels, the potential and importance of the contribution that cooperatives can make to the design and realization of SDGs seems to have been missed by policy makers at respective

levels. This explains the relatively limited visibility and attention that cooperatives are enjoying in the debate on the post 2015 development agenda. The report explains that there is a widely held consensus among many actors, including the United Nations, the International Labor Organization, and the International Cooperative Alliance, that the cooperative enterprise is the type of organization that best meets all dimensions of reducing poverty is important- they identify economic opportunities for their members, empower the disadvantaged to defend their interests, provide security to the poor by allowing them to convert individual risks into collective risks, and mediate member access to assets that they utilize to earn a living. Cooperatives are contributing towards gender equality, not just by increasing female membership, but by expanding opportunities for women in local economies and societies in many parts of the world. They support access to quality education and life-long learning opportunities by providing the means for financing education, supporting schools, establishing their own schools to provide quality education. Cooperatives contribute to food security by helping small farmers, fisher folk, livestock keepers, forest holders and other producers to solve numerous challenges that confront them in their endeavors to produce food. Cooperatives play a significant role in employment creation and income generation, with more than 100 million jobs worldwide. Recent evidence has found that cooperatives are more resilient and perform better during financial and economic crises.

**Timilisina, (2015)** has said capital market of Nepal is not so developed. There are limited financial institutions mainly concerned only towards urban areas. Least bank and financial institutions are found in rural area. People do not have any institutions in order to save their small amount of money and also they do not get any credit facility in case of need. In such a case saving and credit cooperatives play prominent role for the development of economic status of rural people. Saving and credit cooperative mainly concern with the accepting saving from its members and providing credit/loan to its members. The interest rate charged by such cooperative is usually lower than that of other bank and financial institutions. Saving and credit cooperative have important for the economic development of whole nation. Members of cooperative takes loan and invest in their business and they can grow their business. They also save money regularly in cooperative and get interest on such saving. This can built habit of saving to the people. Members can became independent, self decision

making, group working etc. Such cooperative create employment opportunities, promote people participation, increase self dependency, and maintain social justice and equal distribution of income.

**Lerous, (2016)**, cooperatives are created from a collective need making them true builders of sustainability as they help people reaching their aspirations and offer access to goods or services without exploitation. Cooperatives are significant economic and social actors. Across the world, there are more than 1 billion members of cooperatives and 2.6 millions cooperatives businesses that generate more than 3 trillion USD in annual revenues and creating more than 250 million jobs. On international day of cooperatives 2016, she shows some examples that cooperative economic success and democratic governance ensures that no one is left behind and therefore contributes to eradicating poverty. Cooperatives are instrumental to achieve food security and help end hunger by allowing farmers to produce more and better quality food through the power of the collective. Cooperatives help to empower women in the world, especially in countries where they are vulnerable. In particular, cooperatives provide women with employment opportunities, and contribute to financial inclusion and literacy efforts.

Research Gap: There are lots of literature source available regarding cooperative and its socioeconomic contribution. But Gorkha municipality there is lacking study on socio-economic contribution of the cooperative. Therefore, this is new steps to light throw in this study area.

## CHAPTER-III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Research Design

Regarding the nature of this research has been historical, descriptive as well as analytical research because this research is based on historic, database on generalized term of cooperative movement and analysis evaluating the data of references organization. Finally, research design is the plan, structure and strategy to obtained answers to the statement of the problems.

#### 3.2 Sources of Data

In the research work data is the most essential. To draw conclusion and generalization mainly two types of data has been used in our research work. This research work is mainly based on primary data. Primary data has been collected from the study field by using different techniques and tools like field survey, interviews, observation and structured questionnaire. The secondary data has been taken whenever that is necessary from the different source like annual reports of related cooperatives organization, journals, articles, statistical reports, and previous thesis, and dissertation, homepages and so on.

#### 3.3 Sampling Design

The universe of the study has been the households of all members of Lekhapadhi Professional Saving and Credit Cooperative, Gorkha district. For the sample, simple random sampling has been used as follow.

	Total	Sampling	Percentage
Male	31	17	51.51
Female	2	1	3.03
Total	33	18	54.54

Table shows that there were 33 total members. Out of them there were 31 males and 2 females. For sampling 17 males and 1 female were taken for this research work. So it shows that 54.54 percent members were involved this work.

### 3.4 Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

This study is based on primary data. The data has been used to analyze the economical, social contribution of cooperative organization to its members. The study has been conducted through the formal method of interview, observation, structured questionnaire.

### 3.5 Data Analysis and Presentation Method

After classification and editing of the collected data and another important work for the fulfillment of the objectives of the study is data analysis and presentation, different statistical tools have been used for data analysis, like average, percentage, etc. Descript method has been applied for qualitative data. And the data has been presented by using simple methods like as bar diagrams, pie-charts, tables, charts etc.

## CHAPTER-IV

### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA

Gorkha district is connected historically with the creation of the modern Nepal. It covers an area of 3,610 square km. It is location of the Manakamana temple. Also, the temples of great sage Gorakh Nath and goddess Gorakh Kali temple is located in this district. It's a part of Gandaki zone, is one of the seventy five districts of Nepal, a landlocked country of South Asia. It is connected historically with creation of the modern country of Nepal and the name of legendary Gurkha soldiers. The district, with Pokharithok(Gorkha), later known Prithivi Narayan municipality and now known as Gorkha municipality as its district headquarters. This district covers an area of 3,610 square kilometers and has a population of 271,061 according to the census of Nepal (2011).

It is the location of the Mankaman temple. Also temples of great sage Gorakh Nath and goddess Gorakh Kali temple is located in district, alter which the district got its name. Four major rivers run within and a long it, they are Chepe, Daraudi, Marsyandi and Budhi Gandaki. Kaski, Tanhu, Lamjung, Syanja, Mangang are other five districts in this zone. The caste ethnicity make up of the district is diverse, including Brahmins, Chhetris, Gurung, Ghales, Magar, Kuwars, Kumals, Barams and Dalits. Gurungs are the majority indigenous population, and are spread throughout the district. There are 60 VDCs and 2 municipalities in Gorkha district. Lekhapadhi Savings and Credit cooperative Ltd. selected for the case study lies in Gorkha municipality.(District Profile of Gorkha, 2015)

#### 4.1.1 Brief Introduction of Study Area (Gorkha Municipality)

Table 4.1 Brief Introduction of Municipality

Name	: Gorkha Municipality
Established	: 2053-10-15 (B.S.)
Population	: 12,511 Female, 12,503 Male, Total 25,014
Density	: 420.05 per Km <sup>2</sup>
Householders	: 4,716
Literacy	: 67.21

Source: Profile of Gorkha Municipality, 2015

#### 4.1.2 Population Occupied of the Gorkha Municipality

Table 4.2 Main Occupation of Municipality

Occupation	Female	Male	Total	Percentage
1. Agriculture	5687	3603	9290	37.14
2. Business	458	531	989	3.95
3. Industry	15	16	31	0.12
4. Jobs	168	2179	2347	9.38
5. Study	3993	4335	8328	33.29
6. Others	2190	1838	4028	16.10

Source: Profile of Gorkha Municipality, 2015

#### 4.1.3 Ethnicity and Caste Composition of Municipality

Different kinds of caste and ethnic groups were found in the study area as tabulated

Table 4.3 Ethnicity and Caste Composition of Municipality

S.N.	Caste/Ethnic	Total No.	Percentage
1	Magar	5302	21.20
2	Chhetri	4440	17.75
3	Newar	3343	13.36
4	Brahmin	3170	12.67
5	Sarki	2837	11.34
6	Kumal	2008	8.02
7	Kami	802	3.20
8	Yogi	674	2.69
9	Gurung	526	2.10
10	Damai	576	2.30
11	Tamang	421	1.68
12	Gharti	234	0.93
13	Kasai	146	0.58
14	Gaine	100	0.40
15	Lama	55	0.21
16	Darai	13	0.05

17	Ghale	62	0.25
18	Miya	43	0.17
19	Badi	19	0.08
20	Shah	14	0.06
21	Shakya	74	0.30
22	Sunar	32	0.13
23	Hamal	22	0.09
24	Giri	20	0.08
25	Thakuri	19	0.08
26	Kusule	9	0.04
27	Limbu	7	0.03
28	Mahato	7	0.03

Source: Profile of Gorkha Municipality, 2015

#### **4.1.4 Infrastructure Development of the Municipality**

This section highlights about available infrastructures such as educational institutions, health institution, drinking water, road facilities, waste management, and governmental and social institution services etc in the municipality.

**Educational Institution:** Altogether there are twenty four institutions among them 13 are primary schools, 1 is lower secondary, 8 are secondary schools and two are campuses.

**Health Institution:** One district hospital, two sub health post and twelve round clinics have been serving the people of this municipality.

**Drinking Water:** The water supply condition has not been satisfactory in this municipality. Only one hundred fifty public tapes are available.

**Road Facilities:** 18.5 km has pitched, 16 km has graveled, 1.15 km road has paved in this municipality.

**Waste Management:** 0.5 ton waste produces daily in this municipality. One tractor and four public toilets are used for waste collection.

## **Governmental and Social Institution:**

There are many governmental and social organizations in this municipality as given below;

- i. Governmental Offices:- 35
- ii. NGOs:- 24
- iii. Multiple Cooperatives:- 2
- iv. Saving and Credits Cooperatives:- 46
- v. Gorkha District Saving Cooperatives:- 1
- vi. Youth Clubs:- 15
- vii. Community Forest Groups:- 36
- viii. Women Groups:- 36

### **4.1.5 Saving and Credit Cooperative in the Municipality**

There are many cooperatives in the study area under different cooperative like as; primary cooperative, multipurpose cooperative, dairy product, agriculture product cooperative, women cooperative, saving and credit cooperatives and so on. This study focuses upon the Lekhapadhi Professional Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd. activities only.

### **4.1.6 Introduction of Lekhapadhi Professional Saving and Credit Cooperative**

Lekhapadhi Professional Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd. (LPSCC) has been established who involved in professional legal Lekhapadhi, so that there are only Lekhapadhi members. It has thirty three shareholders among them thirty one members are males and two are females now. The LPSCC was established in 2012 AD with 27 share members. It is situated in Gorkha municipality ward no. 3. It started the saving and credit facilities since its establishment. Still now, it has collected Rs 1,813,374 as savings and Rs156,700 as share. Out of which Rs 1,248,600 is circulated among its members as loan. This cooperative invests in various purposes i.e. emergency, households, education, house building and business. It also supports on social sectors like on stationary to the student, honor to senior citizen, furniture to school, sanitation, and material. It provides basic cooperative training, accounting training its members etc. It helps to enhance knowledge, skills, attitude of shareholders about cooperative.

#### 4.1.7 Saving Service

Compulsory saving has been adopted in this cooperative. One thousand rupees has to save individually per month by its member. The cooperative provides 10% interest per annum according to their deposit. Which deposit is playing vital role for loan acquisitions.

Study shows that saving service encourages its members to save money. It enables members to save their money regular or their needs. According to the field study, the saving is compulsory. It is directly related to member's credit amount. So, all members have involved compulsory saving.

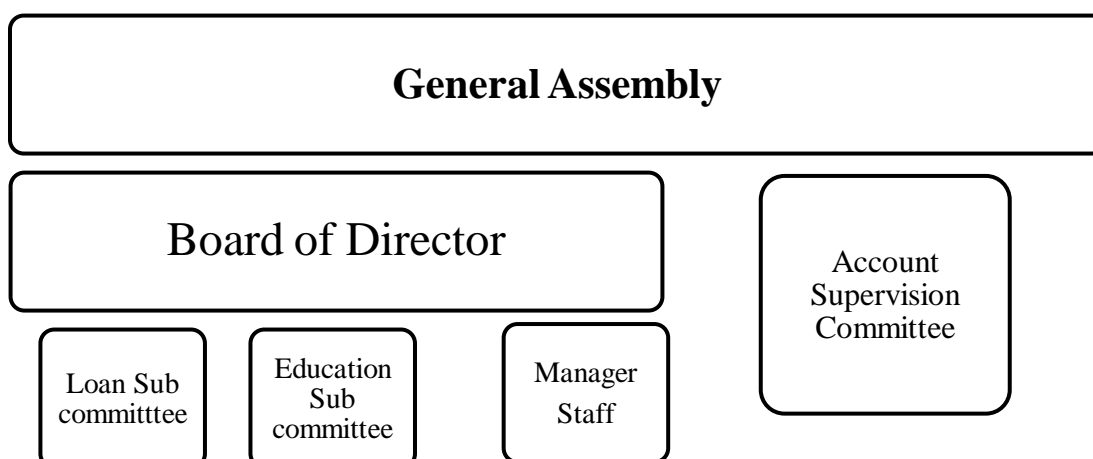
#### 4.1.8 Credit Service

The cooperative has provided loan to its members with 13% interest per annum. Mainly savings and securities are vital role to invest its member. They can get loan with their own saving or securities. Cooperative provides loan to its members for emergency, households, education, house building and business.

#### 4.1.9 Membership

Membership is the important and cooperatives as well as members. To become member s/he should pay Rs 5,000 for a share, Rs 200 for membership, Rs 100 for entry fee and Rs 1,600 for other fees to the cooperatives. This is because the share capital is an entry ticket that ensured a membership. The sum of registration fee and share capital collects from members is the initial capital of cooperatives.

#### 4.1.10 Cooperative Management



#### 4.1.11 Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths are power of the organization. It has positive effects. Success of organization has been its strengths which is very important. Weaknesses show inabilities of the organization. LPSCC has following strengths and weakness.

#### 4.1.12 Strengths of LPSCC

- All members are adopted same professional, ethics, norms and values.
- It controls unnecessary expenditure and helps to capital formation which invests in the productive sector.
- It helps to income generating activities.
- It has been contributed its members' socio-economic status improved.
- It has supported different social activities like on stationary to the student, honor to senior citizen, furniture to school and involved in sanitation activities.
- Different training and programs have been built up knowledge, skill, attitude, leadership capacity.
- Members were getting rid from the high rate of interest of the local money lender and other financial institutions.
- Increased access of financial facilities.

#### 4.1.13 Weaknesses of LPSCC

- Lack of well trained staff.
- Lack of cooperative's own building.
- Lack of different saving program. Only monthly saving program were found.
- Lack of rules and regulation for the smooth functioning of the organization.
- Problems of pass book system and feedback box.
- Lack of monitoring and evaluation of the credit sanctioned to the members.

#### 4.1.14 Focus Group Discussion

Focus group discussion, it helps to understand social and economic contribution of cooperative to its members in depth. There are twenty seven respondents as total. According to them, it is very helpful to their life. They can get loan easily their needs. It is very useful because they can utilize on productive sectors like in education, house

building and business and so on. It has improved their saving habit and socio-economic status. It helps to reduce poverty. It positively contributes to social unification, empowerment, and development. They have got chances to increase their income, knowledge, skill, attitude, personality etc. Nowadays, they are not obliged to lend money to the local money lenders and financial institutions. It has been relief from high interest rate. They get interest and bonus annually according to their saving and share. So, they are mutually benefited from the cooperative. All members have equal voting right. They participate to elect the executive members. They attend in annual general assembly.

So, we conclude that this cooperative is an autonomous association. Its members voluntarily cooperate for their mutual, social, economic benefit. It is owned and controlled by its member. Benefit is distributed in proportionate among them.

## 4.2 Characteristics of Sample Respondents

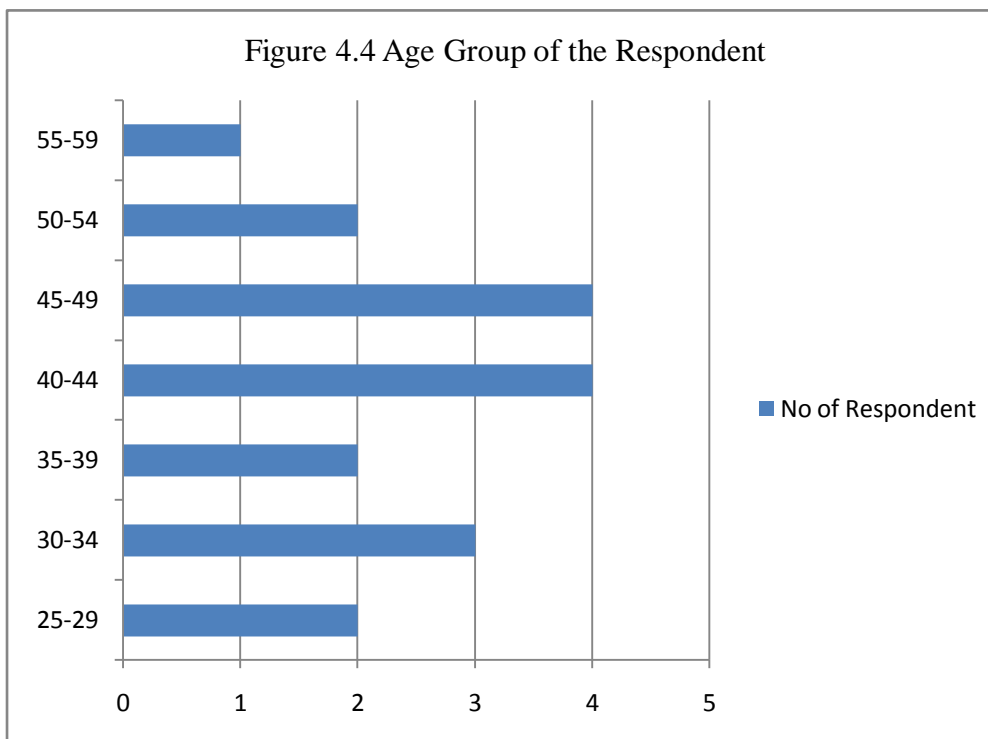
### 4.2.1 Age Group

The shareholders were surveyed during the study. In the study area age group were found from 25 years to as much as 59. The age group of the respondents is detail below.

Table 4.4 Age Group of the Respondent

Age of Respondent	Number	Percentage
25-29	2	11.1
30-34	3	16.7
35-39	2	11.1
40-44	4	22.2
45-49	4	22.2
50-54	2	11.1
55-59	1	5.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017



From, the table and figure 4.4 we find that respondents of age between years 25 to 29 were 2. Number of respondent between years 30 to 34 ages were 3. Similarly, respondents of age between 35 to 39, 40 to 44, 45 to 49, 50 to 54 and 55 to 59 were 2, 4, 4, 2, and 1 respectively. This shows that mostly respondents of age between 40 to 49 years were very interested in cooperatives than other age group.

#### 4.2.2 Gender

Male and female both were active participating in cooperative but the study area male were slightly higher numbers than female. Out of 18 respondents, 17 were male and only 1 were female. The composition of the respondent by the gender in detail is given below.

**Table 4.5 Gender Composition of Respondent**

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Male	17	94.4
Female	1	5.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Figure 4.5 Gender Composition of Respondent

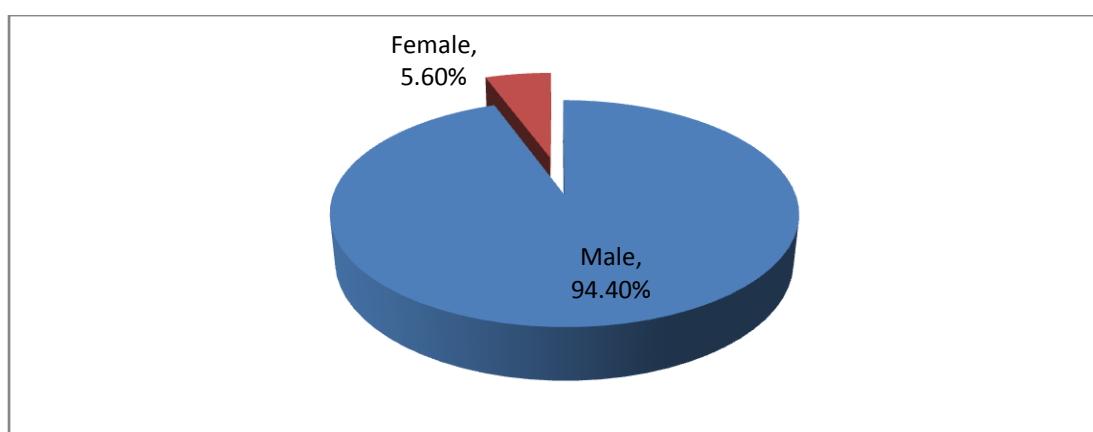


Table and figure 4.5 show that 94.4 percent respondents were male and 5.6 percent respondents were female. Female were less participated than male because society is still male dominated.

#### 4.2.3 Family Pattern

Family is a basic component of society. It is a group of different ages and sex living together under same roof. There is sympathy, cooperation and friendly environment. Thus family pattern has affected in the socio economic contribution of cooperative. The distribution of respondent by family pattern is shown in table below.

Table 4.6 Family Pattern of Respondent

Family Members	No. of Respondent	Percentage
3	3	16.7
4	6	33.3
5	4	22.2
6	4	22.2
10	1	5.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

The table 4.6 shows that 16.7 percent respondent live in 3 family members. Then, 33.3 percent respondents are in 4 family members, 22.2 percent are in 5 and 6 family members and 5.6 percent are in 10 family members respectively. It shows that maximum family numbers are nuclear.

#### 4.2.4 Education

Education plays vital role to human life. It enhances knowledge, skill, and attitude development of people. It helps to social and economic development. In the study level of education of the respondents were different which was discussed below.

Table 4.7 Distribution of Respondent by Education

Education	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Under SLC	2	11.1
SLC	4	22.2
+2	9	50.0
Bachelor	3	16.7
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

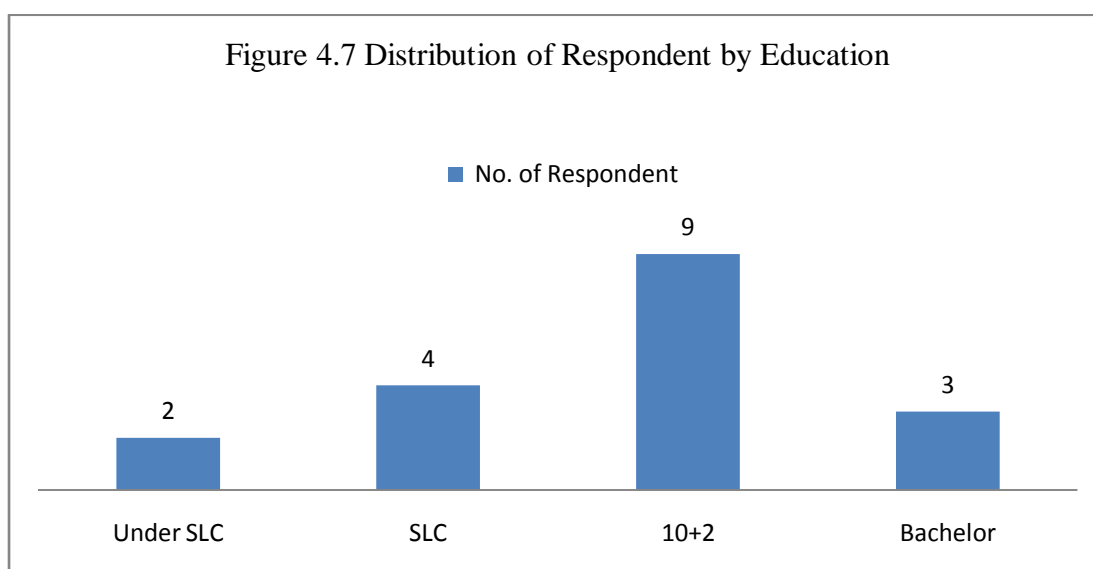


Table and figure 4.2.4 shows that out of 18 respondents, 2 were under SLC, 4 were SLC, 9 were 10+2 and 3 were bachelor level passed respectively. It shows that most of respondents are +2 and bachelor's level of education. It signifies that they were educated.

#### 4.2.5 Caste/Ethnicity

In the field study, most of the cooperative's members were Brahmins. Other caste participations were very poor. Which realities show the following table.

Table 4.8 Caste/Ethnicity

Caste	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Brahmins	13	72.2
Chhetri	2	11.1
Janajati	2	11.1
Dalit	1	5.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Figure 4.8 Caste/Ethnicity

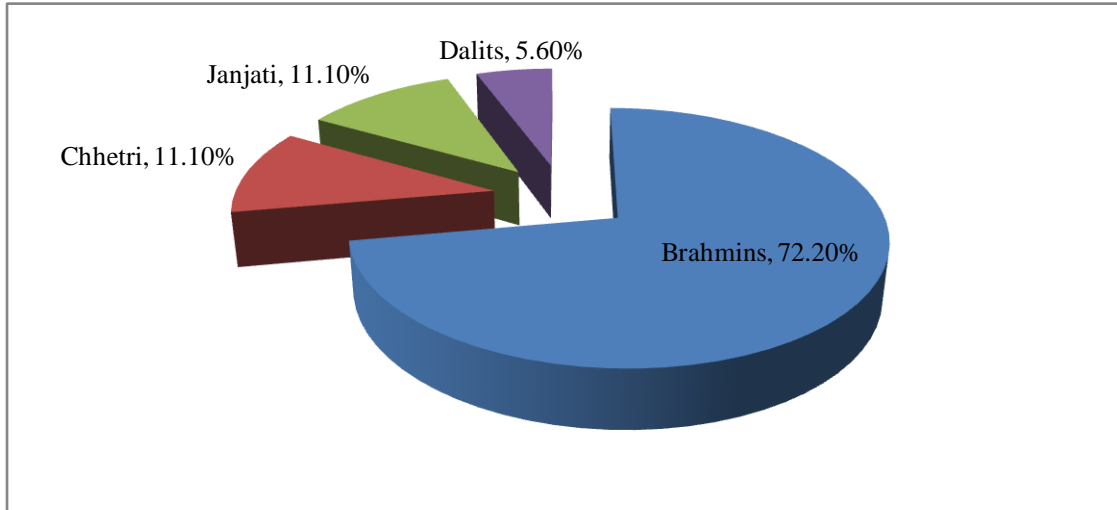


Table and figure 4.8 show that out of total respondents were 18. Among them 72.2 percent were, Brahmins, 11.1 percent were Chhetri and Janajati and 5.6 percent were Dalit respectively. This shows that Dalit participations were very poor in cooperatives.

#### 4.2.6 Religion

Table 4.9 Religion of Respondent

Religion	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Hindu	16	88.9
Buddhist	1	5.6
Christian	1	5.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

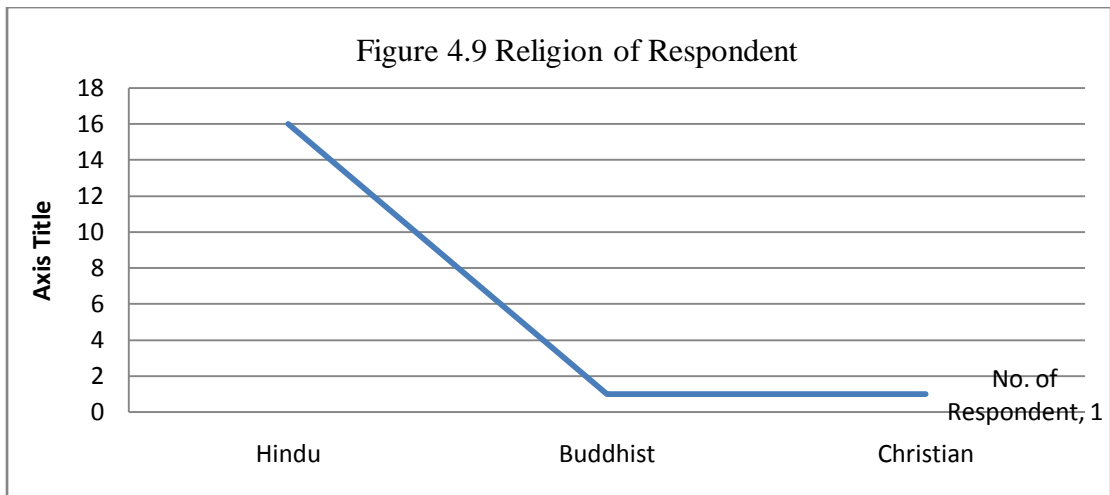


Table and figure 4.9 show that most of the respondents were Hindus and other religious people participation was not enough. It shows that 16 were Hindus. Buddhist and Christian were only one respectively.

#### 4.2.7 Involvement of Respondent in Cooperative

**Table 4.10 Involvement of Respondent in Cooperative**

Involvement	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Executive Member	8	44.4
Share Member	8	44.4
Adviser/Others	2	11.1
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

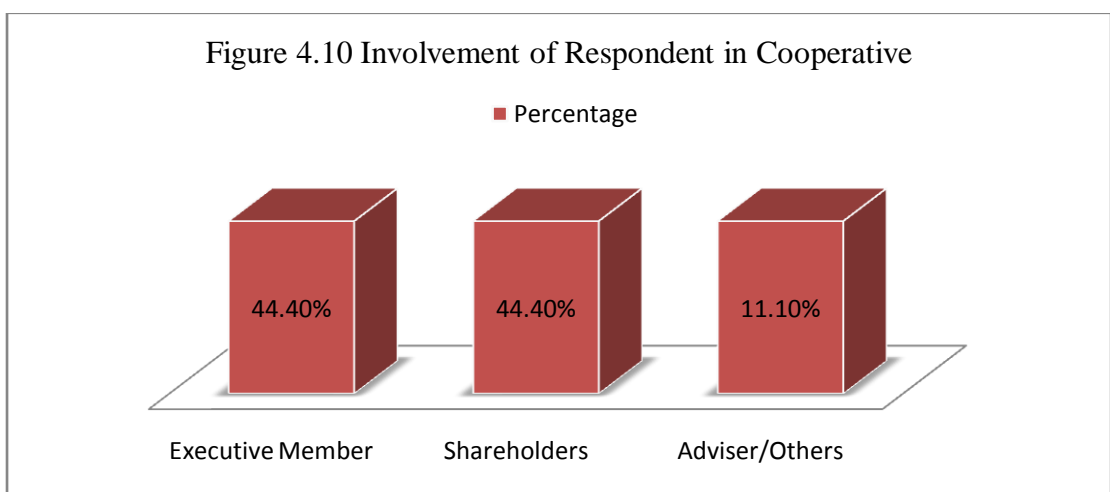


Table and figure 4.10 shows that each respondent was involved in cooperative organization. There were 44.4 percent respondents as executive members and as much as shareholders and 11.1 percent as adviser/others.

#### 4.2.8 Monthly Income of Respondent before and after Becoming of Cooperative Members

Income plays important role to living standard. It measures social and economical status. High income refers to better living standard than lower income. There are various sources to generate income. In the field study, all respondents were involved in Lekhapadhi professional. And the LPSCC has played a crucial role to enhance their income level.

Table 4.11 Monthly Income Before and After LPSCC

Monthly Income (Rs)	Before LPSCC		After LPSCC	
	No. of Respondent	Percentage	No. of respondent	Percentage
5000-10000	5	27.8	1	5.6
10000-15000	6	33.3	2	11.1
15000-20000	3	16.7	3	16.7
20000-25000	1	5.6	3	16.7
Above 25000	3	16.7	9	50.0
Total	18	100	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

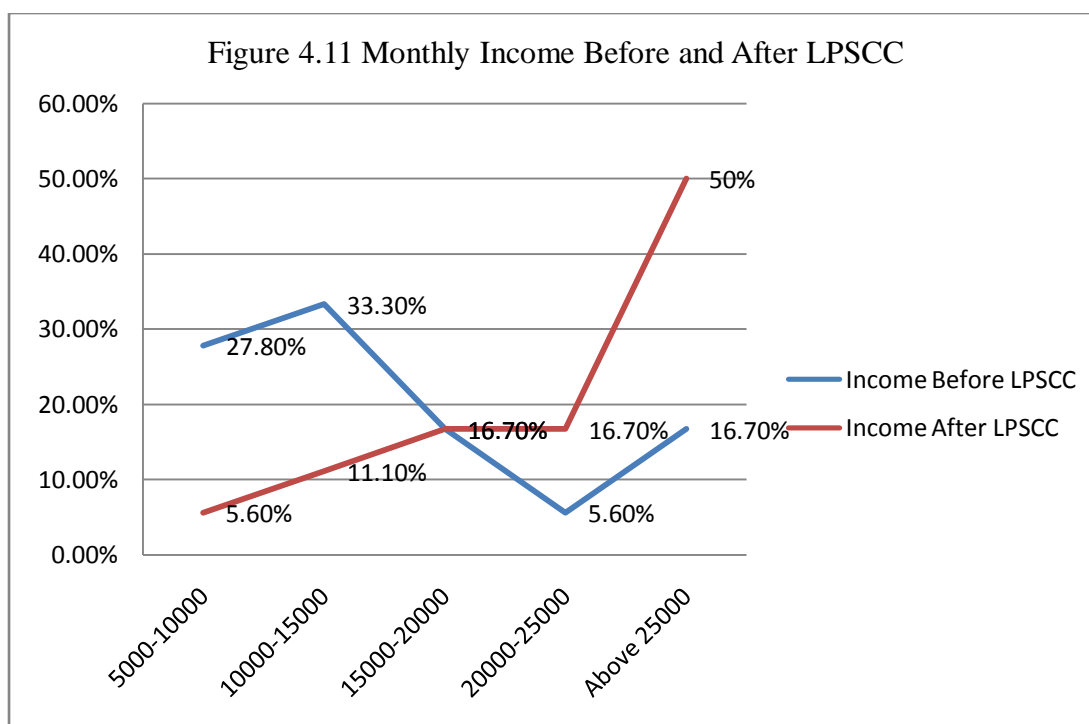


Table and figure 4.11 presents that 27.8 percent respondents earned monthly income Rs 5000 to 10000 before but it was 5.6 percent after LPSCC. Similarly, 33.3 percent respondent earned monthly income between Rs 10000-15000 before and it was 11.1 percent after LPSCC. 16.7 percent respondents earned between Rs 15000 to 20000 before and after LPSCC. Then, 5.6 percent respondents earned between Rs 20000 to 25000 before, but it was 16.7 percent alter LPSCC. Finally, it was shown very changes 16.7 percent respondents earned above 25000 before, but it was 50 percent alter LPSCC.

This shows that level of income of respondents have been increased before becoming cooperative members. Before LPSCC high numbers of respondents were lower level of income. Maximum respondents had earned below Rs 20000 before. Vice versa, it shows that after LPSCC lower numbers of respondents were lower level of income. After LPSCC, numbers of respondents percentage changes increasing with higher income level. It shows that 50 percent respondents had earned above Rs 25000 monthly income alter LPSCC.

#### 4.2.9 Monthly Saving of Respondent Before and After Becoming of Cooperative Members

Table 4.12 Monthly Saving Before and After LPSCC

Monthly Saving (Rs) (X)	Before LPSCC		After LPSCC	
	No. of Respondent (f1)	(f1X)	No. of Respondent (f2)	f2X
1000	4	4000	3	3000
2000	2	4000	0	0
3000	1	3000	0	9000
5000	5	25000	4	20000
7000	0	0	1	7000
10000	6	60000	2	20000
12000	0	0	1	12000
15000	0	0	4	60000
20000	0	0	2	40000
30000	0	0	1	30000
	N= 18	Sum of f1X=96000	N=18	Sum of f2X=201000

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Calculation of Average:-

Monthly Average Saving before LPSCC=  $\text{Sum of } f1X/N=96000/18=\text{Rs } 5333.33$

Monthly Average Saving after LPSCC=  $\text{Sum of } f2X/N=201000/18=\text{Rs } 11166.67$

Hence, average values signify that monthly saving has been increased with double. It means cooperative contributes to help for saving. And saving helps to capital formation. It also helps to quality life.

#### 4.2.10 Monthly Expenditure of Respondents of LPSCC

Table 4.13 Monthly Expenditure of Respondents

Expenditure Title	Monthly Expenditure in Rs	Percentage
Education	150000	36.19
Health	31000	7.48
Clothing	42000	10.13
Rent	54000	13.03
Communication	21500	5.19
Food	91000	21.95
Fuel	25000	6.03
Total	4145000	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Figure 4.13 Monthly Expenditure of Respondents

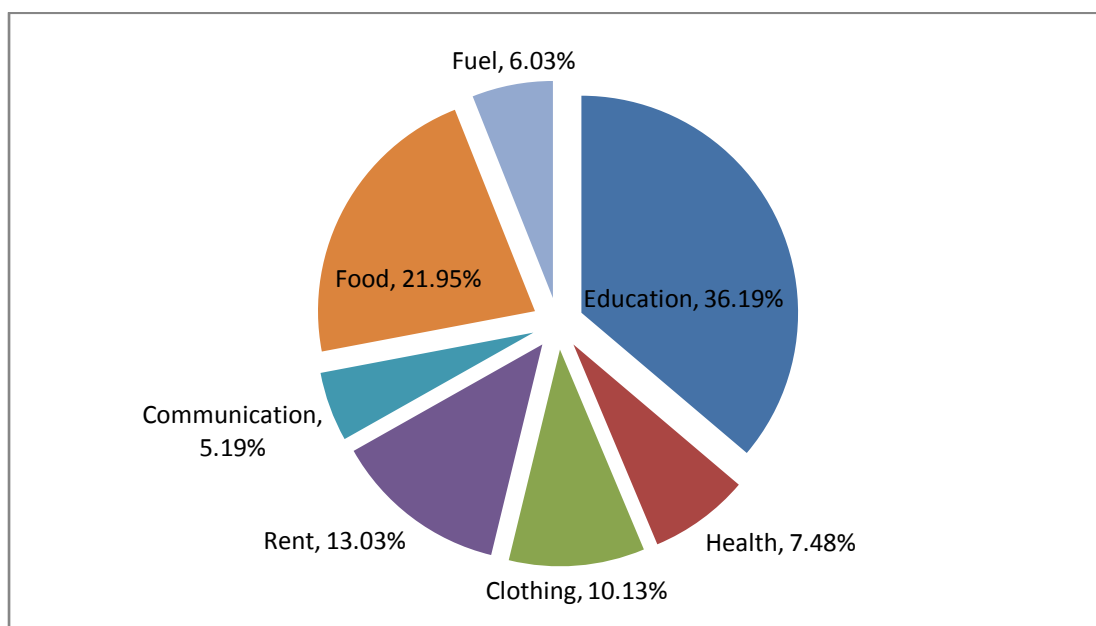


Table and figure 4.13 show that large scale of expenditure was in education sector as 36.19 percent. Then second large scale of expenditure was in food as 21.95 percent. Likewise, there were 13.03 percent in rent, 10.13 percent in clothing, 7.48 percent in health, 6.03 percent in fuel and 5.19 percent in communication.

## **Conclusion**

In the field study area various age group were found. Respondents were between 25 to 59 years. All of them 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 39, 40 to 44, 45 to 49, 50 to 54 and 55 to 59 were 2, 3, 2, 4, 4, 2, and 1 respectively. Male respondents were slightly higher numbers than female. Out of 18 respondents, 17 were male and only 1 were female. 16.7 percent respondents lived with 3 family members. Then, 33.3 percent with 4 members, 22.2 percent with 5 and 6 members and 5.6 percent were in 10 family members. So, maximum family numbers were nuclear. Out of total there were 18 respondents.

Out of 18 respondents, 2 were under SLC, 4 were SLC, 9 were 10+2 and 3 were bachelor level passed respectively. It shows that most of respondents are +2 and bachelor's level of education. Among them 72.2 percent were, Brahmins, 11.1 percent were Chhetri and Janajati and 5.6 percent were Dalit respectively. Which prove that Dalit participations were very poor involvement in the organization. Most of the respondents were Hindus and other religious people participation was not enough. It shows that 16 were Hindus. Buddhist and Christian were only one respectively.

Before joining in the LPSCC, respondents' monthly average saving was Rs 5333.33. After being LPSCC's member, their monthly saving increased, it was Rs 11166.67. 27.8 percent respondents earned monthly income Rs 5000 to 10000 before but it was 5.6 percent after LPSCC. Similarly, 33.3 percent respondent earned monthly income between Rs 10000-15000 before and it was 11.1 percent after LPSCC. 16.7 percent respondents earned between Rs 15000 to 20000 before and after LPSCC. Then, 5.6 percent respondents earned between Rs 20000 to 25000 before, but it was 16.7 percent alter LPSCC. Finally, it was shown very changes 16.7 percent respondents earned above 25000 before, but it was 50 percent after LPSCC. Large scale of expenditure was in education sector as 36.19 percent. Then second large scale of expenditure was in food as 21.95 percent. Likewise, there were 13.03 percent in rent, 10.13 percent in clothing, 7.48 percent in health, 6.03 percent in fuel and 5.19 percent in communication.

### 4.3 Measuring Living Standard

#### 4.3.1 Distribution of Luxury Goods

Table 4.14 Distribution of Luxury Goods

Particular Goods	No. of Respondent
Radio	11
TV	18
Motorcycle	8
Refrigerator	8
Computer	3
Laptop	4
Washing Machine	1
Photocopy	2

Source: Field Survey, 2017

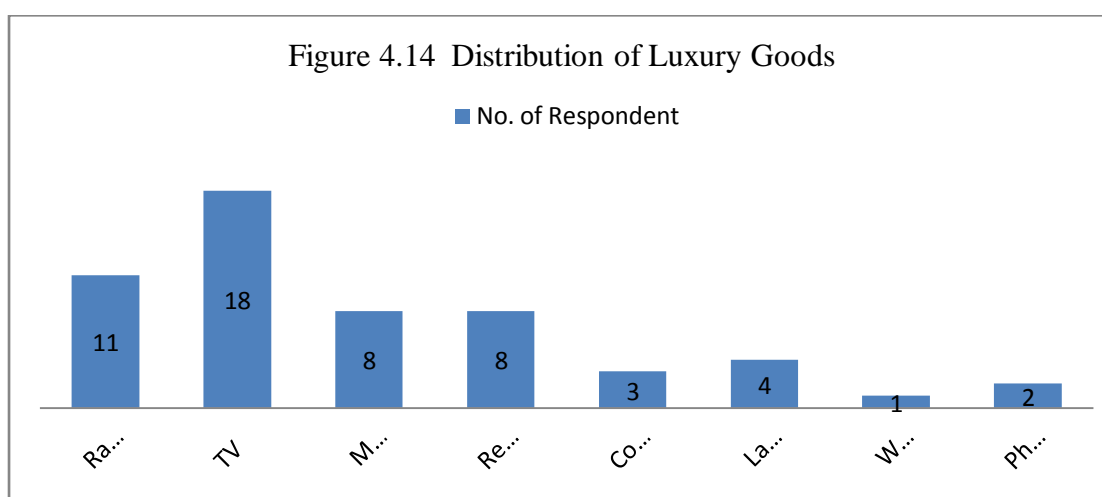


Table and figure 4.14 shows that 11 respondents had radios. 18 respondents had TV. 8 respondents had used motorcycles and refrigerators. 3 respondents had computers, 4 had laptops. Only one had a washing machine and 2 had photocopies.

#### 4.3.2 Drinking Water

Table 4.15 Drinking Water

Sources of Water	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Local Source	5	27.8
Piped Water	10	55.6
Public Piped Water	3	16.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

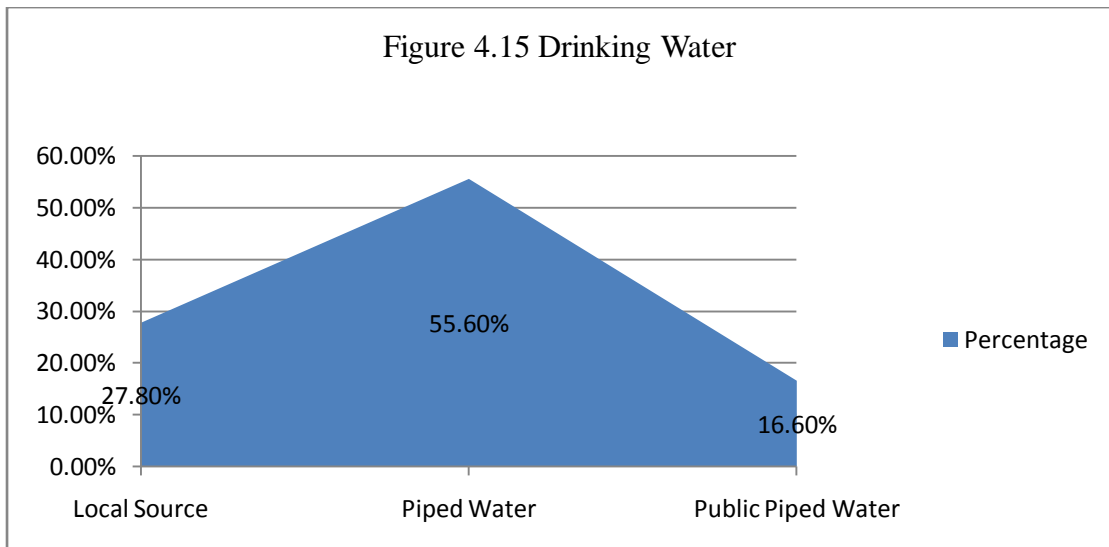


Table and figure 4.15 show that most of the respondents had used piped water. 27.80 percent had used local source. Similarly, 55.60 percent had used piped water and 16.60 percent had used public piped water.

#### 4.3.3 Toilet

Table 4.16 Toilet

Types of Toilet	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Kachi	2	11.1
Pakki	16	88.9
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 4.16 shows that almost respondents had used pakki toilet. 11.1 percent respondents had used kachi toilet.

#### 4.3.4 Fuel Consumption

Table 4.17 Fuel Consumption

Types of Fuel	No. of Respondent	Percentage
LP gas	15	83.3
Firewood and biogas	1	5.6
Bio and LP gas	1	5.6
Electricity and LP gas	1	5.6
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Figure 4.17 Fuel Consumption

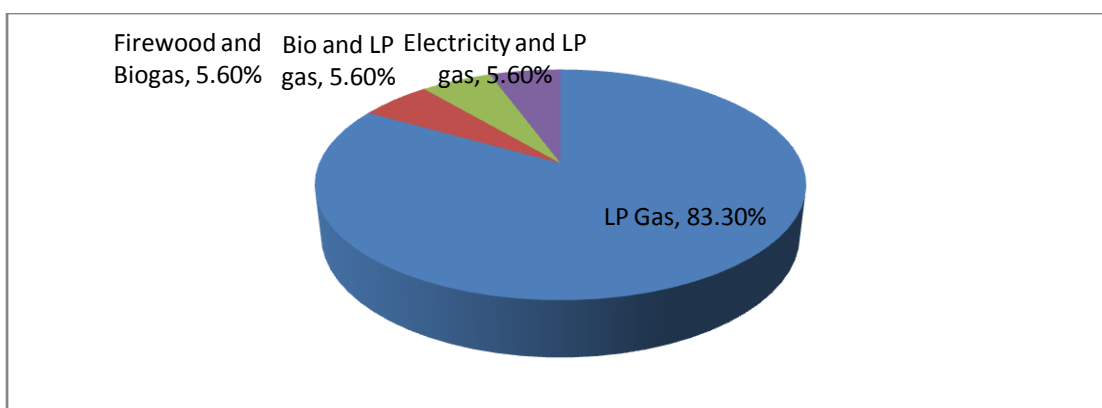


Table and figure 4.17 show that almost had used LP gas for cooking food. 83.3 percent respondents had used LP gas. Some of them, firewood, bio gas and electricity had used.

#### 4.3.5 Children Education and Health Treatment

Table 4.18 Children Education and Health Treatment

Children Education/ Health Treatment	School/College Percent	Hospital Percent
Government	22.2	77.8
Private	77.8	22.2
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

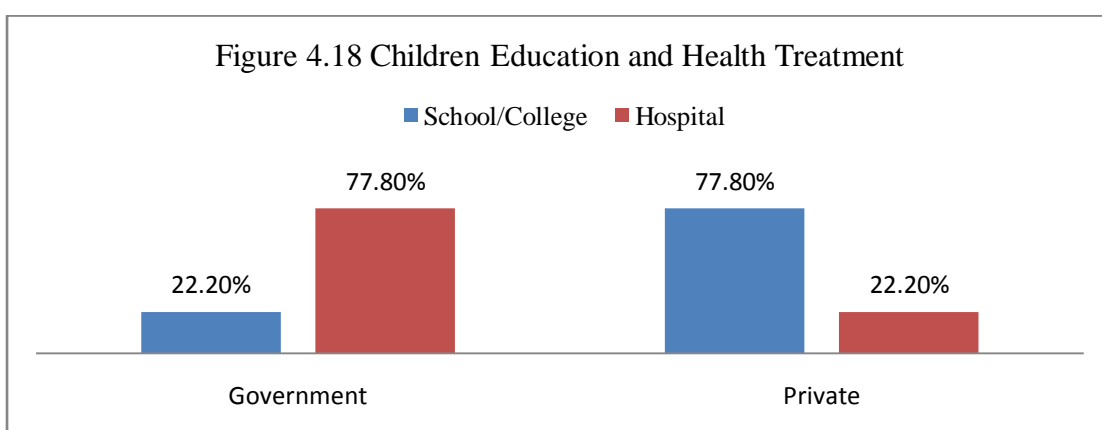


Table and figure 4.18 show that most of children of the respondents had studied in private school/college i.e. 77.8 percent and very few 22.2 percent children had gone to government school/college. Vice versa, most of the respondents had treatment in government hospital i.e. 77.8 percent and very few 22.2 percent respondents had gone to private hospital.

## Conclusion

11 respondents had radios. 18 respondents had TV. 8 respondents had used motorcycles and refrigerators. 3 respondents had computers, 4 had laptops. Only one had a washing machine and 2 had photocopies. Most of the respondents had used piped water. 27.80 percent had used local source. Similarly, 55.60 percent had used piped water and 16.60 percent had used public piped water. Almost respondents had used pakki toilet. 11.1 percent respondents had used kachi toilet.

83.3 percent respondents had used LP gas. Some of them, firewood, bio gas and electricity had used. Most of children of the respondents had studied in private school/college i.e. 77.8 percent and very few 22.2 percent children had gone to government school/college. Vice versa, most of the respondents had treatment in government hospital i.e. 77.8 percent and very few 22.2 percent respondents had gone to private hospital.

### 4.4 Social Contribution and Participation

#### 4.4.1 Participation of Cooperatives

Table 4.19 Participation of Cooperative

Involvement of cooperative	No. of Respondent	Percentage
One	7	38.9
More than one	11	61.1
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 4.19 shows that maximum numbers of respondents were involved more than one cooperative.

#### 4.4.2 Main Objectives to Become Members of the Cooperative

Table 4.20 Main Objectives to Become Members of the Cooperative

Objectives	No. of Respondent	Percentage
To save	8	44.4
To gain profit	1	5.6
To cooperate	4	22.2
To get loan	1	5.6
To gain profit and cooperation	4	22.2
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

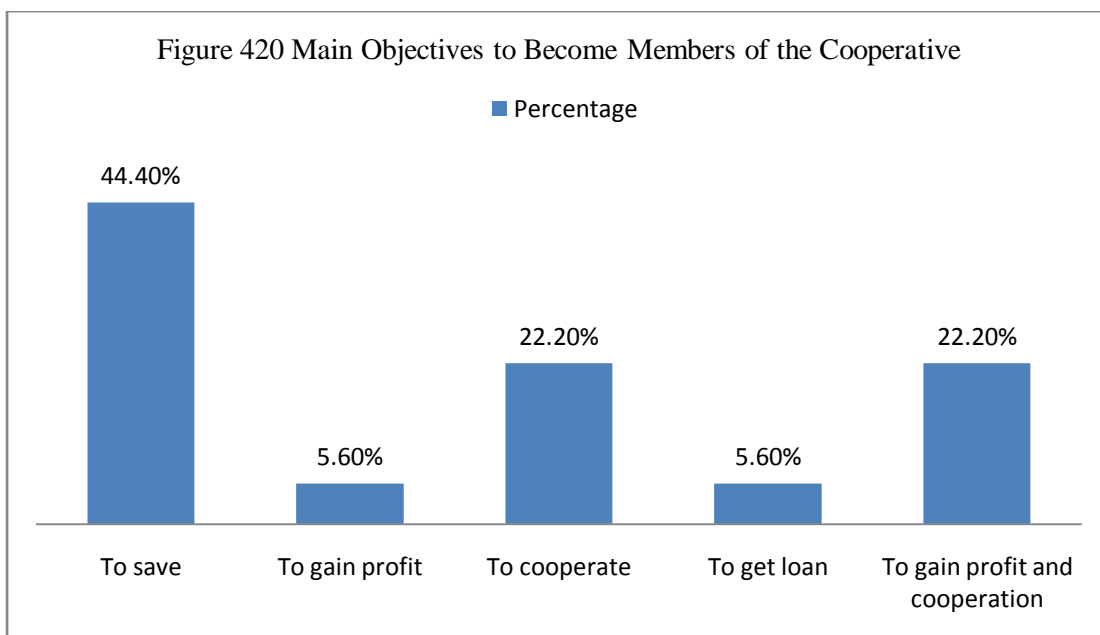


Table and figure 4.20 show 44.4 percent respondents were become cooperative's member to save money. 5.6 percent respondents were become to gain profit and take loan equally. And 22.2 percent respondents activated to cooperative motive and as same portion to gain profit and cooperation.

#### 4.4.3 Purpose of Taking Loan from Cooperative

Table 4.21 Purpose of Taking Loan from Cooperative

Purpose of Taking Loan	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Household expenditure	5	27.8
Education	4	22.2
Heath	2	11.1
To buying land	1	5.6
House construction	1	5.6
Business	1	5.6
No Loan	4	22.2
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

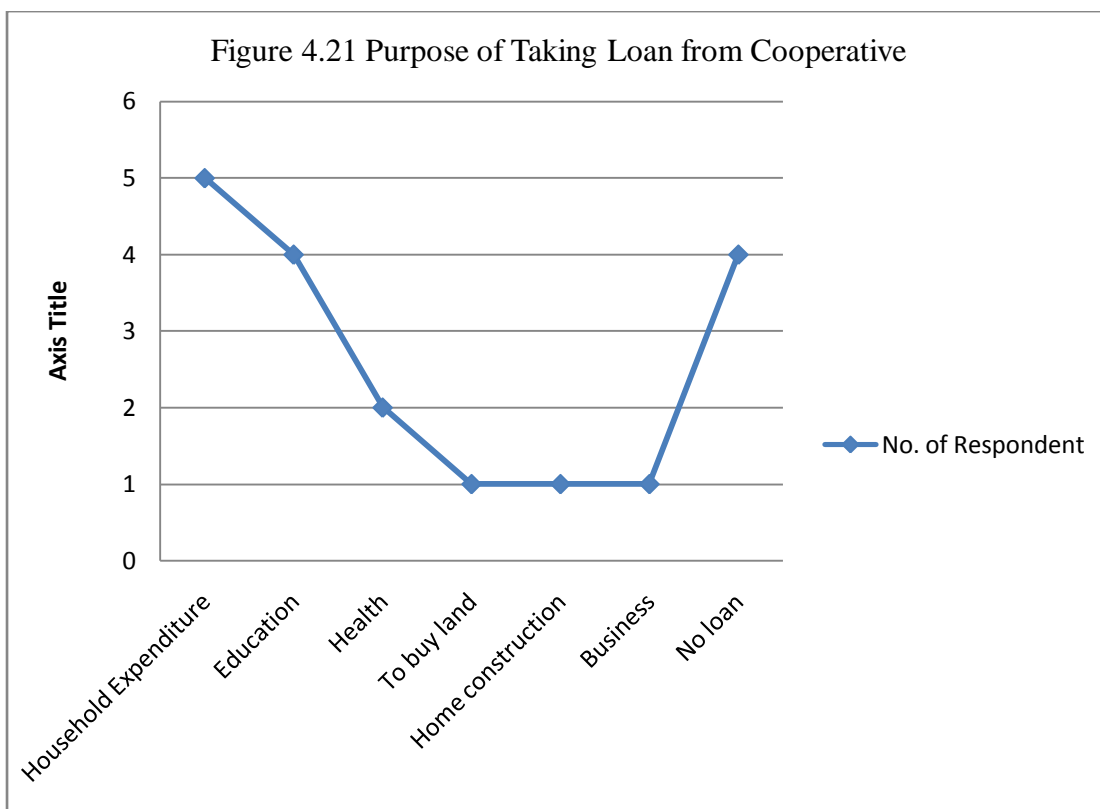


Table and figure 5.3.3 show that 5 respondents had been taken loan for household expenditure. 4 respondents had been for education, 2 respondents had been for health. 3 respondents had been taken loan for buying land, home construction and business. And 4 respondents had not been taken loan from this cooperative.

#### 4.4.4 Source of Loan before LPSCC

Table 4.22 Source of Loan before LPSCC

Source of Loan	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Relatives	9	50
Local Sahu	2	11.1
Bank	4	22.2
Cooperative	3	16.7
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

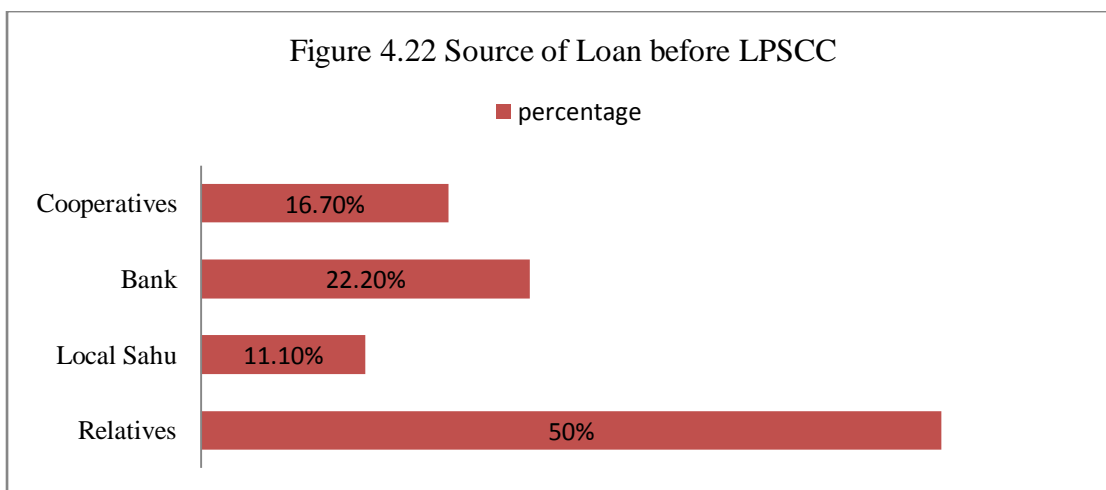


Table and figure 4.22 shows 50 percent respondents were fully dependent their relatives for loan before LPSCC. Then, 11.1 percent depended on local sahu, 22.2 depended on bank and 16.7 percent depended on cooperatives.

#### 4.4.5 Cause of Taking Loan from Cooperative

Table 4.23 Cause of Taking Loan from Cooperative

Causes of Taking Loan	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Low interest rate	4	22.2
Easy access	10	55.6
As cooperation	4	22.2
Total	18	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

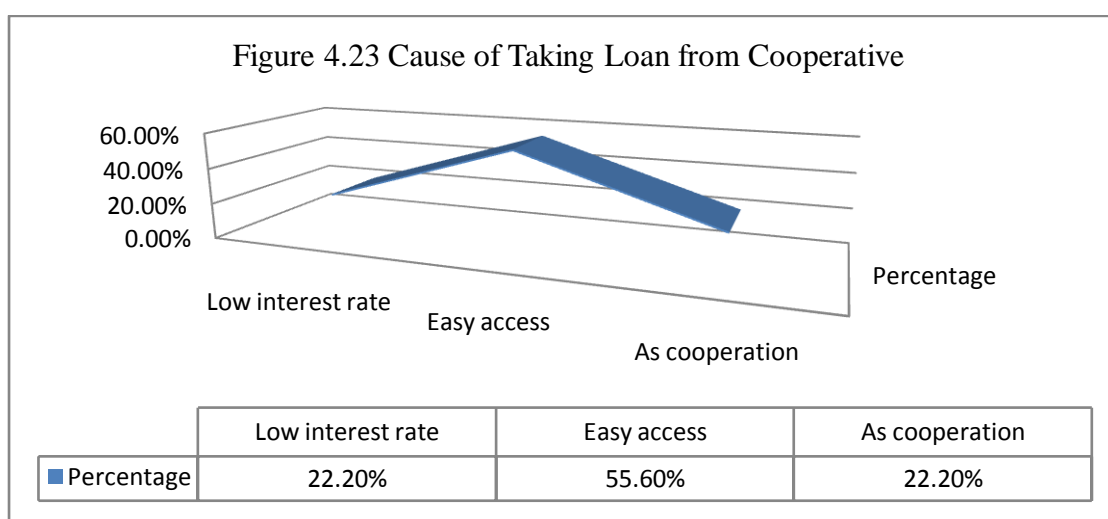


Table and figure 4.23 show that 22.2 percent respondents had been taken loan from cooperative, because it provided loan at low interest rate and same percent respondents had done as cooperative motive. 55.6 percent respondents had been taken because of easy access.

## **Conclusion**

Some of the respondents were involved more than one cooperative. 44.4 percent respondents were become cooperative's member to save money 5.6 percent respondents were become to gain profit and take loan equally. And 22.2 percent respondents activated to cooperative motive and as same portion to gain profit and cooperation. 5 respondents had been taken loan for household expenditure, 4 respondents had for education, 2 respondents had for health. 3 respondents had for buying land, home construction and business. And 4 respondents had not been taken loan from this cooperative. 50 percent respondents were fully dependent their relatives for loan before LPSCC. Then, 11.1 percent depended on local sahu, 22.2 depended on bank and 16.7 percent depended on cooperatives. 22.2 percent respondents had been taken loan from cooperative, because it provided loan at low interest rate and same percent respondents had done as cooperative motive. 55.6 percent respondents had been taken because of easy access.

## **CHAPTER-V**

### **FINDING, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This chapter summarizes the whole study, presents the conclusions and forwards the recommendations on basis of major findings.

#### **5.1 Major Findings of the Study**

A cooperative is an autonomous association. Its members voluntarily cooperate for their mutual, social, economic, and cultural benefit. Cooperatives include non-profit community organizations and businesses that are owned and managed by the people who use its service or by the people who live there. Most of cooperatives members are from poor and middle class household. Access to capital and market with equitable benefit sharing has positively contributed to poor household. The level of confidence on enterprising has increased through capital access, risk sharing and community support. People are benefited directly and indirectly involvement in the cooperatives.

The main objective of the study is to analyze socio-economic contribution of Lekhapadhi Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd, Gorkha. It focuses on analyze of cooperative's activities and socio-economical changes through saving and credit.

This research work is mainly based on primary data. Primary data is collected from the study field by using different techniques and tools like field survey, interviews, observation and structured questionnaire. The secondary data is taken whenever that is necessary from the different source like annual reports of related cooperatives organization, journals, articles, statistical reports, and previous thesis, and dissertation, homepages and so on. The random sampling is used and sample size is 50 percent households of the universe.

The study was carried on Lekhapadhi Professional Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd. Gorkha. Among 33 members of cooperative 18 was taken as a sample for study. Various aspects of the social and economic status of the sampled members were studied. Monthly income, monthly, monthly expenditure, purpose of taking loan, main achievement before and after enrolment to LPSCC were analyzed to find out and its socio economic contributions.

The Findings of the Study are as follows

1. Out of 18 respondents, 17 were male and only 1 was female.
2. The shareholders were surveyed during the study. In the study area age group were found from 25 years to as much as 59. The mostly respondents of age between 40 to 49 years were very interested in cooperatives than other age group.
3. Out of total respondents were 18. Among them 72.2 percent were, Brahmins, 11.1 percent were Chhetri and Janajati and 5.6 percent were Dalit respectively. This shows that Dalit participations were very poor in cooperatives.
4. Most of the respondents were Hindus and other religious people participation was not enough. It shows that 16 were Hindus. Buddhist and Christian were only one respectively.
5. Out of 18 respondents, 2 were under SLC, 4 were SLC, 9 were 10+2 and 3 were bachelor level passed respectively. It shows that most of respondents are +2 and bachelor's level of education. It signifies that they were educated.
6. Each respondent was involved in cooperative organization. There were 44.4 percent respondents as executive members and as much as shareholders and 11.1 percent as adviser/others.
7. 27.8 percent respondents earned monthly income Rs 5000 to 10000 before but it was 5.6 percent after LPSCC. Similarly, 33.3 percent respondent earned monthly income between Rs 10000-15000 before and it was 11.1 percent after LPSCC. 16.7 percent respondents earned between Rs 15000 to 20000 before and after LPSCC. Then, 5.6 percent respondents earned between Rs 20000 to 25000 before, but it was 16.7 percent alter LPSCC. Finally, it was shown very changes 16.7 percent respondents earned above 25000 before, but it was 50 percent alter LPSCC.
8. The level of income of respondents had been increased before becoming cooperative members. Before LPSCC high numbers of respondents were lower level of income. Maximum respondents had earned below Rs 20000 before. Vice versa, after LPSCC lower numbers of respondents were lower level of income. After LPSCC, numbers of respondents' percentage had been changed increasing with higher income level. 50 percent respondents had earned above Rs 25000 monthly income alter LPSCC.

9. Monthly average saving before LPSCC was Rs 5333.33 and after LPSCC, it was Rs 11166.67. Hence, average values signify that monthly saving has been increased with double. It means cooperative contributes to help for saving. And saving helps to capital formation. It also helps to quality life.
10. The large scale of expenditure was in education sector as 36.19 percent. Then second large scale of expenditure was in food as 21.95 percent. Likewise, there were 13.03 percent in rent, 10.13 percent in clothing, 7.48 percent in health, 6.03 percent in fuel and 5.19 percent in communication.
11. 11 respondents had radios. 18 respondents had TV. 8 respondents had used motorcycles and refrigerators. 3 respondents had computers, 4 had laptops. Only one had a washing machine and 2 had photocopies.
12. Most of the respondents had used piped water. 27.80 percent had used local source. Similarly, 55.60 percent had used piped water and 16.60 percent had used public piped water.
13. Almost respondents had used pakki toilet. 11.1 percent respondents had used kachi toilet.
14. Almost had used LP gas for cooking food. 83.3 percent respondents had used LP gas. Some of them, firewood, bio gas and electricity had used.
15. Most of children of the respondents had studied in private school/college i.e. 77.8 percent and very few 22.2 percent children had gone to government school/college. Vice versa, most of the respondents had treatment in government hospital i.e. 77.8 percent and very few 22.2 percent respondents had gone to private hospital.
16. Maximum numbers of respondents were involved more than one cooperative.
17. 44.4 percent respondents were become cooperative's member to save money. 5.6 percent respondents were become to gain profit and take loan equally. And 22.2 percent respondents activated to cooperative motive and as same portion to gain profit and cooperation.
18. 5 respondents had been taken loan for household expenditure. 4 respondents had been for education, 2 respondents had been for health. 3 respondents had been taken loan for buying land, home construction and business. And 4 respondents had not been taken loan from this cooperative.

19. 50 percent respondents were fully dependent their relatives for loan before LPSCC. Then, 11.1 percent depended on local sahu, 22.2 depended on bank and 16.7 percent depended on cooperatives.

20. 22.2 percent respondents had been taken loan from cooperative, because it provided loan at low interest rate and same percent respondents had done as cooperative motive. 55.6 percent respondents had been taken because of easy access.

## 5.2 Conclusion

In the study of LPSCC, most of respondent were male. Female participation was very rare. They were age between 25 to 59 years. Majority portion was Brahmins and Hidu. All respondents were educated

Compulsory saving has been adopted in this cooperative. One thousand rupees has to save individually per month by its member. The cooperative provides 10% interest per annum according to their deposit. Saving service has encouraged its members to save money. It enables members to save their money regular or their needs. According to the field study, the saving is compulsory. The cooperative has provided loan to its members with 13% interest per annum. Mainly savings and securities are vital role to invest its member.

Membership is the important and cooperatives as well as members. To become member s/he should pay Rs 5,000 for a share, Rs 200 for membership, Rs 100 for entry fee and Rs 1,600 for other fees to the cooperatives.

Most of cooperatives members are from poor and middle class background. Access to capital and market with equitable benefit sharing has positively contributed to poor household. The level of confidence on enterprising has increased through capital access, risk sharing and community support. People are benefitted directly and indirectly involvement in the cooperatives.

Findings show that their social and economical status has improved to join the organization. The cooperative positively contributes to social empowerment and economical development. All members are mutually benefitted. In the study of LPSCC, most of respondent were male. Female participation was very rare. They were age between 25 to 59 years. Majority portion was Brahmins and Hidu. All

respondents were educated. Each respondent was involved in cooperative. 50 percent respondents earned more than Rs 25000 and saved Rs 11170 monthly after LPSCC. The large scale of expenditure was in education. Their live standard was comfortable.

### 5.3 Recommendations

The following recommendation has been suggested for further improvement of the LPSCC Ltd;

1. LPSCC should take initiative to motivate women, Dalit, Janajati and marginalized group.
2. Awareness programs should be more focused.
3. Other sector or professional adapted person should be added and increased membership.
4. The cooperative should provide varieties service as regular saving, optional saving. It should be daily or weekly compulsory saving. Monthly saving rate should be increased.
5. It should be increased access of financial facilities.
6. Well management needs to professional staff, so the cooperative should be trained staff.
7. Capacities of fund volume should be increased.
8. Investment should be multi-sectors, it has to invest in agriculture sector, industrial sector, productive sector and so on.

## ANNEX-I

A survey on Socio Economic Contribution of Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd with reference to the Lekhapadhi Professional Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd. (LPSCC), Gorkha.

### Questionnaire

1. General Information of Respondent

Name:-.....

Address:-.....

Marital Status:-..... Age:-..... Cast:-.....

Religion:- A. Hindu B. Buddhist C. Muslim D. Christian E. Other

Sex: A. Male B. Female

Education:-..... Family:-..... Occupation:-

.....

2. Which position are you this organization?

3. How much amount of rupee did you earn in a month?

Before LPSCC

After LPSCC

.....

.....

4. What are the sources of income?

a. trade/business b. jobs c. agriculture d.

other.....

5. How much amount of rupee did you save in a month?

Before LPSCC

After LPSCC

.....

.....

6. Why did you become the member of this cooperative?

A. Saving for future B. To gain profit C. Other

7. Did you get loan from this cooperative?

A. Yes B. No If yes, then, what purpose:- .....

8. What is your loan source before?

A. Cooperative B. Relatives C. Bank D. Local money lender E. Other

9. What is the reason behind taking loan from cooperatives?

A. Low interest rate B. Easy Access C. Other

10. Means of Measuring Living Standard:

- A. Monthly Income :.....
- B. Monthly Expenditure
  - a. Education ..... b. Health..... c. Clothes..... d. Rent..... e. Heath..... f. Communication..... g. Other.....
- C. Luxury goods:
  - a. Radio..... b. Television..... c. Vehicle.... d. Refrigerator ....d. Other.....
- D. Drinking Water: a. Local Source b. Piped water c. River d. Piped water public
- E. Toilet:
- F. Fuel Consumption: a. Fire wood b. Firewood+Electricity c. Biogas d. LP gas
- G. Schooling: a. Government school/college..... b. Private school/college.....
- H. Health : a. Government hospital b. Private hospipals
- 11. How many cooperatives do you involve?
- 12. Is your making power increased after becoming members of cooperative?
  - A. Increased than before B. No any change before and after C. All decision taken by self
- 13. What is your greatest achievement to join here?  
 Ans: .....

Thank you for your participation

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