
“ROLE OF CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL PROGRESS IN PHALTAN TAHSIL”

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Abstract: History of Phaltan State.

Phaltan state was a very old, glorious, developing (small state) in southern Maharashtra. It was founded by First Nimbraj in 1284 A.D. It had experienced many political rise and falls and change of circumstances from 1284 to 1948. Generally, there were 25 rulers ruled in Naik-Nimbalkar dynasty. Shrimant Malojiraje alias Nanasaheb was the last 25th Ruler of Phaltan state and his regime was considered very important. He ruled/ governed from 1917 to 1948 for long time and started Phaltan's modernization. A co-operation movement was started in his regime in 1917 in Phaltan state.

Introduction:

Geographical location of Phaltan Tahsil-

The most of subjects of Phaltan Tahsil earn the land of state is settled/ dwelt in river-basin of Nira and Banganga and its length is 32 mile and width is 14 mile. the total area of agriculture is 2,54,043 and 1,50,875 acre is under irrigation. A standard of living will raise when farmers income increase, because of that co-operation movement was started by shrimant Malojiraje Naik Nimbalkar in his sansthan.

Co-operation Movement in Phaltan sansthan.

Co-operation means to do mutual / reciprocal co-operation or to help each other. Similarly, to do work organized and together for the benefit of all. co-operative movement means to establish an organization willingly to motivate to attain equal objectives and equal needs of people. For this mean shrimant Malojiraje founded co-operative societies in Taradgaon and Bibi in 1917 to release farmers in the clothes of private money lender in his state and made arrangements to finance farmers in low interest. For that he founded the Phaltan Bank Ltd a commercial bank in 18 July 1918 and provided loans to Patpedhies and co-operative societies with help of the bank.

In 1925 'Nira Right Bank Canal' work started and the problem of water solved in 1925 when 'Nira Ujwa Kalwa(Canal) had started in state. Shri Laxmi central co-operative Bank' was established in 3rd Feb.1926 to finance the agriculture. The Phaltan Bank was merged in this Bank Satara. District was considered a leading district in co-operative movement to solve the economical problems in this district on co-operative principles, co-operative movement entered in different fields like Mumbai reigns different parts.

Satara District central co-operative Bank Ltd., Satara.

The farmers in Satara district were economically weak. Hon. Yashwantrao Chavan brought together the activities with noble purpose who were fond of co-operation to give rise on institution which can finance the agriculture and sidelines in resonable rate. In accordance with North Satara District Central co-operative Bank was founded further on under the leadership of Shrimant Malojiraje Shri. Laxmi central co-operative Bank was merged into the North Satara District Central co-operative Bank in 15 August 1961 and It was nominated as Satara District Central co-operative Bank. All co-operative societies in Phaltan were connected to Satara because of banks unification. This Bank is a mother institue of all co-operative institutes for the development and healthy growth of co-operative societies in Tahsil around under 24 loan schemes loan was distributed. It had contributed in the development of Tahsil among that some important loan schems- a crop loan(short, medium, long term loans) sugar schemes, government's Pandhari schems, crop insurance scheme rural artisan schemes loan to the education institution to build building farmers loan schemes, loan for the drought affected and qualified unemployed in the same way for the upliftment and to lift the life of farmer and common people. Bank had taken the efforts to implement different type of schemes. Bank has given important contribution to make the social life enrich and different.

Shriram Co-Operative Sugar Factory Ltd., Phaltan.

Shri. Ram co-operative sugar factory is the first sugar factory in Phaltan Tahsil which works on the co-operative principle. There were 36 villages from North and East of Tahsil came under irrigation because of Nira Ujwa Kalwa (Canal) which went through the Bhatghar Dam in British Empire in 1925. So, The production of Sugar cane was incresed in this area. During this period, the function of land worshipping (Bhumi Pujan) of Prawara Co-operative Sugar Facotry took place of the inspiration of Shrimant Malojiraje in Maharashtra. He took the motivation from them and founded Shriram Co-operative Sugar factory in 1957. Next, The production was increased in southern dry area by using lift irrigation Method in factory area and it helped to devote the life of common people in Tahsil got the medium of economic income because of factory. Most of the workers and clerks were taken from Phaltan Tahsil and they got work. So there standard of living was improved or lifted. It became possible to finance in rural areas because of co-operative movement in Phaltan Tahsil. the finance was provided by many co-operative institutes. Farmers were escaped from the cluthes of many lender of co-operative institutes establishment and contributed in the development of social and economical growth of farmers. The finance provided by institutes was used for production so it helped to increse the production/ income of farmers. The finance provided by the co-operative institutes, the agro-based (small scaled business) business was done by on co-operative principles like revised seeds, agricultural equipments, chemical fertilizers, Modern gadgets like tractor, Co-operative lift irrigation, poultry- farming, dairy farming. It helped to the development of farmers.

Co-operative societies had played very important role to get reasonable rate to the goods of farmers in the farm in the Phaltan Tahsil. At Tahsil level all the farmers came together and founded 'Public Trading Federation' farmers sold their goods to this co-operative institute so goods got reasonable rate and production of goods incresed. It helped for the social and economical development of farmers. The important work was done by cosumer co-operative societies in the period of dearth/ shortage to distribute the necessaries of life. They provided

clean goods in reasonable reate and because of that the level of price of goods was balanced. The priciple of government admitted by co-operative societies of saving and avoidance of wastage and gave boost to the savings of rural people.

The improtance of things like integrity, fraternity, self- reliance, communal life style got encoragement in Tahsil. A thing came into farmers consideration that if they all worked together, they would get its benefit early and all. The awareness was created among the people about social indebttness. A few co-operative societies opened training cetres to give common and technical education as they got extra economic benefit from co-operation.

Because of above co-operative societies in Phaltan Tahsil a farm labour, worker, small businessman and industry people and tradesman got it's economic benefit. A drastic effect took place on the life of social & economical of common people.

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