

Success of cooperative farming lies in various reasons:

- Cooperatives did not remain restricted to farming activities only. Cooperative organisation in milk, sugar, banking etc formed **complementary institutions for development of each other.**
- **The rural politics in Maharashtra largely controlled by these cooperatives.** Hence political currency gained by cooperatives compelled state government to provide necessary support in the form of SAP- state advised prices for sugarcane.
- **Dedicated political parties like Shetakari Sanghatana** helped to maintain continuity in farmers welfare.

Challenges in respect of co-operative farming in India

- Co-operative farming failed to make a frontal attack on the prevailing inequality in the economic structure as the traditional status distinction of land owners, landless labourers and sharecroppers are still being maintained. Mechanisation of agriculture through co-operative farming will squeeze the scope of employment and is likely to make workers redundant in the rural areas. Co-operative farming is not the only method to raise agricultural productivity. There is the availability of better alternatives like adoption of HYV seeds, fertilisers, implements etc. for raising the productivity of agriculture.

Way forward:

- **Success of cooperative movement has restricted** to few states like Maharashtra and Gujarat. At all India level cooperatives have failed put their positive impact. Due to political control and corruption in the cooperative institutions.
- **FPC :**
 - It is a **hybrid between cooperatives and private limited company registered under companies act.** It would **plug the structural vulnerabilities of agriculture sector.**
 - It organise farmers into collective group to **improve their bargaining strength.**
 - They are owned and governed by shareholder farmers and **administered by professional managers.**
 - It combines **good principles of cooperatives and efficient practices of companies.**
 - FPC's would increase farmers control over company under statutory provisions thus removes flaws of cooperative organisation.
 - Success story of largest FPC – **Sahyadri farms** can be replicated throughout the country.
- **Dedicated ministry and success of FPC model** can rejuvenate the agriculture sector and can play vital role in realising goal of doubling the farmers income.

6. Collective Farming:

- The basic principle behind this type of farming is based on **social ownership of the means of production and collective labour.**
- **Collective farming or the model of Kolkhoz** was introduced in the erstwhile Soviet Union to improve upon the inefficiency of the previous methods of agriculture and to boost agricultural production for self-sufficiency.
- The farmers used to pool in all their resources **like land, livestock and labour.** However, they were allowed to retain very small plots to grow crops in order to meet their daily requirements.
- **Benefits :**
 - **Economy of scale:** Pooling of land and means of production helps in realising **fruits of economy of scale.**
 - **Fair distribution:** Distribution of output as per individual inputs.
 - **Social harmony:** It helps in **social harmony** as farmers belong to **different cast and creed come together** and practice farming.