

## **Agricultural Marketing**

41. A network of cooperatives at the national level, state level and at primary level operates to help farm producers with access and farther reach for sale of produce. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) , The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), National Cooperative Tobacco Growers' Federation Ltd., the National Consumers' Cooperative Federation and the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) which attends specifically to the marketing problems of the tribal areas are some of the important institutions working in the field of agricultural marketing.

42. During 1997-98 some important steps were taken to deregulate agricultural trade and remove market restrictions. Cold storage order 1980 and Rice Milling industries (Regulation) Act 1958 were repealed. Futures trading in ginned and baled cotton and jute goods were allowed. International Castor Oil Futures Exchange is being setup at Mumbai. These are important steps in the directions of market liberalisation in agricultural products.