

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION







NANDINI SAHAKAR

Summary

Nandini Sahakar by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is a women focused framework of financial assistance, project formulation, hand-holding and capacity development aimed at assisting women cooperatives take up business model based activities in any sector, except urban housing. There is no minimum or maximum limit on financial assistance to projects by women cooperatives. Women cooperatives are those which are registered as women cooperative under any State / Central Act or those cooperatives which have minimum 50% women as primary members. Any cooperative society with three months in operation is eligible to apply for assistance which will be in the form of credit linkage for infrastructure term loan and working capital, dovetailed with subsidy or interest subvention from other schemes of Government / Agencies. Nandini Sahakar is aimed at assisting women run businesses and meeting the Atmanirbhar Bharat objectives.

NCDC has come up with this purely women in cooperatives focused Nandini Sahakar scheme where financial assistance (credit linkage by NCDC, converged with subsidy

"New India is the one where women are strong and empowered and are equal partners in the development of the country."

- Shri Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister

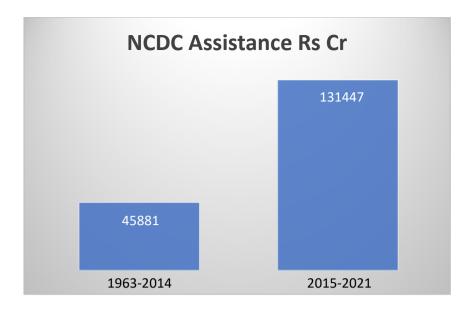
and incentives from other Gol/ State Govt. / UT Admn. / agency schemes) would be delivered online or by the pan-India network of NCDC offices.

About NCDC

NCDC is an apex level statutory autonomous institution set up by the Government of India under an Act of the Parliament in 1963 exclusively for cooperatives at Primary, District, Apex / Multi-state and national level. It plans and promotes programmes for production, processing, marketing, storage, supply chain, export and import of agricultural produce, foodstuffs, industrial goods, livestock, commodities and services like tourism, rural housing, renewable energy, banking, hospital & healthcare and education etc. on cooperative principles. It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India. It operates on open market principles, without any budgetary support from the Government.

Through its SAHAKAR-22 framework, NCDC plays an important role in **Doubling the Farmers' Income.** Beginning with disbursement of Rs.2.36 crore in 1963, NCDC disbursed Rs.24733.24 crore in 2020-21. NCDC has so far disbursed around **Rs.1.87 lakh crore** to cooperative societies, with **recovery of more than 98%** and made profit every year since 1963, with **ZERO net NPA**.

NCDC has achieved **286%** increase in disbursement amount during 2015-21 compared to 1963-2014 period.



NCDC is a financial powerhouse delivering to the client cooperatives a wide range of products and services. It is an ISO 9001:2015 certified organisation. It follows a simple, transparent, and robust system of appraisals and approvals through its 18 Regional Offices or Head Office in New Delhi. It is the most preferred financial institution for cooperatives. NCDC-LINAC provides projects consultancy, research and training support to cooperatives in India and abroad.

<u>Objectives</u>

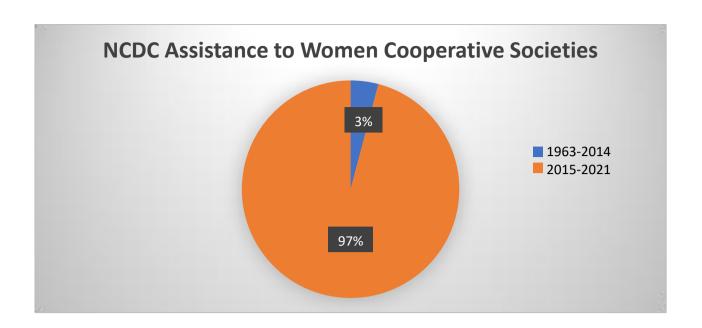
Aligning itself with the principles of *Atmanirbhar Bharat* outlined by Hon'ble Prime Minister, NCDC has introduced the Nandini Sahakar framework of assistance to improve socio-economic status of women. It supports entrepreneurial dynamism of women through women cooperatives. It converges critical inputs of women's enterprise, business plan formulation, capacity development, credit and subsidy and / or interest subvention of other schemes. NCDC, on its own, or as agency of flagship programs of many Ministries has been implementing sectoral schemes. Nandini Sahakar is a focused framework and aims at extending financial assistance exclusively to women cooperatives involved in activities coming under the purview of NCDC.

NCDC for Women

Since 1963 and upto FY 2020-21, NCDC had sanctioned Rs.3655.30 cr and released Rs.2958.29 cr for women cooperatives, of which, assistance sanctioned and released during the years from 2014-15 to 2020-21 is Rs.3465.63 crore and Rs.2868.40 cr., respectively. Almost 97% of NCDC's cumulative assistance to women cooperatives has taken place in last seven years. Since 2014-15 NCDC has assisted 104553 cooperative societies having 9.95 crore members of which 3.56 crore are women.

Eligibility

Any Women Cooperative Society registered under any State/ Multi State Cooperative Societies Act in the country is eligible. Any cooperative society with minimum 50% women members at primary level is also eligible. In case of projects related to new and/ or innovative activities, women cooperatives which are in operation for at least three months, are also eligible for assistance under the scheme as per applicable NCDC guidelines.



Indicative Business Activities

Nandini Sahakar assists, except urban housing, any business plan based activity /service mandated to NCDC, for example, agro-processing, supply chain, value addition, logistics, farm mechanization, retail, marketing of food grains, input supply, plantation, horticulture, rural housing, weaker section programs, tribal cooperatives, dairy, poultry, livestock, fishery, handloom, coir, jute, sericulture, computerization, textiles, infrastructure of PACS / Credit / Marketing cooperatives, agriculture insurance, water conservation works / services, tourism, hospitality, transport, hospital / health care/ Yoga wellness facility, education, generation & distribution of power, non-conventional and renewable sources of energy etc.

Mode of Assistance

NCDC assistance is provided either DIRECTLY or through State Government/ UT Administration to eligible cooperatives. Convergence of NCDC credit linkage with schemes of Government of India (such as AIF, CSISAC, DIDF, FIDF, 10,000 FPO, FFPO, PMMSY, PM FME, MSME etc.) or with any scheme of State Government / UT / Development Agencies or with bilateral / multilateral assistance/ CSR Foundations etc is encouraged.

Application Process

Desirous women cooperatives may access Sample Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) available on NCDC website. Guidance videos on how to form a cooperative society are available on NCDC Sahakar CoopTube Channel on YouTube in 21 languages (Sahakar Cooptube NCDC India - YouTube). Guidance video on how to apply under Nandini Sahakar is available on NCDC web portal (https://nandini.ncdc.in). Willing women cooperatives can apply online on the dedicated NCDC web portal or to the NCDC Regional Offices across the country. The details of Regional Offices are available on www.ncdc.in. These Regional Offices would be happy to help women cooperatives in local language, in the application process.

Project Cost

There is no minimum or maximum cap on project cost in case of viable proposals by women cooperative societies which are operating successfully for at least three years. The project cost includes infrastructure, margin money and working capital. The project cost limits are as follows:

SI No.	Length of operation of applicant coop. society	Maximum Project Cost Rs. crore
1.	> 3 months and < 1 year	1.00
2.	> 1 year and <3 years	3.00
3.	> 3 years	As per actual requirement (no limit)

Loan Períod

Period of loan will be 5-8 years, including 1-2 years of moratorium on repayment of principal, depending on the type of project and revenue streams.

Funding Pattern

Project proposals would be supported under following funding pattern:

1. Infrastructure Creation (Project Facilities)

Funding through St	Direct Funding	
NCDC to State Govt. /UT	State Govt. /UT to Society	NCDC to Society
Loan* - 90%	Loan* - 50% Share Capital** - 40%	Loan* - 70%
Society's share - 10%	Society's share - 10%	Society's share - 30%

^{*} In case subsidy/ grant under any scheme of Central Government / State Govt/ UT / Dev Agencies / bilateral / multilateral assistance / CSR mechanisms, as credit linkage, is dovetailed, the loan amount may be reduced proportionately.

2. Margin Money

Funding through	Direct Funding	
NCDC to State Govt. /UT	State Govt. /UT to Society	NCDC to Society
Loan* for availing Bank credit. 100%***	Loan* or Share Capital or Loan- cum Share capital 100%***	Loan* 100%***

^{*} In case subsidy/ grant under any scheme of Central Government / State Govt/ UT / Dev Agencies / bilateral / multilateral assistance / CSR mechanisms, as credit linkage, is dovetailed, the loan amount may be reduced proportionately.

^{**} In case share capital is not contributed by State Govt./UT, the same (40%) shall also be passed on as loan to Society.

^{***} Eligibility of Margin Money assistance is subject to assessment.

3. Working Capital as per requirement.

In case of new and innovative project activities, women cooperatives would be supported with pattern of funding with debt: equity 80:20 under Direct Funding.

Implementation Horizon

Nandini Sahakar, being a framework of assistance to women cooperatives by NCDC, without any recourse to Government budgetary support, does not have a sunset clause envisaged at this stage. The initial time horizon is for five years, that is, from FY 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Rate of Interest

For credit linkage, NCDC circular on interest rate published from time to time depending on market conditions, shall be applicable.

Interest Subvention

Assistance in the form of interest subvention can be as follows depending on the nature of activities:

- **a.** Interest subvention for new and innovative activities: NCDC will provide 2% interest subvention on its rate of interest on term loan portion for new and innovative activities.
- **b. Interest subvention for other activities:** NCDC will provide 1% interest subvention on its rate of interest on term loan portion for all other activities.

NCDC interest subvention incentive shall be applicable for timely repayments. Interest subvention or subsidy or support from other schemes of Government of India or any scheme of State Government / UT / Development Agencies or bilateral / multilateral assistance is encouraged and permitted.

Security

NCDC assistance is provided either under Direct Funding or through State Government / UT. In case of direct funding, cooperative society may offer security for loan in any one or combination of the following to the satisfaction of NCDC:

- a) Mortgage of assets, including assets to be created under the project, to the extent of 1.5 times of NCDC loan;
- b) Guarantee by State/ UT / Central Government;
- c) Pledge of FDRs of Scheduled banks/ Nationalized banks, to the extent of 1.2 times of NCDC loan;
- d) Guarantee by Central PSUs/ Statutory bodies/ CSR Foundations of Central PSUs;
- e) Guarantee from Scheduled Banks/ Nationalized Banks;
- f) Hypothecation and assignment of Government bonds/ securities to the extent of 1.2 times of NCDC loan;
- g) Guarantee of credible cooperative institutions, that is, institution with sound financial condition and proven track record;

- h) Guarantee of Small Farmers' Agri Business Consortium (SFAC)/ North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi)/ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)/ Credit Guarantee Fund;
- i) Personal guarantee of Board of Directors/members in the form of Fixed Deposit Receipts (FDRs).

Subsidy

Nandini Sahakar can be dovetailed with existing schemes of Government of India (such as AIF, CSISAC, 10,000 FPO, PKVY, PMMSY, DIDF, FIDF, PM FME, MSME, MoRD, MWCD etc.) / State Government / UT Admn or with any future scheme or with bilateral / multilateral assistance or development agencies/ CSR mechanisms, as credit linkage. However, if the project cost includes working capital loan component, the subsidy would be eligible only for capital investment of the project cost (excluding working capital). To ensure speedy and smooth implementation of projects, eligible loan can be provided in-lieu of subsidy. The subsidy, as and when received by NCDC for onward disbursement, would be adjusted against the loan account.

Disbursement of Funds

NCDC assistance is disbursed as per terms and conditions of release letter. To ensure speedy and smooth implementation of projects, eligible loan can be provided in lieu of subsidy. Government subsidy, as and when received by NCDC for onward disbursement, would be adjusted against the loan amount given in lieu of subsidy.

Capacity Development

Capacity building of women cooperatives is an ongoing activity of NCDC and will be available for Nandini Sahakar as promotional and development role of the Corporation. Women members of cooperatives will undergo training through NCDC-LINAC at Gurugram or through its 18 Regional Training Centres across the country.

Due Diligence

NCDC would adopt its standard practice of appraisal and due diligence before any project is sanctioned.



National Cooperative Development Corporation

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