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Income, Growth and Social Role of LAMPS Cooperatives in Koppa Taluk

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Large Adivasi Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies (LAMPS) play a vital role in strengthening the economy of tribal and rural areas. They provide members with access to markets, credit, subsidies, and essential services while also enabling collective growth. This article analyses the sources of income, annual growth, population coverage, and loan facilities of a LAMPS cooperative in Koppa Taluk, based on data from 2015–2025.

Sources of Income

The cooperative earns its revenue from **diverse streams**, though agriculture and forest products dominate.

Table 1: Sources of Income

Source of Income	Percentage (%)
Sale of agricultural produce	30%
Sale of forest products	25%
Banking services	15%
Government support	10%
Profit from shops	8%
Member fees	7%
Industrial activity	5%

Discussion

- Agriculture (30%) and forest products (25%) together make up over half the income, showing heavy dependence on natural resources.
- Banking services (15%) and government aid (10%) provide stability through regular inflow of funds.
- Small but important contributions come from shops (8%), membership fees (7%), and industry (5%).

This highlights the need for diversification, so the cooperative is not overly vulnerable to crop failures, forest restrictions, or price fluctuations.

Annual Growth of Income (2015–2025)

Over the last decade, the cooperative has shown **steady income growth**, except for a dip in 2018.

Table 2: Annual Income Growth (₹ Lakhs)

Year	Income (Lakhs)
2015	50
2016	55
2017	63
2018	60
2019	65
2020	70
2021	75
2022	78
2023	80
2024	85
2025	90

Discussion

- From ₹50 lakhs in 2015 to ₹90 lakhs in 2025, the income has risen by 80% in 10 years.
- The small fall in 2018 (₹63 → ₹60 lakhs) reflects external risks like market volatility, weather changes, or forest product shortages.
- After 2020, the cooperative grew by nearly ₹5 lakhs each year, reflecting stronger management, government schemes, and active member participation.

Population Coverage of the Cooperative

LAMPS serves a significant tribal population with near gender balance.

Table 3: Population Served by LAMPS in Koppa Taluk

Women	Men	Total
1,800	1,830	3,630

Discussion

- The population is almost evenly split (only 30 more men than women).
- This balance is a good sign for gender inclusion in cooperative activities.
- If more women are actively encouraged into leadership and entrepreneurship, the social and economic impact of the cooperative will increase.

Loan Facilities under NSTDC and Government Schemes

LAMPS members benefit from a range of low-interest loans designed for agriculture, women's empowerment, education, and industry.

Table 4: Loan Schemes for Tribal Members

Type of Loan	Maximum Amount	Interest Rate
Medium-term agriculture loan	₹10,00,000	3%
Tribal women subsidy scheme	₹2,00,000	4%
Micro-loan scheme	₹50,000	4%
Education loan	₹10,00,000	6%
Machinery loan	₹1,50,000	5%

Discussion

- Agriculture loans at 3% help small farmers adopt technology and improve productivity.
- Women's subsidy loans promote female entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.
- Micro-loans support daily businesses like petty trade or handlooms.
- Education loans up to ₹10 lakhs ensure better access to higher education.
- Machinery loans contribute to rural industrial growth.

Clearly, these schemes **empower the tribal community through credit access at concessional rates.**

Major Findings

1. **Diverse income sources:** Agriculture and forest sales dominate, but other streams like banking and shops also contribute.
2. **Steady income rise:** 80% growth between 2015–2025 reflects efficient management.
3. **Balanced population:** Near-equal gender ratio offers opportunities for inclusive participation.
4. **Strong loan facilities:** Wide range of low-interest loans strengthens agriculture, education, and women's empowerment.

Conclusions

- LAMPS has evolved into a stable and expanding economic institution.
- Both men and women are fairly represented in the population served, making gender-inclusive programs feasible.
- Government and NSTDC schemes have direct positive impacts on livelihoods and education.

Recommendations

1. Diversify income sources beyond agriculture and forest products into IT services, agro-processing, and industry.
2. Strengthen women's participation through leadership training and self-help groups.
3. Improve awareness of loan schemes so more members can benefit.
4. Invest in education and skill development to create employment for tribal youth.
5. Use digital technology for accounting, sales, and transparent governance.

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