Cooperative Development Fund (CDF)

- The broad objectives of the Fund are to support the efforts of the ground level credit institutions for mobilisation of resources, human resource development through training, building up of better Management Information System (MIS) by adoption of technology, conduct of special studies/seminars/workshops for improving functional efficiency of rural cooperatives etc. The assistance is provided by way of grant, soft loan or grant-cum-soft loan. The support under the fund is provided to the institutions like StCBs, SCARDBs, DCCBs, PACS, Cooperative Federations, etc.

- The major areas of assistance under CDF include Infrastructure Development in PACS, SOFTCOB (Scheme of Financial Assistance for Training of Cooperative Banks’ Personnel), PACS Development Cell (PDC), capacity building programmes conducted by BIRD (Lucknow, Manglore & Bolpur), technology upgradation, etc.

- A scheme for comprehensive support plan for NER including Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Island and J&K has been introduced keeping in view the difficulty faced by cooperative banks in this region due to lack of infrastructure, high terrain, socio-economic backwardness, etc.

- During the year 2018-19, Rs. 16.66 crore has been disbursed under CDF (Cumulatively Rs. 193.00 crore as on 31.03.2019) for various promotional programmes conducted by different tiers of both short-term and long-term Cooperative Credit Structure.

- Under SOFTCOB, during the year 2018-19, 1287 training programmes have been conducted by the Cooperative Training Institutions involving 40272 of participants from cooperative credit structure. BIRD through its constituents has also conducted 43 training programmes involving 884 participants from the cooperative credit structure.