

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 27.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDES BY FARMERS IN ORISSA .

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SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI

Will the Minister of COAL AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to drought, a number of farmers have committed suicide in the western part of Orissa;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to give grants for relief to the affected people;
- (c) if so, the action taken in this regard by Government, so far; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): As reported by the State Government of Orissa, 23 incidents of alleged suicide by farmers have taken place, but the State Government has not been able to ascertain so far whether anyone or more out of these alleged suicides have been caused due to agrarian distress. However, investigations by the State Police are going on in this regard. In any case, the State Government has released a sum of Rs.20 crore from Calamity Relief Fund to 15 districts covering 3305 villages/wards where autumn paddy crop loss is 50% or more.