

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 311
ANSWERED ON 28/03/2025

MEASURES TO PREVENT FARMER' SUICIDES

*311. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) data on farmer suicides across country over the last three years, especially in Marathwada region;
- (b) whether Government has taken special measures to address farmers' distress and prevent suicides, if so, details of their effectiveness;
- (c) whether Government is aware that small-scale farmers rely on Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) loans, thereby trapping them in debt cycles, if so, whether this has been a factor in farmers' suicides;
- (d) whether Government has estimated the average monthly income of agricultural households, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) whether any assessment has been conducted on the gap between policy and reality of schemes in addressing farmers' financial struggles?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

- (a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the house.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 311 REGARDING “MEASURES TO PREVENT
FARMER' SUICIDES” FOR REPLY ON 28/03/2025.**

(a): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled ‘Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India’ (ADSI). State wise report till 2022 is available on NCRB website (<https://ncrb.gov.in>).

Farmers suicides during last three years in Marathwada region is as under:

Year	Total No. of Cases
2022	1022
2023	1116
2024	952
Total	3090

Source: Divisional Commissioner Office, (Revenue Department) Chh. Sambhajinagar.

The ADSI Report does not specify separate reasons for farmers’ suicide. However, ADSI Report mentions various reasons of suicides (without any reference to farmers) i.e. Family Problems, Illness, Drug Abuse, Alcoholic Addiction, Marriage Related issues, Love Affairs, Bankruptcy or Indebtedness, Unemployment, Failure in Examination, Profession/ Career Problem and Poverty.

(b) to (d): To enhance farmers income, Government of India supplements the efforts of States and welfare of farmers through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support and various schemes/ programmes. In the year 2013-14 the budget allocation of Ministry of Cooperation, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and Department of Fisheries which were integral parts of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare was only 30,223.88 crore. The budget of these Ministries in 2024-25 is Rs. 267721.57 crore. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare as well as other stakeholder Ministries like Ministry of Cooperation, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Department of Fisheries and Ministry of Rural Development etc have launched various schemes/programmes to make agriculture more remunerative so that farmers may get better returns.

Government of India is working in collaboration with State Governments and have taken a number of initiatives to address these issues through Policy measures and Schemes/

Programmes. The various schemes/ programmes of the Government of India, meant for the welfare of farmers, focus on increasing production, getting remunerative returns and income support to farmers. Some of the major schemes/ programmes of Government of India providing financial assistance to farmers are PM KisanSammanNidhi, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS), Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Per Drop More Crop (PDMC), among others. The Government has substantially enhanced the budget allocation of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare(DA&FW) from Rs. 21933.50 crore BE during 2013-14 to Rs. 1,22,528.77 crore BE during 2024-25. Major schemes/ programmes initiated by DA&FW to enhance overall income of farmers and remunerative returns in the agriculture sector are as under:

1. Pradhan MantriKisanSammanNidhi (PM-KISAN)
2. Pradhan MantriKisanMaanDhanYojana (PM-KMY)
3. Pradhan MantriFasalBimaYojana (PMFBY)/ Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS)
4. Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)
5. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
6. Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs)
7. National Bee Keeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)
8. Namo Drone Didi
9. National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)
10. Pradhan MantriAnnadataAaySanraksHanAbhiyan (PM-AASHA)
11. Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises' (AgriSURE)
12. Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)
13. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)
14. Paramparagat Krishi VikasYojana (PKVY)
15. Soil Health & Fertility (SH&F)
16. Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
17. Agroforestry
18. Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)
19. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)
20. Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)
21. National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM)
22. Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM)
23. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
24. National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm

25. National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oilseeds
26. Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region
27. Digital Agriculture Mission
28. National Bamboo Mission

Based on the survey reports of NABARD, the total agriculture credit to farmers has increased from Rs. 8.45 lakh crore in 2014-15, to Rs.25.49 lakh crore in 2023-24 and Short-term agricultural credit has increased from Rs. 6.35 lakh crore in 2014-15, to Rs. 15.08 lakh crore in 2023-24.

National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) conducted a Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households during National Sample Survey (NSS) 77th round (January 2019- December 2019) with reference to the agricultural year July 2018- June 2019 in the rural areas of the country. Similar survey was also conducted during 70th round by NSO. As per result of SASs, the average monthly income per agricultural household during 2012-13 and 2018-19 is given below.

Period	Average Monthly Income (in Rs.)
2012-13 (70 th Round)	6,426
2018-19 (77 th Round)	10,218

(Source: NSS Report No. 576 SAS(70th Round -2013) and NSS Report No. 587, SAS (77th Round-2019), MoSPI.)

(e): Appraisal of schemes, Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes are made as per cycle of Finance Commission and schemes are approved or modified by Cabinet accordingly.

Besides, assessment of schemes/programmes are made at scheme level, independently, as well as by NITI Aayog, on need basis and periodic modification are undertaken.
