O.I.H.

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-62
ANSWERED ON-24/07/2026

INCREASING INCIDENCE OF FARMERS' SUICIDE AND MEASURES TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT

*62. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers' suicides in the country are continuously increasing, if so, the details for the last three years;

(b) the steps taken in the last three years to provide more facilities in agriculture in view of farmers' suicides;

(c) the percentage of agricultural labourers in farmers' suicides, and whether there has been any further increase in it; and

(d) the details of steps taken by the Ministry to prevent suicides by farmers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 62 REGARDING "INCREASING INCIDENCE OF FARMERS' SUICIDE AND MEASURES TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT" FOR REPLY ON 24.07.2026

(a) to (c): 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). The report upto 2024 is available on NCRB website (https://ncrb.gov.in).

Agriculture is a State subject. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through a comprehensive range of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Programmes aimed at increasing production , productivity, farmers' income etc across the country. These schemes encompass entire spectrum of agriculture, including credit, insurance, income support, infrastructure, crops (including horticulture), seeds, mechanization, marketing, organic and natural farming, farmer collectives, irrigation, extension, digital agriculture and procurement of crops. The list of schemes is placed at **Annexure-I**. Further, the Government has substantially increased the budget allocation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare(DA&FW) from ₹27,662.67 crore BE during 2013-14 to ₹1,40,416.57 crore BE during 2026-27.

(d): The Department has taken calibrated, long-term structural measures to protect farmers from financial stress. Institutional support has been substantially expanded to enhance farmers' income , reduce production risks and strengthen the resilience of the agricultural sector. Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) an income support of Rs. 6000 per year is provided to eligible farmer families through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) with the objective of supplementing their financial needs for procuring agricultural inputs and meeting allied expenses. Till date under the scheme, more than Rs. 4.47 lakh crore has been disbursed to farmers in 23 installments. As part of 23rd installment released on 20th June 2026, over 9.44 crore farmers receivd benefits amounting to Rs. 18,885.05 crores.

Institutional agricultural credit has significantly increased to ₹28.69 lakh crore during 2024-25.Timely and adequate institutional credit is provided through the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS). Under this scheme, crop loans of up to Rs. 3 lakh are available at subsidized interest rates, with additional incentives for timely repayment. Currently, more than 7.81 crore operative KCC accounts facilitate annual agricultural credit exceeding Rs. 10 lakh crore. In the last 12 years, more than Rs. 1.80 lakh crore in interest subsidies has been released on KCC loans. Furthermore, the collateral-free credit limit for short-term agricultural loans, including allied activities, has been increased from Rs. 1.6 lakh to Rs. 2.00 lakh per beneficiary with effect from 1st January 2025.

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) provides vital financial protection to farmers against crop losses arising from natural calamities, pests, and diseases. Rs. 2.02 lakh crore has been paid as claims to farmers in the last decade.

Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 notified agricultural crops are fixed annually by the Government for the country as a whole. The policy ensures a minimum return of 50 percent over the all-India weighted average cost of production. Since 2014, farmers have received more than Rs. 27.80 lakh crore through MSP procurement of about 12819 LMT of agricultural produce. The procurement of agricultural produce has expanded beyond wheat and rice to pulses, oilseeds and horticulture produce through PM-AASHA Scheme.

The Government of India has taken several important steps to support farmers at every stage of farming from availability of quality seeds to access to market. Farmers are provided with high-quality seeds, soil health cards, irrigation facilities, and crop insurance to improve agricultural productivity and enhance the income. The Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses aims to enhance pulses production with a special focus on Tur, Urad, Masoor, promoting production and availability of climate resilient seeds for farmers, increase area under pulses cultivation, promote post-harvest storage and management technology. The National Mission on Edible Oil – Oilseeds aims to increase domestic edible oil production and reduce import dependence (currently around 56%). National Mission on Edible Oil (NMEO)-Oil Palm aims to promote oil palm cultivation for making the country Aatmanirbhar in edible oils with special focus on North-Eastern States (NES). National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) aims to increase the production of Shree Anna, Rice, Wheat, Coarse Cereals (Maize & Barley) & Commercial Crops (Jute & Sugarcane) through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Assistance is being provided to the farmers, through the States/UTs, for demonstrations on crop production & protection technologies, for distribution of certified seeds, for production of certified seeds, for Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management measures.

The Government promotes the judicious use of fertilizers through the Soil Health & Fertility Scheme, Under the scheme, Soil Health Cards (SHCs) are issued to all farm holdings to promote balanced and integrated nutrient management, thereby improving soil fertility and agricultural productivity. The Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme focuses on enhancing on-farm water use efficiency through the adoption of micro-irrigation technologies, such as drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. Micro-irrigation not only conserves water but also reduces fertilizer consumption, labour requirements, and other input costs, thereby improving farmers' productivity and income. Initiatives such as e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) help farmers connect with markets and sell their produce more efficiently. The government also promotes Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), better storage facilities, warehouses, cold chains, transportation, and food processing to reduce post-harvest losses and improve farmers' earnings.

The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) aims to strengthen the infrastructure in the country through creation of farm gate storage and logistics infrastructure to enable farmers to store and preserve their farm produce properly and sell them in the market at better price with reduced post-harvest losses and lesser number of intermediaries. As on 10.07.2026, a total of 2,05,960 agriculture infrastructure projects have been sanctioned under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), with a loan amount of ₹92,570.63 crore and investment mobilization of ₹1,60,023.34 crore. The sanctioned projects include 51,567 Custom Hiring Centres, 30,808 Processing Centres, 33,718 Farm Automation units, 30,742 PM-KUSUM (B & C) projects, 18,776 Warehouses, 4,533 Sorting & Grading Units, 3,065 Cold Stores & Cold Chains, and 32,751 other infrastructure projects, including logistics vehicles, pack houses and ripening chambers etc.

Besides the initiatives of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, allied Ministries/Departments like Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Cooperation and Ministry of Food Processing Industries are implementing various schemes/programmes to enhance farmers' income, reduce crop losses and agrarian distress, promote agricultural diversification, livestock, dairy, fisheries and food processing, strengthen value chains and cooperative institutions, improve post-harvest management and market infrastructure; promote value addition and market linkages, and ensure remunerative returns and sustainable livelihoods for farmers.

Annexure-I

Schemes and Programmes implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

1. **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) -** PM-KISAN is a Central Sector Scheme and provides annual financial assistance of Rs. 6,000 to eligible farmer families in three equal instalments, into the Aadhaar seeded bank accounts of farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

2. **Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) –** To provide remunerative price to the farmers, Government implements PM-AASHA with the components of Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on the request of State/UT. PSS is implemented for procurement of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of notified pulses, oilseeds and copra at Minimum Support Price (MSP) as and when the market price falls below the Minimum Support Price (MSP). PDPS envisages the payment of price difference between the MSP and Modal/Sale price directly to bank accounts of registered farmers selling/trading their FAQ of notified oilseeds in the APMC through transparent auction process within stipulated period. MIS is implemented for procurement/coverage of perishable agriculture and horticultural crops for which MSP is not announced.

3. **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) -** PMFBY provides for comprehensive risk insurance against crop damage from pre-sowing to post-harvest for crops and area notified by the concerned State Government. Extremely low premium rate is charged from the famers across the country, which is maximum 2% of sum insured for Kharif crops, maximum 1.5% of sum insured for Rabi crops and maximum 5% of sum insured for commercial/horticultural crops. Remaining part of actuarial premium is shared by the Central and State Government on 50:50 basis except North Eastern States (from Kharif 2020) and Himalayan States (from Kharif 2023) where it is shared in the ratio of 90:10.

4. **Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) -** MISS is a Central Sector Scheme aims to provide concessional interest rates on short-term agricultural loans obtained by farmers through Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) for their working capital requirements. Under this scheme, farmers receive KCC loans at a subsidized interest rate of 7%. To facilitate this, an up front interest subvention (lS) of 1.5% is provided to financial institutions. Additionally, farmers who repay their loans promptly receive a 3% Prompt Repayment lncentive (PRl), effectively reducing the interest rate to 4% par annum.

5. **Pradhan Mantri Kisan MaanDhan Yojana (PM-KMY) -** PMKMY, a central sector scheme, which is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for the entry age group of 18 to 40 years with a provision of Rs. 3000/- monthly pension on attaining the age of 60 years, subject to exclusion criteria. The contribution amount ranges from Rs 55 to Rs 200 per month based on the entry age of the farmer. Government of India also contribute the matching amount for every subscriber for the farmer.

6. **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) –**Under MIDH, assistance is provided for activities related to production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including mango through various interventions. Assistance is also provided for activities such as production of planting material, vegetable seed production, coverage of area with improved cultivars, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming, including in-situ generation of organic inputs are taken up for development of fruits and vegetables. Capacity buildings of farmers and technicians are also provided for adopting

improved technologies. Scheme also envisages creation of post-harvest management (PHM) and marketing for better price realization of produce.

7. **National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm -** National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm - The mission provides comprehensive support to farmers, including assistance for high-quality planting material, inputs for intercropping, and maintenance during four-year gestation period, as well as replanting of old and unproductive plantations. Additional inputs such as farm machinery and irrigation facilities are also supported. To safeguard farmers against price volatility and ensure assured returns, the Government has introduced the Viability Gap Payment (VGP) mechanism, which compensates farmers for adverse price shocks.

8. **National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Seeds –** NMEO–OS aims to enhance domestic oilseed production by bridging the ~60% yield gap through research, improved varieties, and technology dissemination within crop-specific clusters involving FPOs, cooperatives, and private partners. The Mission promotes expansion of oilseeds in fallow and intercropped areas, strengthens seed systems, and improves market linkages through value-chain integration.

9. **Mission for Atmanirbharta in Pulses –** To achieve self-sufficiency in pulses, the Government of India has launched the Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses, aimed at strengthening domestic production and reducing dependence on imports while ensuring nutritional security. With a financial outlay of ₹11,440 crore over a six-year period, the mission places special emphasis on the promotion of Tur (Arhar), Urad and Masoor. The programme seeks to increase pulses production to 350 lakh tonnes, expand the cultivation area by 35 lakh hectares—particularly in rice fallows and through intercropping systems—to reach about 310 lakh hectares, and enhance productivity to 1,130 kg per hectare through improved seed availability, better agronomic practices and strengthened extension support.

10. **National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) –** The mission has been initiated to strengthen agriculture practices with scientifically backed agro ecological approaches towards sustainability, climate resilience and safe food. Farmers are provided with an easy simple certification system and dedicated common branding to access to market their natural farming produce. Real time geo-tagged & referenced monitoring of NMNF implementation is done through an online portal. Under the Mission output based incentive @ ₹4,000 per acre per farmer for a period of two years is provided.

11. **National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) –**Under NFSNM, the incentives are provided to the farmers, through the States/UTs, on crop production and protection technologies, cropping system based demonstrations, production & distribution of certified seeds of newly released varieties/hybrids, integrated nutrient and pest management techniques, capacity building of farmers through trainings during cropping season etc.

12. **National Bee Keeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)** – Thrust is given on production & productivity improvement of various crops through pollination assisted by adoption of scientific beekeeping and post-harvest management of beekeeping/beehive products including collection, processing, storage, marketing, value addition, etc. with a thrust to develop requisite infrastructural facilities for these activities.

13. **Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM) -** In order to make farm machinery more accessible and affordable to farmers, financial assistance @ 40-50% of the cost of machinery depending on the category of farmers is provided for purchase of agricultural machines. For SC/ST/Small and marginal/North East state/women farmers the financial assistance is @ 50% of the cost of machinery. With a view to make available machines and equipments to farmers on rental basis, financial assistance for establishment of CHCs of the project cost up to Rs. 250 lakhs is provided @ 40% of the project cost and financial assistance for establishments of Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs) of the project cost up to Rs. 30 Lakhs is provided @ 80% of the project

cost to the FPOs and SHGs. The rate of financial assistance for establishing FMBs in the North Eastern States is @ 95% of the project cost.

14. **Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE) -** The Scheme support State Governments efforts of revitalization of their extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices to farmers to increase agricultural production through various extension activities viz. Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and Setting up of Farm Schools.

15. **Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM) -** Digital Agricultural Mission has envisaged the making of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) such as Agristack, Agricultural Decision Support System (Agricultural DSS) and a profile of land fertility to create a strong digital agricultural ecosystem in the country. With this, farmer-centric new digital solutions will be promoted and all farmers will be able to get timely and reliable crop-related information.
    'Bharat-VISTAAR'(Virtually Integrated System to Access Agricultural Resources) is a multilingual AI tool to integrate the AgriStack portals and the ICAR package on agricultural practices with AI systems for enhancing farm productivity and better farmer decision making and reduce risk through customized advisory support for the farmer

16. **National Bamboo Mission (NBM)** - NBM mainly focuses on the development of complete value chain of the bamboo sector. It is envisaged to link growers with consumers with a cluster approach mode. Assistance under NBM is being provided to farmers, artisans, entrepreneurs for establishment of Bamboo Nursery, Bamboo Plantation and value chain units such as primary processing, product management and market infrastructure.

17. **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) -** Under MOVCDNER, assistance of Rs. 46,500/ha is provided over 3 years for creation of Farmers Producer Organization, support to farmers for organic inputs etc. Out of this, assistance @ Rs. 32,500/ ha is provided to farmers for off -farm /on –farm organic inputs under the scheme including Rs. 15,000 as Direct Benefit Transfer to the farmers.

18. **Soil Health & Fertility Scheme** was formed to assist states in promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients, in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity. Awareness on Soil Health Card recommendations among the farmers is generated through farmer trainings, demonstrations and interaction programmes conducted by State Governments.

19. **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)** provides end-to-end support to organic farmers i.e. from production to processing, certification and marketing in cluster-based approach. The primary focus of the scheme is to form organic clusters (other than North Eastern States) to help them to create a supply chain. Under PKVY, assistance of Rs. 31,500 per ha is provided over 3 years for promotion of organic farming. Out of this, assistance of Rs. 15,000 per ha is provided to farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer for on- farm /off –farm organic inputs.

20. **Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)** focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation namely Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation Systems. The Government provides financial assistance @ 55% for small and marginal farmers and @ 45% for other farmers for installation of Drip and Sprinkler systems under the PDMC. Besides some State Government also provide Top-up subsidy to farmers from their State Budget. The Assistance for installation of Micro Irrigation systems is limited to 5 hectares per beneficiary.

21. **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Detailed Project Report (RKVY-DPR)**: Under the scheme, funds are released to the States as grants to incentivize states to increase their expenditure on agriculture and allied sectors. The States have flexibility and autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes to make investments in interventions as per their

priorities and agro-climatic requirements. From 2015-16, the funding pattern of the scheme is 60:40 (90:10 for North Eastern & Himalayan States) between Centre and States. However, funding pattern to UTs continues to be 100% by the Central Government. The scheme also includes funding to Innovation & Agri-Entrepreneurship programme.

22. **Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)** – CDP was implemented to divert the area of water guzzling paddy crop to alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, etc. Under CDP, assistance is given for alternative crop demonstration, farm mechanization and value addition items, for site specific activities and for awareness, training etc. CDP was extended for replacing tobacco crop in the major tobacco growing states.

23. **Rainfed Area Development (RAD)** focuses on Integrated Farming System (IFS) for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variability. Central Assistance is released based on the Annual Action Plan approved by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC). Financial assistance of Rs. 30,000/- is provided to each farming family under RAD component irrespective of the size of their land holding.

24. **National Makhana Boad (NMB)** was established to promote the integrated development of the makhana (fox nut) sector. Announced in the Union Budget 2025–26 and launched on 15 September 2025, the Board aims to enhance production and productivity, improve quality seed availability, strengthen post-harvest infrastructure, promote research and innovation, facilitate value addition, branding, marketing, and exports, and build farmers' capacity through training and extension.

25. **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)** – Under AIF scheme, a financing facility of 1 lakh crore is provided through medium to long-term debt financing for investment in viable projects relating to post-harvest management infrastructure and viable farming assets such as warehouses, cold storages, cold chains, grading and sorting units, primary processing centres, pack houses and other supply chain infrastructure. The scheme provides interest subvention of 3% per annum on loans up to ₹2 crore and credit guarantee coverage for loans up to ₹2 crore under Credit Guarantee Fund.

26. **Formation & Promotion of new 10,000 FPOs -** "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)" was launched with a clear strategy and committed resources to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs in the country. FPOs get a financial assistance upto Rs 18.00 lakh per FPO for a period of 03 years. In addition to this, provision has been made for matching equity grant upto Rs. 2,000 per farmer member of FPO with a limit of Rs. 15.00 lakh per FPO and a credit guarantee facility upto Rs. 2 crore of project loan per FPO from eligible lending institution to ensure institutional credit accessibility to FPOs. Suitable provisions have been made for training and skill development of FPOs.

27. **Agri Fund for Start Ups & Rural Enterprises (AgriSURE) -** The objective of the AgriSURE Fund is to support startups associated with the agricultural value chain, thereby fostering innovation and technology within the agricultural sector to accelerate the growth of startups by creating a conducive investment environment and providing capital. Furthermore, it will encourage young entrepreneurs and their innovations. This initiative will strengthen the value chain for agricultural products and, alongside increased investment in agriculture, generate employment opportunities for both rural and urban youth. Additionally, it will assist FPOs and cooperative societies by promoting the adoption of new technologies and machinery. A Blended capital fund of ₹750 crore with SEBI Registered Category II, Alternative Investment Fund (AIF), contributions from the Government of India is ₹250 crore, NABARD is ₹250 crore, and ₹250 crore is being mobilized from banks, insurance companies, and private investors.

28. **Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM) -** ISAM supports state governments in governing the agricultural produce marketing through creation and improvement of market structures, capacity building and generating access to market information. Under Agricultural

Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), the subsidy @ 33.33% for NER, hilly area, Women/SC/ST promoters, PACS & FPOs etc. and @25% for others is available.

29. **Pradhan Mantri Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) -** The scheme targets 100 districts with lowest agricultural productivity by adopting crop diversification and sustainable agricultural practices in convergence with 36 central schemes of 11 departments, State schemes and private partnerships with the target of improving productivity in DDKY districts.

30. **Agroforestry** - The scheme extends 100% financial assistance to Government agencies for implementation, and 50% assistance to private agencies, individual farmers, and entrepreneurs for establishing nurseries and raising saplings to strengthen farmers' technical capacity, promote adoption of improved agroforestry models and enhance productivity and income of farmers through the use of quality planting material and improved farming practices.

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