

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.405
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18TH JULY, 2017

SUICIDE BY FARMERS

405. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
SHRI KIRTI AZAD:
SHRI ARVIND SAWANT:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
PROF. RAVINDRA VISHWANATH GAIKWAD:
SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI B.V. NAIK:
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:
SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL:
SHRI M.B. RAJESH:
SHRI P.K. BIJU:
ADV. JOICE GEORGE:
SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA:
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:
SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:
SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:
SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:
DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:
SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:
SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.:
SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ¢ãðŠääÓã एवं किसान
कल्याण ½ää"ääè
be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether the Government is aware that the farmers are committing suicide in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year along with the major reasons for the same, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the reasons for growing number of farmers suicides in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any specific plan/policy to prevent suicide by the farmers in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the present policy for tackling the suicide cases of farmers is ineffective and if so, the response of the Government thereto including the steps taken to prevent suicides by farmers by creating conditions favourable for farmers;
- (e) whether debt burden on each farmer is more than that of average annual per capita income in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to remove indebtedness and provide adequate remunerative prices for farm produce to farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

प्रश्नकर्ता एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग के अध्यक्ष (SHRI
PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(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). These Reports on suicides upto 2015 are available at its website. The Report for the year 2016 has not been published yet. The State wise details of suicides in farming/ agriculture sector during the years 2014 and 2015 as per NCRB Report may be seen at **Annexure-I**. Further, as per this Report, 'Bankruptcy or Indebtedness' and 'Farming Related Issues' are reported as major causes of suicides among farmers/ cultivators. Other prominent causes of farmers/cultivators suicides are family problems, illness etc.

(b): Yes. A study titled 'Farmer Suicides: An all India Study' has been conducted during 2016-17 by the Government to ascertain various reasons for the growing number of farmers suicide in the country. This Pan-India study was carried out in 13 major suicide prone states namely: Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka. The study was assigned to Agriculture Research Unit, ISEC Bangalore and was completed with the association of the Agro-Economic Research Centres. The reference year of the study was decided as the agriculture year 2015-16 (June, 2015 – May, 2016). The main objectives of the study were as follows:

1. To analyze the incidence and spread of farmers suicides in selected states and to map the hotspots of suicide.
2. To study the socio-economic profile, cropping pattern and profitability in the victim's households.
3. To study the causes leading to suicides.
4. To recommend suitable policies to avert farmer suicides.

(c) & (d): Agrarian distress as manifest from large number of farmers living below the poverty (BPL) line and unfortunate incidents of suicides can be addressed by enabling the farmers to increase their income. With this understanding, the Government is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine various dimensions of farmers' income and to recommend an appropriate strategy. In the meanwhile, the Government is realigning its interventions to move from production-centric to farmers' income-centric platform. The Department has, therefore, been implementing various schemes to meet this objective viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Interest Subvention Scheme etc.

(e): The State/UT-wise details of estimates of outstanding loan and average monthly income per farmer household during the agricultural year July 2012- June 2013 as reported in the Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers conducted during January 2013- December 2013 may be seen at **Annexure-II**.

(f): Government has taken several steps to remove indebtedness and to provide adequate remunerative prices for farm produce to farmers, through increased MSPs, higher level of procurement & e-NAM. Measures taken by Government to minimise indebtedness from non-institutional sources of lending include fixation of annual targets for improving agricultural credit flow, provision of crop loans upto Rs.3.00 lakh @4% per annum to such farmers who repay their loan as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, extension of benefit of interest subvention scheme to small & marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period upto six months for storing their produce in warehouses against negotiable warehouse receipts, collateral free loan upto Rs.1.00 lakh, scheme for financing of Joint Liability Group (JLGs) etc.

Annexure-I**Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 405 due for 18.07.2017 Statement in respect of Part (a) of the Question regarding 'Suicide by Farmers'**

State/UT	2014			2015		
	Farmers	Labourers	Total	Farmers	Labourers	Total
ANDHRA PRADESH	160	472	632	516	400	916
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	3	3	7	3	10
ASSAM	21	38	59	84	54	138
BIHAR	0	10	10	0	7	7
CHHATTISGARH	443	312	755	854	100	954
GOA	0	0	0	0	0	0
GUJARAT	45	555	600	57	244	301
HARYANA	14	105	119	28	134	162
HIMACHAL PRADESH	32	31	63	0	46	46
JAMMU & KASHMIR	12	25	37	0	21	21
JHARKHAND	0	4	4	0	21	21
KARNATAKA	321	447	768	1197	372	1569
KERALA	107	700	807	3	207	210
MADHYA PRADESH	826	372	1198	581	709	1290
MAHARASHTRA	2568	1436	4004	3030	1261	4291
MANIPUR	0	0	0	1	0	1
MEGHALAYA	0	2	2	2	1	3
MIZORAM	0	5	5	0	1	1
NAGALAND	0	0	0	0	0	0
ODISHA	5	97	102	23	27	50
PUNJAB	24	40	64	100	24	124
RAJASTHAN	0	373	373	3	73	76
SIKKIM	35	0	35	15	3	18
TAMIL NADU	68	827	895	2	604	606
TELANGANA	898	449	1347	1358	42	1400
TRIPURA	0	32	32	1	48	49
UTTAR PRADESH	63	129	192	145	179	324
UTTARAKHAND	0	0	0	0	2	2
WEST BENGAL	0	230	230	0	0	0
TOTAL (STATES)	5642	6694	12336	8007	4583	12590
A & N ISLANDS	8	0	8	0	0	0
CHANDIGARH	0	0	0	0	0	0
D & N HAVELI	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAMAN & DIU	0	0	0	0	0	0
DELHI (UT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUDUCHERRY	0	16	16	0	12	12
TOTAL (UTs)	8	16	24	0	12	12
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	5650	6710	12360	8007	4595	12602

Source : Report on 'Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs

Annexure – II

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 405 due for 18.07.2017 Statement in respect of Part (e) of the Question regarding Average Monthly Income and average amount of outstanding loan per Agricultural Household during the agricultural year July 2012- June 2013

State [#]	Estimated number. of household having outstanding loan	Average monthly income* per agri. Household during July 2012- June 2013 (Rs)	Approximate average amount of outstanding loan** per agricultural household (Rs)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Andhra Pradesh	33421	5979	123400
Arunachal Pradesh	206	10869	5400
Assam	5995	6695	3400
Bihar	30156	3558	16300
Chhattisgarh	9538	5177	10200
Gujarat	16743	7926	38100
Haryana	6645	14434	79000
Himachal Pradesh	2457	8777	28000
Jammu & Kashmir	3463	12683	12200
Jharkhand	6464	4721	5700
Karnataka	32775	8832	97200
Kerala	10908	11888	213600
Madhya Pradesh	27414	6210	32100
Maharashtra	40672	7386	54700
Manipur	421	8842	6100
Meghalaya	84	11792	1400
Mizoram	47	9099	2900
Nagaland	65	10048	600
Odisha	25830	4976	28200
Punjab	7499	18059	119500
Rajasthan	40055	7350	70500
Sikkim	97	6798	9900
Tamil Nadu	26780	6980	115900
Telangana	22628	6311	93500
Tripura	559	5429	5000
Uttarakhand	5387	4701	35600
Uttar Pradesh	79081	4923	27300
West Bengal	32787	3980	17800
Group of UTs	267	8568	47700
all-India	468481	6426	47000

#Figures for remaining States are not published due to inadequate sample size (i.e. number of sample households less than 300).

** The income includes income from salary/wages, net receipt from cultivation, net receipt from farming of animals and net receipt from non-farm business.*

*** Outstanding loans as on date of survey irrespective of the purpose for which loans were taken.*

*(Source: **Key Indicators of Situation of Agricultural Households in India** based on Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households, NSS 70th round (January 2013- December 2013))*
