

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 04.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDE BY FARMERS .

1680

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI

Will the Minister of COALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that farmers are still committing suicide in different States;
- (b) if so, their number, State-wise; and
- (c) the reasons for these suicides?

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 (c) : The incidents of suicide by farmers have been mainly reported from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Kerala. Besides, some cases of farmers` suicide were also reported by the State of Gujarat, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. A Statement showing number of suicides by farmers on account of agrarian reasons as per reports received from the State Governments is at Annexure-I. As reported by the State Governments and revealed in some studies conducted earlier, the causes for suicides by farmers are manifold including personal and other reasons. However, some suicides out of the total number of suicides have been attributed to crop failure, indebtedness, drought and socio- economic reasons.

However, The Veeresh Committee (in the context of the Karnataka Farmers` suicide) has appropriately concluded that connecting the spate of suicides directly to any single cause would be erroneous. Suicide in its content is strictly a personal decision and the post suicide search for causes gives only circumstantial evidence. Typical social factors like family support, failure of social institutions, habits, alcoholism, social security, introvert nature and intra family problems are some of the critical social issues that have affected the victims to take such an extreme step.