

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 12.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**SUICIDE BY FARMERS .**

76

Smt. Maya Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) the reasons behind rising graph of suicides by farmers of Vidarbha;
- (b) the details of steps taken by Government to prevent the farmers of the country from committing suicide after loss of crops and to solve their problems;
- (c) whether any case of suicide committed by farmers due to delay and difficulty in Government-aid and lackadaisical attitude of bureaucrats has come to light; and
- (d) the number of farmers who committed suicide in the country due to debt and loss in crops during the last five years?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 76 FOR 12/11/2010 REGARDING SUICIDE BY FARMERS.

(a):The Government of Maharashtra has reported a declining trend in the number of suicides by farmers in the six districts of Vidarbha which are included in the Rehabilitation Package.

(b):The Government of India had approved a Rehabilitation Package of Rs.16978.69 crore in 2006 covering 31 districts in 4 States including Maharashtra initially for a period of 3 years to address the problem of agrarian distress. The period for implementation of the non-credit components of the package was extended by 2 more years i.e. up to September 30, 2011.

The Government has implemented the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 benefitting about 3.69 crore farmers involving an estimated amount of Rs.65,318.33 crore. The Government has also enhanced the interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loans up to Rs.3 lakh from 1% to 2% for the year 2010-11. Thus, the effective rate of interest for such farmers who repay their loans in time will be 5% per annum.

For the overall development of agriculture & allied sectors, assistance is being provided to farmers through central schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission etc. Rs.300 crore has been earmarked to organize 60,000 `pulses and oil seed villages` in rain-fed areas during 2010-11 and to provide an integrated intervention for water harvesting, watershed management and soil health. The Government has amended the Guidelines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in July, 2009 permitting provision of irrigation facility, horticultural plantation and land development works on land belonging to small and marginal farmers under this scheme. The Minimum Support Prices of major cereals have been increase substantially during the last 5 years.

(c):No such case has come to the notice of Government.

(d):Number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons during the last five years, as reported by the State Governments, is at Annexure.