

O.I.H.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4111**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018

**SUICIDE BY FARMERS**

4111. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:  
DR. P.K. BIJU:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI KAMAL NATH:  
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:  
SHRI SUNIL JAKHAR:  
ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:  
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:  
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:  
SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU:  
SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:  
SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

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

- (a) whether a number of farmers/cultivators and agricultural labourers and their spouse/family members have committed suicide in the country since 2013 and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to identify the reasons responsible for farmers' suicides in the country and if so, the details and the findings thereof;
- (c) whether a NITI Aayog consultation paper has revealed that more than 70% farmers and more than 12% farmers in severe cases of depression often commit suicide and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has constituted any monitoring committee in each State to check suicide by farmers and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has called a two day national conference to discuss farm distress and find a permanent solution to it and if so, the details thereof along with the deliberations made in the conference and the suggestions put forward by the participants to address the farm distress; and
- (f) the details of measures taken/schemes launched to solve the farmers distress and prevent the farmers including those farmers who have small agricultural holdings from committing suicide and the outcome thereof?

Contd....2/-

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

श्री पार्शोत्तम रुपाला एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग के सचिव ( श्री पार्शोत्तम रुपाला )

(a) & (b): 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 are available upto 2015 on its website. The Reports for the year 2016 onwards have not been published yet. As per the ADSI Reports for the year 2015 and provisional data as provided by NCRB for the year 2016, the total number of suicides by farmers and agricultural labourers in the country State-wise, 2013 onward is **Annexed**.

As per NCRB Report of 2015, '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. 'Family Problems' followed by 'Illness' are reported as major causes of suicides among agricultural labourers.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): A guideline has been issued to State Governments/ UTs to provide institutional mechanism for strengthening the policy & advisory support and review & monitoring support for growth of agriculture sector and welfare of farmers. The State Governments/ UTs have been advised to constitute District level review & monitoring committee and state level review & advisory committee to achieve welfare of farmers.

The Committee would also closely monitor the developing field situation and enable prior detection of indigence and suicidal tendencies amongst farmers and respond with alacrity and needed sharpness to prevent such an eventuality.

(e): A National Conference on "Agriculture-2022 – Doubling Farmers' Income" was organized on 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 at National Agricultural Science Complex, New Delhi in which participants comprising farmers, farmers' associations, scientists, economists, academics, trade and professional associations, policy makers and officers serving and retired from Central as well as State Governments participated. The main concern during the conference was to build a consensus around appropriate recommendations that will align with the vision of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022 and to arrive at practical solutions for the benefit of farmers in the country. Some of the suggestions received during the conference are converting Waste to Wealth in mission mode, promote post-harvest infrastructure including cold chain, contract farming to be promoted and incentivized, widespread implementation of One-Nation One-Market, upgrade 22000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), encourage Farmer Producers Organizations, notify agroforestry produce including timber/ bamboo as agri-produce, model State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017 to be adopted in true spirit, etc. The outcomes arising from the conference and the suggestions received would be defined and aligned with the strategy for doubling farmers income by the year 2022.

(f): 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. Agriculture is state subject. However, the Government is aiming to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department has, therefore, been implementing various schemes for farmers including those farmers who have small agricultural holdings.

In order to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses against warehouse receipts, the benefit of interest subvention scheme has been extended to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of upto six months post the harvest at the same rate as available to crop loan against negotiable warehouse receipt in Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) accredited warehouses.

Under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic growth of the horticulture sector subsidy is provided to farm size limited to 4 hectare, in majority of its interventions. Also, small and marginal farmers are mobilized to form Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/ Farmer Interest Group (FIG) for aggregation and economies of scale. In certain components like cultivation of flowers in open fields, there is a provision to provide higher rate of assistance for small and marginal farmers for their upliftment.

Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), at least 33% of funds are earmarked for small and marginal farmers. Under the Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) a suitable platform has been provided for converging all activities for inclusive growth of agricultural mechanization by providing a 'single window' approach for implementation, with a special focus on small & marginal farmers. Under the Per Drop More Crop (micro irrigation) at least 50% of the allocation is to be utilized for small & marginal farmers.

Joint Liability Groups an informal group comprising 4 to 10 farmers coming together for the purpose of availing bank loan on individual basis or through group mechanism against mutual guarantee also exists. The Scheme for financing of Joint Liability Groups of Tenant Farmers was started by NABARD in 2005-06. The announcement in the Union Budget 2014-15 for financing of 5 lakh Joint Liability Groups of 'Bhoomi Heen Kisan' (landless farmers) has given further credence to efforts of NABARD in innovating and reaching out to the landless farmers through JLG scheme of financing.



## Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4111 due for 20.03.2018 Statement in respect of Part (a) of the Question regarding 'Suicide by farmers'

## State/UT wise number of Suicides by Self Employed persons in Farming/Agriculture during 2014-2016 (year 2016 data is provisional)

Sl. No.	State / UT	2013	2014			2015			2016*		
			Self-employed Persons [Agriculture (Total)] Sum of Col. 2+3	Self-employed Persons [Agriculture (Agricultural Labourers)]	Self-employed Persons [Agriculture (Farmers)]	Suicides in Farming Sector (Total) Sum of Col. 4+6	Agricultural Labourers	Farmers/Cultivators	Suicides in Farming Sector (Total) Sum of Col. 8+9	Agricultural Labourers	Farmers/Cultivators
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	2014	632	472	160	916	400	516	804	565	239
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	37	3	3	0	10	3	3	6	0	6
3	ASSAM	305	59	38	21	138	54	84	70	64	6
4	BIHAR	127	10	10	0	7	7	0	0	0	0
5	CHHATTISGARH	0	755	312	443	954	100	854	682	97	585
6	GOA	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
7	GUJARAT	582	600	555	45	301	244	57	408	378	30
8	HARYANA	374	119	105	14	162	134	28	250	159	91
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	33	63	31	32	46	46	0	14	14	0
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	18	37	25	12	21	21	0	21	21	0
11	JHARKHAND	142	4	4	0	21	21	0	3	0	3
12	KARNATAKA	1403	768	447	321	1569	372	1197	2079	867	1212
13	KERALA	972	807	700	107	210	207	3	321	298	23
14	MADHYA PRADESH	1090	1198	372	826	1290	709	581	1321	722	599
15	MAHARASHTRA	3146	4004	1436	2568	4291	1261	3030	3661	1111	2550
16	MANIPUR	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
17	MEGHALAYA	5	2	2	0	3	1	2	5	3	2
18	MIZORAM	6	5	5	0	1	1	0	7	7	0
19	NAGALAND	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	ODISHA	150	102	97	5	50	27	23	121	101	20
21	PUNJAB	83	64	40	24	124	24	100	271	49	222
22	RAJASTHAN	292	373	373	0	76	73	3	43	39	4
23	SIKKIM	35	35	0	35	18	3	15	14	2	12
24	TAMIL NADU	105	895	827	68	606	604	2	381	345	36
25	TELANGANA#	NA	1347	449	898	1400	42	1358	645	13	632
26	TRIPURA	56	32	32	0	49	48	1	22	18	4
27	UTTAR PRADESH	750	192	129	63	324	179	145	184	115	69
28	UTTARAKHAND	15	0	0	0	2	2	0	3	3	0
29	WEST BENGAL	0	230	230	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total (States)</b>	<b>11744</b>	<b>12336</b>	<b>6694</b>	<b>5642</b>	<b>12590</b>	<b>4583</b>	<b>8007</b>	<b>11338</b>	<b>4992</b>	<b>6346</b>
30	A & N ISLANDS	5	8	0	8	0	0	0	3	0	3
31	CHANDIGARH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	D & N HAVELI	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	DAMAN & DIU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	DELHI (UT)	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	PUDUCHERRY	0	16	16	0	12	12	0	29	27	2
	<b>Total (UTs)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>TOTAL (ALL INDIA)</b>	<b>11772</b>	<b>12360</b>	<b>6710</b>	<b>5650</b>	<b>12602</b>	<b>4595</b>	<b>8007</b>	<b>11370</b>	<b>5019</b>	<b>6351</b>

Source: 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' data as received from SCRBx/CID

# Newly created State from erstwhile Andhra Pradesh

\* Year 2016 data is provisional

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