

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:65

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006

SUICIDE BY FARMERS

Mollah Shri Hannan;Mondal Shri Abu Ayes

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of relief provided or proposed to be provided to the farmers in the suicide prone districts of the country under the special rehabilitation package, State-wise;
- (b) whether the incidents of suicide by farmers have continued despite the declaration of the relief package;
- (c) if so, the details of such cases reported, State-wise;
- (d) whether any study to assess the reasons for the same has been conducted;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to constitute a National Commission study group to make a comprehensive study on the problems of farmers and suggest measures for their redressal; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.65 DUE FOR REPLY ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2006.

(a): The Government of India has recently approved a rehabilitation package for mitigating distress of farmers in 31 suicide prone Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. The package aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services, and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries, etc. The Package involves a total amount of Rs.16978.69 crore. The State-wise break-up is as under:

Andhra Pradesh - Rs.9650.55 crore
Karnataka - Rs.2689.64 crore
Kerala - Rs.765.24 crore
Maharashtra - Rs.3873.26 crore

(b) to (e): The rehabilitation package was announced in respect of the six districts of the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra on 1st July, 2006. In respect of the other 25 districts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala, the package was approved on 29th September, 2006. The total number of suicide by farmers in the six districts of the Vidarbha region from July to October, 2006, as reported by the State Government (as per the report of Divisional Commissioner, Amravati) is 542. The details of suicide by farmers in respect of the other 25 districts after the declaration of the package, are being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House. The emerging trend in respect of Maharashtra indicates that number of suicide by farmers due to agriculture related causes is on decline. In respect of the remaining states, it is too early to assess its impact at ground level as the package has recently been approved for implementation.

(f) & (g): There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

