

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:38

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010

SUICIDE BY FARMERS

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether new cases of suicide by farmers have been reported by the State Governments during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): As per the latest information made available by the State Governments, a statement indicating state-wise number of suicides during the last three years is at Annexure.

(c): The Government of India approved a rehabilitation package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 suicide prone Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala in the year 2006. The package is being implemented over a period of 3 years and includes both immediate and medium term measures with an aim of 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.

It has been decided by the Government to extend the period for implementation of the non credit components of the package by 2 more years i.e. 30th September, 2011.

In addition to the Rehabilitation Package being implemented in 31 districts, the Government of India implemented a Debt waiver and Debt Relief scheme, 2008 in all districts of the country. As per provisional figures, a total of 3.01 crores small and marginal farmers and 0.67 crore other farmers have benefitted from the scheme involving debt waiver and debt relief to the tune of Rs. 65,318.33 crores, as their line of credit has been declogged due to clearing off of their principal and interest liabilities.

Besides, for revitalization of agriculture sector, a number of plan schemes and programmes are under implementation across the country which include National Food Security Mission to improve production and productivity of foodgrains, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an objective to incentivise the States so as to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors in a decentralized manner, National Horticulture Mission, Macro Management of Agriculture, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management and Support to Agriculture Extension Services etc.

The National Policy for Farmers, 2007 has also definite provisions to improve economic viability of farming.