

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2280
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
STUDY ON FARMERS SUICIDE
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any comprehensive study has been conducted by the experts in regard to farmers` suicides during the year 2010-2011;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the details of the short/long term measures taken, if any, to prevent such situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b): No, Madam.

(c): Details of measures taken by the Government to prevent suicide by farmers, revitalize agriculture sector and improve conditions of farmers on sustainable basis include following:

(i) Implementation of Rehabilitation Package covering 31 districts in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra, under which an amount of Rs.19910.70 crore has been released till June 30, 2011.

(ii) Implementation of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008, which benefitted about 3.69 crore farmers, involving debt waiver/relief of Rs. 65,318.33 crore, as per provisional figures.

(iii) Increasing credit flow to agriculture sector to Rs. 468291.28 crore, as of March, 2011. Target of credit flow for 2011-12 has been raised to Rs. 475000 crore. against which achievement as of November 2011 is Rs. 294023 crore.

(iv) Providing Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to all eligible and willing farmers in time bound manner to facilitate flow of credit to farmers and increase financial inclusion. Up to October 2011, 10.78 crore KCC have been issued.

(v) Providing interest rate subvention for timely repayment of crop loan up to Rs. 3 lakh, whereby effective rate of interest for such farmers who repay their crop loan on time has come down to 4% per annum.

(vi) This benefit of pre-harvest interest rate subvention is now available also to small & marginal farmers having KCC for further period of up to six months post-harvest on same rate as for crop loan against negotiable warehouse receipt for keeping their produce in warehouse.

(vii) Announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for identified agricultural commodities every year to ensure remunerative price and increase farmers` income. MSP of major agricultural commodities has been stepped up significantly e.g., during 2004-05 to 2011-12, range of increase in MSP is from 80% in case of Groundnut to 148% for pulses (Moong).

Other measures taken by Government, inter-alia, include significant increase in public investment in agriculture sector through implementation of various schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Mission on Micro-Irrigation, Watershed Management, Soil Health & Fertility management etc.