

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.05.2003
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDE CASES OF FARMERS

4888

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/AGRICULTURE/HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether more than 1000 farmers committed suicide in the last five years;
- (b) the role played by the National Human Rights Commission in respect of farmers` committing suicide in several States;
- (c) whether adequate compensation to the bereaved families was paid; and
- (d) the role played by Government to ensure that human rights were not violated? ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
(SHRI HARIN PATHAK)

(a) & (b): No specific information regarding farmers committing suicide is available. However, as per information received from the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), it had received four complaints from the State of Andhra Pradesh (three in the year 1997-98 and one in 2001-2002) expressing concern over the suicides committed by farmers in the State of Andhra Pradesh on account of alleged State negligence and failure to implement its policies. The cases relating to the year 1997-98 have been closed by the Commission after considering the reports of the State authorities. The Commission had also received complaints from the State of Karnataka in the year 2002-2003 and had called for a report from the State authorities. The Commission will, after considering the report of the State Government, make appropriate recommendations in accordance with the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

(c): It is for the concerned State Governments to consider payment of compensation to the bereaved families if found appropriate.

(d): The Central Government has issued advisories from time to time to all State Governments to avoid violation of human rights. Since, law and order is a State subject it is for the State Government to take appropriate action to prevent incidents of violation of human rights.