

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 20.04.2000
ANSWERED ON

SUICIDE BY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AND FARMERS .

2912

SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION, AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) the number of the farmers and agricultural labourers who have committed suicide all over the country for last six months along with the name of the State where the cases of suicides are maximum;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the incidents of suicides being committed by the farmers and agricultural labourers in Punjab are increasing as compared to those in the other States of the country;
- (c) if so, the number of suicides committed by the farmers and agricultural labourers as on date and whether Government have identified the reasons therefor and taken any action to prevent the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (d): The Government of Andhra Pradesh had reported two cases of suicides by farmers during December, 1999 due to failure of crops or indebtedness. The Government of Punjab has reported that no suicides have taken place during the last six months. The State Government have, however, stated that the rate of suicides in the State in comparison with that in other States is on the rise. The State Government had got the matter investigated and found that the suicides were mainly due to family discord, alcohol & illicit drug use, indebtedness, loss of status and lack of resources. The State Government had taken appropriate action like providing short-term credit to the farmers to meet the socio-economic consumption needs. No report on suicides committed by farmers during last six months has been received from other States.