

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 24.10.2008
ANSWERED ON**

SUICIDES BY FARMERS DESPITE THE PACKAGES .

108

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS/EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the CAG report on `Farmers Packages` in Maharashtra and the performance audit the Government of Maharashtra presented to the Assembly;
- (b) whether Government is aware that the CAG report says, "No evaluation of the implementation of the packages, in terms of reduction in agrarian distress, was made";
- (c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (d) despite the State Government's Rs. 1075 crore `package` for farmers and after the Prime Minister's visit in mid 2006 and the Central Government's Rs. 3750 crore package, how the incidents of suicides continued unabated?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 108 FOR 24/10/2008 REGARDING SUICIDES BY FARMERS DESPITE THE PACKAGES.

(a) & (b):The Government of Maharashtra has confirmed the facts stated in part (a) and (b) of the question.

(c):The Government of Maharashtra appointed a one man committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Vice-Chancellor, University of Pune in November, 2007 to carry out evaluation of the special rehabilitation package of the Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra for mitigating distress of farmers in the identified suicide prone districts of Maharashtra. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government of Maharashtra in July, 2008 and has concluded that the speed of implementation and achievements made in both the packages are satisfactory.

(d):The Government of Maharashtra has reported that with the progress of the implementation of the rehabilitation packages, the number of suicides by farmers have declined. Government has also implemented the "Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme" for farmers for mitigation of distress due to indebtedness.