

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 24.08.2007**

**ANSWERED ON**

**UNABATED SUICIDE OF FARMERS IN VIDARBHA .**

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SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA

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DEVELOPMENTAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a)whether it is a fact that suicide by farmers particularly in Vidarbha (Maharashtra) continued unabated;
- (b)if so, the details of incidents of suicide during May, June, July, 2007;
- (c)the reasons found common, if any, in these incidents;
- (d)whether any step has been taken by Government to ameliorate difficulties of debt-trapped farmers in Vidarbha and other vulnerable regions in the country;
- (e)whether any exercise to determine the effectiveness of the steps initiated has been conducted; and
- (f)if so, the outcome thereof indicating the reasons for their failure in restraining the farmers in distress from taking the extreme step?

## **ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d) : The details of suicide during May, June and July 2007 as reported by the State Government are as under:

	May	June	July
No. of cases	102	82	75

Indebtedness is the most important common reason for suicide by farmers.

Government has approved a Rehabilitation Package involving an amount of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Kerala, reporting high number of suicides by farmers. The package includes six Districts of Vidarbha, region of Maharashtra involving a total amount of Rs.3873.26 crore. Besides, an Expert Group constituted by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Prof. R. Radhakrishna to look into the problems of agricultural indebtedness in its totality and suggest measures to provide relief to farmers across the country as submitted its report and the Government has initiated the process of consultation on its recommendation.

(e)&(f): Progress of implementation of rehabilitation package is being monitored and reviewed on a regular basis at District, State and Central level. Feed back received from the State Government regarding implementation of package indicates that it has made positive impact on mitigating the distress of farmers in the identified Districts.