

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO 17.12.1998

ANSWERED ON

COMMITTEE TO PROBE SUICIDE OF FARMERS .

2018

SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether a high level committee has been set up to probe into suicide deaths of farmers in different parts of the country, and for evolving a broad-based crop insurance scheme to avert, avoid or overcome the contingencies which led to suicide by farmers on failure of crops in large numbers in different States last year; and

(b) if so, its composition and terms of reference?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SOMPAL)

(a) & (b): No High Level Committee was set up to probe into suicide deaths by farmers in different parts of the country. However, a Study Group was constituted in January, 1998 to examine the nature and extent of indebtedness of farmers in the State of Andhra Pradesh and related issues. Details of constitution and terms of reference of the Study Group is Annexed. The Study Group has since submitted its report. Follow-up action on the recommendations of the Study Group is being taken.

ANNEXURE COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF, THE STUDY GROUP CONSTITUED TO UNDERTAKE THE TASK OF EXAMINING ISSUES, BELATED TO DISTRESS CAUSED BY INDEBTEDNESS OF FARMERS IN ANDHRA PRADESH Composition of the Study Group:

1. Shri Bhagat Singh, Chairman Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.
2. Managing Director, Member National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.
3. Additional Director General Member

(Plant Protection), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

4. Shri I.D. Subba Rao, Member Vice Chancellor, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad.
5. Coninissioner & Director of reference of the Study Group:- Member Agriculture, Andhra Pradesh Hyderabad The terms of

(i) To examine in depth the nature and extent of indebtedness among the farmers in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the magnitude of its incidence particularly in respect of poor farmers;

(ii) To examine the present status of the role of informal sources of farm-credit in the State;

(iii) To identify constraints, if any, standing in the way of greater institutionalisation of the flow of rural credit in the State and to suggest measures for increasing the role of public financial institutions (Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and the Cooperative Institutions) in the purveyal of credit to the agricultural and allied sectors.

(iv) To look into the question of farmers` access to quality inputs, viz., seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc., and to suggest measures to restrict the use of pesticides (specially Synthetic Pyrethroids), promote Integrated Pest Management and to prevent the sale of spurious pesticides.

(v) To make such other recommendations on related issues as the Group may consider appropriate.