

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 15.03.2002
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDE BY FARMERS IN A.P. .

1337

SHRI NANA DESHMUKH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT, AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that 638 farmers had committed suicide during the last three years in 20 districts of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that out of an estimated 490 farmers who committed suicide in the country during 2001-2002, 385 belonged to Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) if so, what have been the causes of their suicide; and
- (d) what steps have been taken by the Central Government to tackle their problems on immediate basis and big scale too?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): According to information furnished by the State Government, 358 farmers committed suicide during December, 1997 to December, 1998, 5 farmers during 1999-2000 and 22 farmers during 2000-01, in the State of Andhra Pradesh. No report has been received from the State Government regarding suicides by farmers during 2001-02. The main reasons for such suicides have been attributed in reports of the State Government to failure of crops and indebtedness.

(d): It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures in the matter. As per report of the State Government, measures such as improvement of credit facilities, setting up of Agricultural Development Fund, strengthening of marketing arrangements and encouragement to crop diversification have been initiated to ensure improved productivity and profitability.