

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 27.07.2000
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDE BY FARMERS .

496

SHRI K. M. KHAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government are aware of the suicidal deaths of the farmers in Mehbubnagar district of Andhra Pradesh on account of severe drought situation;
- (b) if so, the details of such suicidal deaths;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there was starvation deaths in Mehbubnagar district on account of unprecedented drought situation; and
- (d) what relief measures the Central and State Government have taken to help these farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that there are no suicide deaths either on account of drought situation or on account of starvation.

(d) The Central Government released to Andhra Pradesh Central share of Rs.107.69 crore for 1999-2000 and Rs.77.78 crore for 2000-01 under Calamity Relief Fund and Rs. 75.36 crore during 1999-2000 under National Fund for Calamity Relief. In addition, the Government of India took other measures which include free transportation of fodder and water by the Railways to the drought/scarcity affected areas of the State, allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates for distribution in the drought affected areas, provision of maximum support by the RBI for conversion of short-term production loans into mid-term loans for drought affected areas, release of funds by NABARD from Rural Infrastructure Development Fund. The State Government had also reportedly taken measures for employment generation, fodder contingency programme, steps for making available drinking water and opening of cattle camps and fodder depots for the benefit of cattle.