

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 10.08.2007**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**SUICIDES IN VIDARBHA .**

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS

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& JUSTICEMINES MINES AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the suicides by the farmers in Vidarbha goes unabated;
- (b) whether the Prime Minister`s package has been implemented; and
- (c) what steps Government propose to take to make the farmers free from debt all over the country?

## ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

- (a): State Government of Maharashtra has reported reduction in the number of suicide by farmers during 2007 compared to previous year in the Vidarbha region of the State.
- (b): The Prime Minister`s package is under implementation.
- (c): The Government of India constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. R. Radhakrishna, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, to look into the problems of Agricultural Indebtedness in its totality and to suggest measures to provide relief to farmers across the country. The expert Group has submitted its report to the Government in July, 2007 and the government has initiated the process of consultation on its recommendations.