

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 10.12.2010
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDE BY FARMERS IN ORISSA .

443

Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that a poor farmer of Dubakona village in Dashrathpur block of Jaipur district, Orissa has committed suicide for not being able to pay the loan which he had taken for cultivation;
- (b) if so, how many farmers in Orissa have committed suicide till now and the amount of compensation paid to the bereaved families by Government; and
- (c) the preventive steps taken by Government to check such unfortunate incidents in future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c):A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 443 FOR 10/12/2010 REGARDING SUICIDE BY FARMERS IN ORISSA.

(a): As per information made available by Government of Orissa, one farmer did commit suicide in Dubakona village of Jajpur district. The inquiry into the death has revealed that the suicide was not due to pressure of loan.

(b): Though, the number of alleged suicide cases by farmers has been 44 in 2009-10 and 13 in 2010-11, none of these cases can be attributed to agrarian reasons. No compensation has been paid to bereaved families by Government of Orissa.

(c): The measures taken by Government of Orissa, inter alia, include compensation against crop loss, improving irrigation facilities, provision of subsidy on seeds, farm mechanisation, improving soil fertility, plant protection, credit facilities and setting up of State Farmers' Commission to review the status of agriculture in Orissa.

Various steps taken by Government of India to ameliorate the condition of farmers and for development of agriculture sector to make it economically attractive for farmers, inter alia, include formulation of National Policy for Farmers 2007, implementation of agriculture debt waiver and debt relief scheme 2008, reduction of interest rate on loans given to farmers, assistance to states and farmers under flagship schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission & National Horticulture Mission, amendment in guidelines of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in July, 2009, significant increase in Minimum Support Prices of major cereals during last five years, extension of green revolution in eastern region including Orissa, launching of scheme for 60,000 pulses and oilseed villages in rainfed area, etc.