

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 12.12.2006
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDES BY FARMERS .

2167

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :-

- (a) the total number of farmers who have committed suicides being unable to pay the loan amount, during the period for the last six months, State-wise;
- (b) the total amount that has not been paid by such farmers during this period, State-wise;
- (c) whether such loans are granted without investigating and identifying usual conditions of the farmers; mad
- (d) the steps being taken by the Central Government for the, protection of the life of poor common man particularly a farmer?

ANSWER

(MINIISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE

(SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (d) : Indebtness from formal and informal sources is only one of the many reasons for suicides by farmers. The reasons behind the suicides by the farmers are many. Excessive he, borrowing from formal and non-formal sources, social tension, continuous drought affecting the yield and their income, emerging changes in social milieu and alienation of the individuals from family and society are some of the major reasons reported for ~le, distress situation of the farmers leading to suicide.

However, to address the issue, of farmer`s distress, the Govt. of India has announced a rehabilitation package in file identified 31 debt stressed, districts ,of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra. The package provide for:-

(i) The entire interest on overdue loans as on July 01,2006 will be waived in all the affected districts and all farmers will have no past interest: burden as on that date, so that they will immediately be eligible for fresh loans from the banking system.

(ii) The overdue loans of file farmers as on July 01, 2006 will be rescheduled over a period of 3-5 years with a one-year moratorium.

(iii) A credit flow Rs.13,817.78 crore, Rs.3,076.20 crore, Rs.1,945.07 crore and Rs.1275 crore will be ensured in the above debt stressed districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra respectively in 2006-07.