

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, besides implementation of various schemes in Maharashtra and other parts of the country, had in July, 2006 also set up National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) with its head office at Hyderabad. NFDB since its inception has been implementing a wide range of fisheries developmental activities such as intensive aquaculture in ponds and tanks, culture based capture fisheries in reservoirs, coastal aquaculture, mariculture, seaweed cultivation, development of domestic markets, fish dressing centres and solar drying of fish, deep sea fish and tuna processing, infrastructure development and post harvest processing. The financial assistance provided under the existing scheme of NFDB comprises (i) up to 90% to Government/Quasi Government agencies, (ii) 25% to 40% to North Eastern/SC/ST, and (iii) up to 20% to others.

Besides, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, also implements various schemes to promote export oriented fisheries in Maharashtra and other parts of the country. Some of the important activities covered under the schemes implemented by the MPEDA are (i) capture fisheries especially to promote tuna fishing, (ii) creation of processing infrastructure and value addition, (iii) quality control and (iv) market promotion.

(c) An analysis of marine fish production data during last three years (2011-12 to 2013-14) revealed that Maharashtra with an average annual marine fish production of 4.50 lakh metric tonne, stands at third position in comparison with other Coastal States.

#### **Agricultural development and growth**

3240. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the bottlenecks in sustainable development of agriculture in the country;
- (b) the reasons for a sharp disparity between some States and others in agricultural development and growth;
- (c) to what extent country's agriculture is still dependent on rains;
- (d) the action taken by Government to ensure that no farmer in the country commits suicide hereafter; and

(e) how many farmers committed suicide in the country during last three years, with specific reference to Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Some of the bottlenecks in sustainable development of agriculture are land overuse, land fragmentation, diversion of agriculture land to non-agricultural use, deterioration of soil health, unwanted crop diversification, climate change, depletion of water resources, inadequate agricultural infrastructure, etc.

(b) Since, agriculture is a State subject, Plan Schemes for development of agriculture are formulated by State Governments on the basis of their respective agricultural growth potential, agro-climatic conditions, developmental priorities and aspirations of their respective people which has a cumulative effect on agricultural development and growth in a State.

(c) Rains in appropriate measure is beneficial to agriculture as water is critical for agricultural production and productivity. As per estimates about 60% of the agricultural area in the country is rainfed.

(d) Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of all these programmes is primarily to increase farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and establishing appropriate backward and forward linkages.

Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in institutional credit flow to agriculture and allied sector, post-harvest loan for six months to eliminate distress sale of agriculture produce by farmers, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.

(e) State-wise details of suicides under sub-head self-employed (farming/agriculture), as per Reports of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), during last three years are given in Statement. (*See below*).

***Statement***

*State/UT-wise number of suicides by self employed persons in  
farming/agriculture during 2011-2013*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011	2012	2013
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2206	2572	2014
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	11	37
3.	Assam	312	344	305
4.	Bihar	83	68	127
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	4	0
6.	Goa	1	1	1
7.	Gujarat	578	564	582
8.	Haryana	384	276	374
9.	Himachal Pradesh	46	29	33
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	10	18
11.	Jharkhand	94	119	142
12.	Karnataka	2100	1875	1403
13.	Kerala	830	1081	972
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1326	1172	1090
15.	Maharashtra	3337	3786	3146
16.	Manipur	0	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	22	10	5
18.	Mizoram	14	10	6
19.	Nagaland	2	9	2
20.	Odisha	144	146	150
21.	Punjab	98	75	83
22.	Rajasthan	268	270	292
23.	Sikkim	12	19	35

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011	2012	2013
24.	Tamil Nadu	623	499	105
25.	Tripura	20	18	56
26.	Uttar Pradesh	645	745	750
27.	Uttarakhand	25	14	15
28.	West Bengal	807	NR	0
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	5
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13	6	15
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
33.	Delhi (UT)	10	21	8
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		14027	13754	11772

Source: 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India', National Crime Records Bureau

NR - State of West Bengal did not provide data for the above classification for the year 2012.

### Plan to revise crop insurance policy

3241. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has planned to revise the Crop Insurance Policy for farmers;

(b) if so, whether Government has made any feasibility report on its benefits to farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) A comprehensive crop insurance policy namely the National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), which comprises of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance