

**Failure of efforts to tackle suicide by farmers**

1304. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that efforts of Central Government to check suicide of farmers in the country have failed miserably, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government is also aware that at least seven cases of farmers' suicide on daily basis since January, 2015 till date is being reported from some States, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of corrective measures Government would take to revise the policies to check large scale and unprecedented suicide by poor farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) Agriculture is a state subject under the Constitution and it is the State Governments that take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector and welfare of farmers. As reported by the State Governments the cumulative number of suicides for the period January 2015 till date is 398. State-wise details of number of farmers who committed suicide due to agrarian distress during the year 2015, as reported by States/ Union Territories is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. Several steps have been undertaken to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve upon the condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing public investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure, extension, marketing, etc. 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 Government is primarily on increase of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging 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 sector, post-harvest loan for six months to eliminate

distress sale of agricultural produce by farmers, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.

**Statement**

*Number of Suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons  
as reported by State Governments*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015	Reported on
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NR	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	20-07-2015
3.	Assam	0	01-07-2015
4.	Bihar	NR	
5.	Chhattisgarh	NR	
6.	Goa	0	19-06-2015
7.	Gujarat	0	10-04-2015
8.	Haryana	1	14-07-2015
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	15-07-2015
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	
11.	Jharkhand	NR	
12.	Karnataka (F/Y) 2014-15 #	107	22-07-2015
13.	Kerala #	0	10-04-2015
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	
15.	Maharashtra	257	22-04-2015
16.	Manipur	NR	
17.	Meghalaya	0	11-03-2015
18.	Mizoram	0	22-04-2015
19.	Nagaland	NR	
20.	Odisha	0	20-06-2015
21.	Punjab	32	# 21-07-2015
22.	Rajasthan	1	21-04-2015

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015	Reported on
23.	Sikkim	NR	
24.	Tamil Nadu	NR	
25.	Telangana	NR	
26.	Tripura	0	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	23-07-2015
28.	Uttarakhand	0	16-07-2015
29.	West Bengal	0	24-07-2015
TOTAL (STATES)		398	
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	22-07-2015
31.	Chandigarh	NR	
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR	
33.	Daman and Diu	NR	
34.	NCT Delhi	NR	
35.	Lakshadweep	NR	
36.	Puducherry	0	22-07-2015
TOTAL (UT)		0	
GRAND TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		398	

*Source* : Reported by States Government and UTs.

NR = Not reported

# Total number of suicides by farmers (due to various reasons)

### **Crop insurance to small and marginal farmers at Government cost**

1305. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to extend crop insurance to small and marginal farmers of Gujarat and rest of the country at Government cost; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of Government of India to provide crop insurance at Government cost to small and marginal