

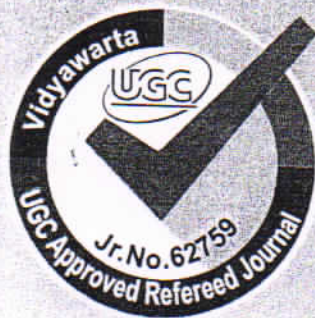


MAH/MUL/03051/2012
ISSN-2319 9318

Issue-20, Vol-07, Oct. to Dec.2017

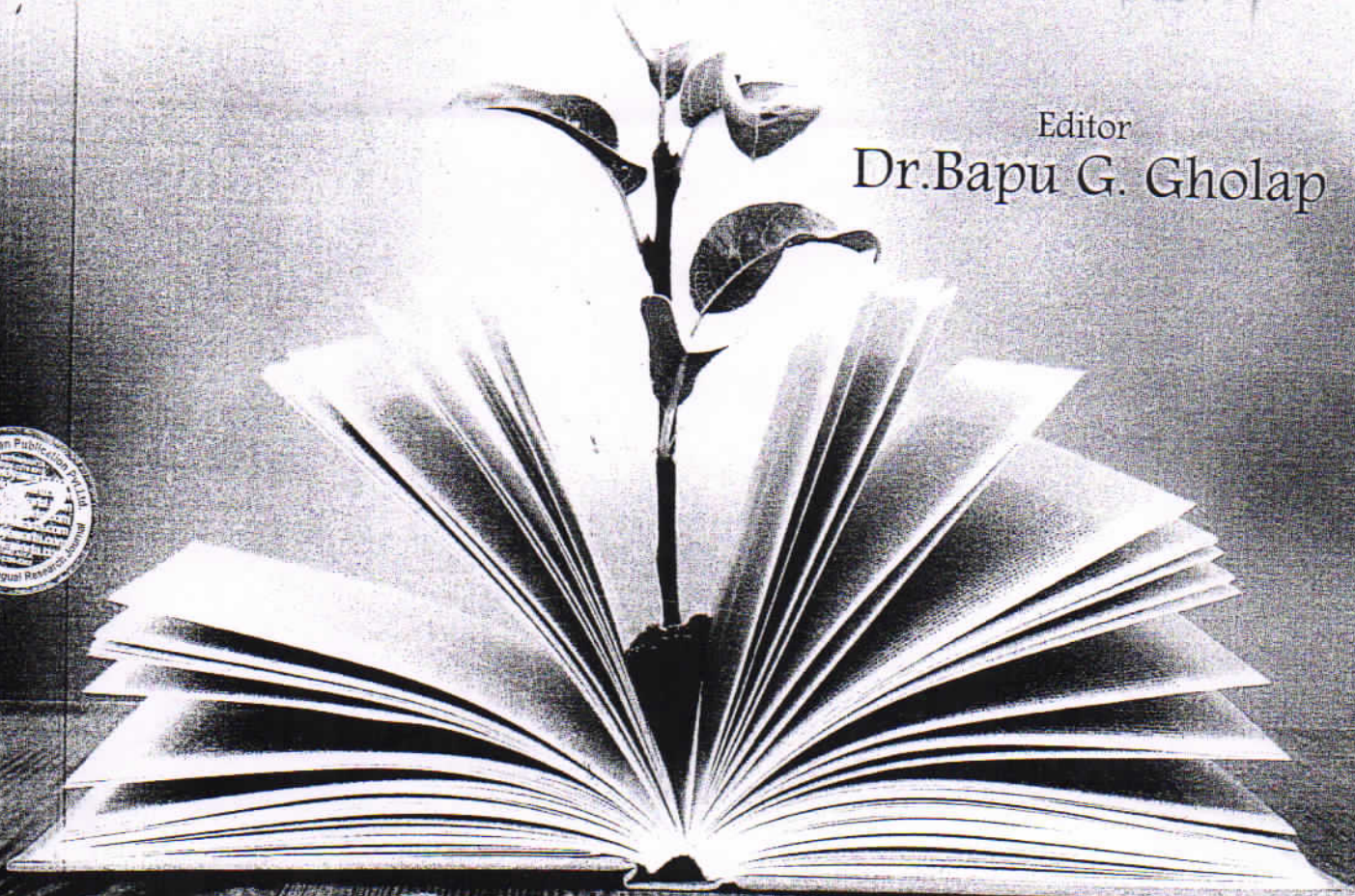
Vidyawarta®

International Multilingual Research Journal



Prin. Dr. P. B.
Patil

Editor
Dr. Bapu G. Gholap



www.vidyawarta.com

15) AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS AND FARMERS SUICIDE ✓ Dr. Sou. Parvati Bhagwan Patil, Hupri, Kolhapur	76
16) EFFECT OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAMME ON AGE GROUP 13 TO 16 YEAR..... Dr. Savita Phalke, Pune	80
17) Cyber Terrorism And Its Impact on India's Security Promila, Kurukshetra.	83
18) A STUDY OF THE STATUS OF PHYSICAL RESOURCES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: AN.... Aruna Singhal—Dr. Gyanendra Nath Tiwari, Noida	90
19) The role of Consumer protection act 1986 for protection of consumers of Indore District DR. R. B. Gupta— DR. NILOFAR QURESHI, Indore (M.P.)	95
20) A CRITICAL STUDY OF CROSS- BORDER DISPUTES AND TENSIONS BETWEEN.... Dr A. K. Tyagi—Mr. Javid Maqbool Shah, Gwalior M.P.	99
21) Development of Student Alienation Scale Dr. Abha Sharma, Lucknow	104
22) The Maoist Challenge for India's Internal Security Sunil Kumar, Rohtak Haryana	112
— 23) Woomesh Chandra Bonnerjee: The Prophet of Representative Democracy in India Dr. Viplav, Bulandshahr	116
24) A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF ONGC LIMITED & GAIL.... Sadamhusen M. Timbaliya, Gujarat	123
25) Cognitive Benefits of Reading Fictions And Non-Fictions Warad Manisha A.	130
26) REVAMPING EDUCATION STRATEGY: NEED FOR INNOVATIVE LEARNING Prazy Walia, Chandigarh	133
27) महाराष्ट्रातील हवामान आणि मृदेचे प्रकार प्रा. बोवडे वी. वी., वीड (महाराष्ट्र)	137
28) जागतिकीकरणातील मराठी कादंबरी प्रा. देविदास शिंदे, दिंडोरी, जि. नाशिक	140

15

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS AND FARMERS SUICIDE

Dr. Sou. Parvati Bhagwan Patil
Principal,
Chandrabai Shantappa Shindore College,
Hupri, Kolhapur

INTRODUCTION:

Agriculture continues to play a predominant role in influencing the overall performance of the Indian economic. Agriculture is the main occupation for more than 60 percent of Indian population. Indian agriculture has been passing through a phase of serious crisis. The crisis in agriculture has many manifestations, of which suicides of farmers one is that came as a rude jolt. Maharashtra is the first state of suicides by farmers. Here some causes of agrarian distress and farmers suicides in Maharashtra monsoon failure, increasing cost of cultivation mono cropping. The recent literature on agrarian distress and distress driven farmers suicide examined crop and region related specific factors, have lead the farmers to suffer humiliation and finally surrendering them-self to kill themselves have convincingly proved that trade liberalization led price fall for agricultural commodities, compounded further by the hike in production cost and total withdrawal by the concerned governments from procurement and market intervention of 1990s and 2000s have caused distress to the roots causing rural distress claiming thousands of lives across the country. The exact causes of agrarian distress may vary from one to another state but everybody agrees on the common causes i.e., external trade liberalization and neo-liberal policy driven reforms in the economy

have divested the life of agrarian community who have embraced agriculture as their main occupation. The outbreak of suicide in India is appalling and on average one Indian farmer committed suicide every 32 minutes during the past period 1997to2007 and as many as 48 farmers suicide per day in India between 2002-2007. The farmer suicide in India as a clear indication of serve distress in the farming community.

The causes for present agrarian distress vary from one to another state. But the genuine causes may be common in all states which include external trade liberalization and neo-liberal policy driven reforms in the economy have played havoc with the farm dependent population in the country. Indian state now acknowledges the fact that between 1993and2003, 1,00,248 farmers committed suicide in India. The most important factor is there are many dimensions of the present agrarian crisis. In terms of population, India stands at number two but in terms of area it stands at number seven in the world. By the year 2003-2004 only 67.3 million hectares which is 35.3 percent of the total cropped area were under non-food grain crops. While the workforce in agriculture has remained more or less stagnant its contribution to nations GDP has been steadily declining ratio of worker productivity in agriculture to non-agriculture. On account of an increasing number of holdings and constant and even declining cultivable land area, the burden of farmers has been increasing suicides of farmers one is that came as a rude jolt.

Objective of the Study:

1. To study the history of farmers suicide in India.
2. To study the farmers suicide in India.
3. To study the International comparison farmers suicide in India
4. To study the effectiveness of Government response.

Research Methodology:

The study is based on secondary data. The data is collected from various government reports, journals, newspapers, published books, websites etc.

History:

Historical records relating to frustration, revolts and high mortality rates among farmers in India, particularly cash crop farmers, date back to the 19th century. However, suicides due to the same were rare. The high land taxes of 1870s, payable in cash regardless of the effects of frequent famines on farm output or productivity, combined with colonial protection of usury, money lenders and landowner rights, contributed to widespread penury and frustration among cotton and other farmers, ultimately leading to the Deccan Riots of 1875-1877. The British government enacted the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act in 1879, to limit the interest rate charged by money lenders to Deccan cotton farmers, but applied it selectively to areas that served British cotton trading interests. Rural mortality rates, in predominantly agrarian British India, were very high between 1850 and the 1940s. However, starvation related deaths far exceeded those by suicide, the latter being officially classified under "injuries". The death rate classified under "injuries", in 1897, was 79 per 100,000 people in Central Provinces of India and 37 per 100,000 people in Bombay Presidency.

Agrarian crisis:

The recent literature on agrarian distress and distress driven farmers suicide examined crop and region related specific factors, have lead the farmers to suffer humiliation and finally surrendering them-self to kill themselves have convincingly proved that trade liberalization led price fall for agricultural commodities, compounded further by the hike in production cost and total withdrawal by the concerned governments from procurement and market intervention of 1990s and 2000s have caused

distress to the roots causing rural distress claiming thousands of lives across the country. The exact causes of agrarian distress may vary from one to another state but everybody agrees on the common causes i.e., external trade liberalization and neo-liberal policy driven reforms in the economy have divested the life of agrarian community who have embraced agriculture as their main occupation

Farmers Debt's

In India, it is a documented fact that most of the farmers depended upon external finance to do agriculture increasing indebtedness is one of the strong factors responsible for farmers distress and distress driven suicide. Year 1997-2007 21,174 farmers suicide having high indebtedness.

Need for the study:

Agricultural activity for their income. Agriculture in India is undergoing a structural change leading to a crisis. Maharashtra is the first state that drew country wide attention through a state of suicides by farmers. Farmer suicide Maharashtra there are economy of Maharashtra. The first spurt in farmer's suicide occurred in the mid 1980s.

Farmers suicide in India;

The outbreak of suicide in India is appalling and on average one Indian farmer committed suicide every 32 minutes during the past period 1997to2007 and as many as 48 farmers suicide per day in India between 2002-2007. The farmer suicide in India as a clear indication of serve distress in the farming community. The causes for present agrarian distress vary from one to another state. But the genuine causes may be common in all states which include external trade liberalization and neo-liberal policy driven reforms in the economy have played havoc with the farm dependent population in the country. Indian state now acknowledges the fact that between 1993 and 2003, 1,00,248 farmers committed suicide in India. The most important factor is debt.

Table-1: Farmers Suicide in India 1995 to 2012		Farmers suicides in India	
S. No	States		
1	Maharashtra	53,818	
2	Karnataka	33,326	
3	Kerala	18,907	
4	Chhattisgarh	15,340	
5	Andhra Pradesh	10,007	
6	Punjab	1,363	

Above Table No-1 explain that farmer's suicide across India in different states during the period 1995-2012. In India. More farmer suicide were in Maharashtra is 53,818, It has taken place in first rank, and following state were Karnataka, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Punjab. Pandjab was least in place took in farmer's suicide comparative with other state. The Maharashtra occupy the first place in farmer suicide.

Reasons:

Various reasons have been offered to explain why farmers commit suicide in India, including: floods, drought, debt, use of genetically modified seed, public health, use of lower quantity pesticides due to less investments producing a decreased yield and also government economic policies. There is no consensus on what the main causes might be but studies show suicide victims are motivated by more than one cause, on average three or more causes for committing suicide. Panagariya states, "farm-related reasons get cited only

approximately 25 percent of the time as reasons for suicide" and "studies do consistently show greater debt burden and greater reliance on informal sources of credit" amongst farmers who commit suicide.

International comparison

Farmers suicide is a global phenomenon. Outside India, studies in Sri Lanka, USA, Canada, England and Australia have identified farming as a high stress profession that is associated with a higher suicide rate than the general population. This is particularly true among small scale farmers and after periods of economic distress. Fraser et al., similarly, after a review of 52 scholarly publications, conclude that farming populations in the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, Canada and the United States have the highest rates of suicide of any industry and there is growing evidence that those involved in farming are at higher risk of developing mental health problems. Their review claims a wide range of reasons behind farmers suicide globally including mental health issues, physical environment, family problems, economic stress and uncertainties. Significantly higher suicide rate among farmers than general population have been reported in developed countries such as the UK and the US.

Effectiveness of government response:

The government's response and relief packages have generally been ineffective, misdirected and flawed, states Surinder Sud. It has focused on credit and loan, rather than income, productivity and farmer prosperity. Assistance in paying off outstanding principal and interest helps the money lenders, but has failed to create reliable and good sources of income for the farmer going forward. The usurious moneylenders continue to offer loans at interest rates between 24 and 50 percent, while income generating potential of the land the farmer works on has remained low and subject to weather conditions. Sud states that

the government has failed to understand that debt relief just postpones the problem and a more lasting answer to farmer distress can only come from reliable income sources, higher crop yields per hectare, irrigation and other infrastructure security. Golait, in a Reserve Bank of India paper acknowledged the positive role of crop diversification initiative announced in government's response to reports of farmer suicides. Golait added, "Indian agriculture still suffers from: i) poor productivity, ii) falling water levels, iii) expensive credit, iv) a distorted market, v) many middlemen and intermediaries who increase cost but do not add much value, vi) laws that stifle private investment, vii) controlled prices, viii) poor infrastructure, and ix) inappropriate research. Thus the approach with mere emphasis on credit in isolation from the above factors will not help agriculture". Furthermore, recommended Golait, a more pro-active role in creating and maintaining reliable irrigation and other agriculture infrastructure is necessary to address farmer distress in India.

Conclusion:

The failure of preventing farmers suicides speaks failure of previous packages declared either by state government or central government committed suicide assistance in the form of providing employment should be started on the merit of each case. Effective water management techniques The causes for present agrarian distress vary from one to another state. But the genuine causes may be common in all states which include external trade liberalization and neo-liberal policy driven reforms in the economy have played havoc with the farm dependent population in the country should be popularized to that effective water management of the scarce water is done effectively. The exact causes of agrarian distress may vary from one to another state but everybody agrees on the common causes i.e., external trade liberalization

and neo-liberal policy driven reforms in the economy have divested the life of agrarian community who have embraced agriculture as their main occupation.

References:

1. Ratna Reddy v. and Galab, s. (2006), "Agrarian crisis; looking Beyond in debt Trap' Economic & political weekly, may, 2006, pp 1938-184.
2. Mishra, s. (2006), farmers suicide in Maharashtra, Economic & political, weekly, vol 41, No.16, pp 1538-1545.
3. Agrarian crisis in India. D. Narasimha Reddy, srijit Mishra.
4. Ramachandra Gowda and E.A. parameswara Gupta, (2012), Farmer suicides in India. Trends and Issues Recommendations of NCEUS southern Economist, Vol.51 (4), pp.52-55.
5. P. Narasimha Rao, K.C. suri (2006) Dimensions of Agrarian Distress in Andhra Pradesh Economics & political Weekly, April 22, 2006, pp 1546- 1552.
6. Jyothi and Dharam pal (2013) crisis in Indian Agricultural sector Agricultural situation in India, Vol LXIX, No.12, March 2013, pp-19-28.
7. Tushaar shah, Yashree Mehta, Vivek Kher, Alkapalrecha (2014) Generating Agrarian Dynamism saurashtra's Lessons for Vidarbha, Economics and political weekly, Vol, Xlxxnos 26&27, pp 86-94.
8. Amarendra Reddy All structure of Indebtedness of Households in semi-Arid tropics of India. Agricultural Economics Research Review, Vol.25, 2012 pp. 473-483.

□□□