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Research Paper

CRITICAL STUDY OF FARMERS SUICIDE IN VIDARBHA REGION OF MAHARASHTRA-A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Indian economy is known as Agrarian economy. In four largest economies in which India is one of it 70% of Indian population is depend upon agricultural sector which is the main factor of India. Rural economy is solely dependent upon rainfall and the freaky monsoon however, it is recorded that for the last few decades the percentage of rainfall has declined in several Indian states including Maharashtra. Therefore one main critical problem created in Indian economy, it means in every year by year many farmers commit own suicide. Mostly five states in India having large ratio of farmers committed to suicide than others in India. The five states are Maharashtra, Andra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh. When in comparison of this state it found that farmers suicide ratio is high in Maharashtra state. Maharashtra state is also known as Western, southern, North, Central Maharashtra, Marathwada and Vidarbha regions, and also studied farmers suicide in these regions then find out Vidarbha region mostly farmers ending their own life means committed to suicide.

Cotton cultivation has been changing over the years and the farmers have not been able to adjust themselves in the fast changing nature of agriculture. They found in difficulties of income generation and employment. As a result, the seed of agrarian crisis was generated in Cotton cultivators in the Vidarbha region of the state of Maharashtra. And the most of the farmers who ended their lives through committing suicide are Cotton growers. Hence the Cotton becomes a suicide crop in the state. Also the gap between expected and actual production had widened in last few years. As well as, the gap between the expenditure and income also widened. Hence Cotton growers found themselves in the vicious trap of indebtedness. It has become one of the reasons of the distress act of suicides by farmers in the Vidarbha region of the state.

Farmers were always indebted someone has correctly said that a farmers is both in debt, lives in debt and dies in debt. I think this situation is in all over India not only in Maharashtra. But there were no suicides takes place in earlier days. The reason is that cotton fetched high prices than in 1972. It was called white gold of Vidarbha region even though yield was less. It fetched the same prices as gold. The first where suicides were reported was Maharashtra with particular reference to Vidarbha region. This is also mainly because of the infertility of the land, lack of most water resources, cotton crop failure and lack of new technologies The main crop in Vidarbha is cotton, but the farmers growing it do not get their share from the government, which leads to the high distress among them, leading to the massive suicides.

From various information collected, it showed the solution such as Water management, natural farming, special agricultural zone, multiple crop system, supportive sources for farmers, Weather risk management system, Providing effective loan schemes, scientific innovation and Agriculture



modernization, Agriculture farmer training, Counseling to farmers self reliance and capacity building among farmers. Monitoring and support system for unguarded farmers, support and counseling services transparent system for disbursement for relief packages in required preventing farmers suicide in the near future. Central and state government has announced the relief packages to the suicide affected families in Maharashtra. NABARD is implementing agency of the package provided by central government. This research paper focuses on the causes of farmers suicide and effective remedies. Therefore an attempt has been made in this article to address the issue of Vidarbha region. Farmers inconvenient condition leading to suicides and remedies to address the issue have been suggested.

KEY WORDS: *Agriculture, Cotton crop, Vidarbha region, Farmers suicide, financial problem, Causes, Remedies, Sustainable development, Government policy*

I INTRODUCTION

India is primarily agriculture country. The villages in India mainly depend on agriculture. It is very true to say that the prosperity of our nation depends upon the prosperity of villages. Farmers have a great share and prime role to play farming or agriculture remain backbone. *Jai Jawan , Jai Kisan*" - Lal Bahadur Shastri This slogan of a visionary prime minister had lost its potential over the time. After the independence, according to Gandhiji's vision of Gram-Swaraj, villages and specially farmers were to be the main focus of any development plan of India. As years passed, by agriculture as an industry lost its importance for policy makers of India. This over the time caused severe distress among the farmers leading to recent dramatic rise in the number of suicides among farmer community. Every day in national newspaper invariably there is news related to farmers suicides [1] Maharashtra is the largest number state where more number of farmer suicides for over a decade from early 1990s. Nearly 50-60 percent of the farmers who committed suicide own more than four acres of land and are predominantly cotton producers. The cotton belt is where the suicides are taking place on a very large scale. It is the suicide belt of India. A report from the Maharashtra state government concluded that 93 percent of all these suicides are due to debt. [2]

India's suicide rate of 11 per lakh people is roughly the global average. The highest rates are in Greenland (83 lakh), Lithuania (38 lakh) and South Korea (28.5 lakh). China's rate (22.2 lakh) is double India's. The Indian rate is lower than in rich countries with big welfare systems and very few farmers: Belgium (19), France (14.7), US (12.6), Japan (12.3), Germany (12.5) and the UK (11.8)[13] Total no. of farmers 308798 have committed suicide in India since 1995 to till [3]

Maharashtra is one of the pioneers and progressive state in the country It has achieved the

massive development in the field of agriculture particularly after the green revolution. At that time it was expected that the new economic policy will help in booming the economy in general and agriculture in particular Vidarbha is the eastern region of Maharashtra It occupies 31.6% of total area and holds 21.3% of total population of Maharashtra [3] The green revolution had brought in a long term impact on the agrarian economy of the country in general and that of the state of Maharashtra in particular. The production and productivity of food-grains, vegetables and other cash crops was increased in the first phase of it. In the mid 1980s the agriculture became a commercial activity which needed more money for investment. At the same time government reduced the investment in agriculture and rural allied sector. And after the implementation of the new economic policy the agriculture sector was further neglected by the national macroeconomic policy. Though the agricultural movements started, the government of Maharashtra was expected to spell prosperity for the farmers, but it created conditions that were likely to push the farmers to distress [4]

Vidarbha is located in Maharashtra in central India which is famous for producing cotton, oranges and soybeans. Crops are predominantly rain fed. And when the region endures frequent droughts, the crop yields and farmers incomes drop. Lack of alternative sources of income coupled with increasing family expenses and failed farmer investments results in poverty among the agrarian [5] The population of Vidarbha is almost 12 lakhs, The Vidarbha region consists of 11 north-eastern districts of Maharashtra state namely Akola, Amravati, Buldana, Washim and Yavatmal in Amravati division and Bhandara, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Nagpur and Wardha in Nagpur division.

Vidarbha has its own rich cultural and historical background distinct from rest of Maharashtra. Vidarbha

holds two-thirds of Maharashtra's mineral resources and three-quarters of its forest resources, and is a net producer of power.[6] Vidarbha has Tadoba Andhari Tiger Project, Melghat Tiger Project, Pench Tiger Reserve, Bor Wildlife Sanctuary, Navegaon National Park, and Nagzira wildlife sanctuary near Gondia district, all are located in Vidarbha region. But it is painful to observe that the food grain output grew very low per cent per annum which was far below the growth of population for a long time. In Vidarbha not a single farm family lives on the farm because of unavailability of water and electricity throughout the year. For the Vidarbha region after the month of January, it is hard of getting drinking water without the tanker. Maharashtra, one of the most prosperous states is currently facing an epidemic of farmer suicides especially in the Vidarbha region after the one and a half decade of the introduction of the new economic policy which brought in the benefits to the industrial and services sector at the cost of agriculture and cultivators. Throughout its history, Vidarbha has remained much calmer during the communal troubles than the rest of India, but it is pestilence very much by poverty [7] it is less economically prosperous compared to the rest of Maharashtra.

The living conditions of farmers in this region are poor compared to other region of Maharashtra. There have been more than 200,000 farmers suicides in Maharashtra in a decade, of which 70% being in the 11 districts of Vidarbha region.[8] though rich in minerals, coal, forests and mountains, this region is always underdeveloped because of its continuous dominance by the political leadership from the other parts of the state. It is culturally, politically and financially different from the rest of Maharashtra.

In the 1990s India woke up to a fast flow of farmers' suicide. The first state where suicides were reported was Maharashtra. In the beginning it was believed that most of the suicides were happening among the cotton growers, especially those from Vidarbha.[9]

According to NCRB in the year 1995 to 2015, 66546 were suicide in Maharashtra. On average, 3,685 farmers in the state took their lives every year between 2004 to 2013. Even accepting the 11,744 figure for 2013, that brings the national total since 1995 to 2015 308798 farmers' suicides (NCRB ADSI reports 1995-2015). From January first to June 2016, 2,053 farmer suicide cases have been reported, with Amravati division leading with 692 cases [10] Maharashtra has the highest rate of suicide especially in the Vidarbha region among other states as Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh

and Chattisgarh. According to the report of the Ministry of Agriculture in India, one person commits suicide every eight hours in India, those who committed suicide were between age 20 and age 45 in Vidarbha [11]

Vidarbha in Maharashtra state is one of the most distressed regions of the country and in the recent years there have been reports of numerous agrarian crisis induced suicides in this region [12] The literature in the Indian context identifies the factors as contributing to distress suicides, such as negative growth of agrarian economy, liberalization or imperialist globalization, state neglect, flood and drought, intense use of hybrid seeds and chemical fertilizers, poor soil fertility, increasing crop-susceptibility to pests and diseases, manipulation of prices by traders, decline in agricultural produce and increase in the cost of agricultural inputs among others. [13] Various measures are being initiated by the central and state governments towards reducing the farmers' distress in this region. A few are the Prime Minister's package, NABARD watershed program and loan waiver schemes. However, the actual implementation of these schemes is very slow and insufficient and leaves much more to be done, as the farmers in the region continue to commit suicides in large numbers.

OBJECTIVES

Therefore study is undertaken to find out.

1. To study the farmers suicides in Vidarbha region in Maharashtra
2. To study the concept of agriculture sector and to know the causes of farmers suicide.
3. To understand the causes of increasing rural indebtedness
4. To get the information about the causes of farmers suicide.
5. To suggest the remedies for farmers suicide

II. METHODOLOGY

For evaluating specific objectives of the study, the research paper highlights the burning and sensitive issue of suicide of farmers in Vidarbha causes and remedies of farmers suicide. Information and data about the paper has been collected from the various secondary sources such as government website, Tata institute of social science, National crime Record Bureau, research articles, magazines, journals national and vernacular news papers with NCRB reports etc.

III. INFORMATION ABOUT FARMERS SUICIDE

According to the National Crime Records bureau (NCRB) data, it was found that most of the suicides were happening among the cotton growers,

the first state where suicides were reported was Maharashtra, especially those from Vidarbha region. According to the National Crime Records bureau (NCRB) data, more than 308798 farmers have committed suicide since 1995 to till .The big five States are Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh follow closely, nearly 60-61% of farmer suicides being reported from these states. The annual average farmers suicides during 1995-2015 for five Worst Hit states is 9218, the highest annual average at 3168 in Maharashtra followed by Madhya Pradesh &

Chhattisgarh (2191) ,Karnataka (2,005) and Andra pradesh (1854). Karnataka and Andra pradesh suicide annual average is less due to normal monsoon therefore the number of farmer suicides is came down. Maharashtra is known by progressive and developed state but in other side number of suicide is maximum in India because the average of farmers suicide is 3168 which is more than other four state due to failure of cotton crops and increasing debt during the period 1995-2015.

Table -1 Farmers suicide in 5 Worst Hit states and India (1995-2015)

Year	Maharashtra	Andra Pradesh	Karnataka	Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh	Total of five states	All India
1995	1083	1196	2490	1239	6008	10720
1996	1981	1706	2011	1809	7507	13729
1997	1917	1097	1832	2390	7236	13622
1998	2409	1813	1883	2278	8333	16015
1999	2423	1974	2379	2654	9430	16082
2000	3022	1525	2630	2660	9837	16603
2001	3316	1509	2505	2824	10374	16415
2002	3695	1896	2340	2578	10509	17971
2003	3826	1800	2678	2511	10825	17164
2004	4147	2666	1963	3033	11809	18241
2005	3936	2490	1883	2660	10959	17131
2006	4453	2607	1720	2858	11638	17060
2007	4238	1797	2135	2856	11026	16632
2008	3802	2105	1737	3152	10797	16196
2009	2872	2414	2282	3197	10765	17368
2010	3141	2525	2585	2363	10614	15964
2011	3337	2206	2100	1326	8969	14027
2012	3786	2572	1875	1172	9405	13754
2013	3146	2014	1403	1090	7653	11744
2014	2568	898	321	1269	5056	12360
2015	3228	116	1350	100	4794	--
Total	66546	38926	42102	46019	193593	308798

In India, more than 308798 committed suicides during 1995 to 2015 while 66546 farmers committed suicides in Maharashtra for the same period. Maharashtra is at first place in farmers suicide in India,

while Vidarbha regions is at first place in Maharashtra. Following table shows the numbers of farmer suicide in Vidarbha, Maharashtra and India [14]

Table -2 Trends of farmers suicides in Vidharbh and Maharashtra

Year	Vidharbha	Maharashtra	% of farmers suicide in Vidharbha to Maharashtra	Year	Vidharbha	Maharashtra	% of farmers suicide in Vidharbha to Maharashtra
1995	--	1083	--	2006	1659	4453	37.26
1996	--	1981	--	2007	1447	4238	34.14
1997	--	1917	--	2008	1482	3802	38.98
1998	--	2409	--	2009	1600	2872	55.71
1999	--	2423	--	2010	1740	3141	55.40
2000	--	3022	--	2011	1495	3337	44.80
2001	52	3316	1.5	2012	1467	3786	38.75
2002	120	3695	3.24	2013	1298	3146	41.26
2003	161	3826	4.21	2014	1949	2568	75.90
2004	498	4147	12.00	2015	2016	3228	62.45
2005	499	3936	12.67				



In above table-2 we see that % of farmers suicide in Vidharbha to farmers suicide in Maharashtra increased from 2001 to 2015 but % is more in year 2014. The table-2 shows that in the year 2001, 52 farmers committed suicides in Vidharbha while this figure has nearly more than doubled to 120 in the very next year. The number of suicides has seen to be continuously increasing over the years. In 2006 this has increased to 1659 In the year 2007 and 2008 this has slightly reduced to 1447 and 1482 respectively. Wardha, Yeotmal, Amravati, Washim, Akola, and Buldhana are considered as suicide prone district in Vidharbha. As per figures shown by The Indian Express, 1600 farmers committed suicides in the year 2009 in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra and 1740 in the year 2010. This number has gone down to 1495 and 1467 in the year 2011 and 2012 respectively. The number has again gone down to 1298 in the year 2013 which has increased to 1949 in 2014. In 2015 within nine month the number of suicides has increased to 2016. and the number of farmers suicides has been seen flexible in Maharashtra state These figures definitely suggest suicide rate in Vidharbha is high since 2002 in comparison to other region that is an average of over five to six farmers committing suicide per day [15] Data by farmers suicides for the period between 1995 to 2015 shows that at the earlier stage, the number of incidences of suicides was less, Vidharbha region have been at the top in Maharashtra Afterwards the sudden change of farmers suicides spread all over the state also. Incidences of committing suicides increased during the year 2006. Total 4453 farmers of the state ended their lives through committing suicides. It is found that the tribal population has reported less number of incidences of farmers suicides. It proves that the poor have the less inclination of committing suicide. In the western Vidharbha (Amravati, Yavatmal, Akola, Buldhana, Wardha and Washim) reported highest incidences of suicides whereas, east Vidharbha mostly the tribal belt shows relatively less number of cases of suicides. In the region, state and India particularly increasing farmers suicide after the year 2002 The year 2004 was the drought hit year which gave a setback to the agrarian economy and aggravated the spate of suicides. Vidharbha has reported maximum number of suicides in the state. A total of 11 districts come under the regions. There had been a spurt in cases of farmers suicides in March, April and May. August and September had also seen a rise in the number of cases. "Maharashtra has been seeing drought and unseasonal rains over the past years [16]

Causes: There are various economic, social, individual and environmental causes of farmers suicide in Vidharbha. The causes of this crisis are complex and manifold; they are dominantly related to public policy and economic strategy

A) **Natural Reasons -**

1- **Uncertainty in Monsoon and Low Productivity-**

Agriculture sector mostly depends on monsoons. Due to this situation farmers have incurred heavy losses by double or triple sowing or sometimes the total crop loss. Variations in the monsoon affect the agricultural production and lives of the farmers. Cultivated land is distributed unevenly most of the farmers are marginal farmers due to uncertainty in monsoon agriculture productivity is not fixed. It is difficult to fulfill requirement of family members which leads to suicides the farmers.

2- **Natural Calamities:-**

The effective agricultural production is mostly depends on favorable weather condition. Due to the global warming, deforestation and other manmade reasons natural condition has become more worsen and reasons like heavy raining, floods, droughts, delay in raining, heavy cyclones etc. farmers unable to take qualitative and quantitative production from their farm. Most of the time farmers are unable to recover cost price of their product. Due to these reasons agriculture becomes an assured loss making business. But the marginal & small farmers don't have another option for earning. They again & again put their all efforts in the agriculture. Continuous losses turn them to become insolvent and frustration of the same forces them to commit suicides

3- **Water level decline -**

Water is most important element in universe which is essential for the existence of all forms of life It is renewable resource and its availability depend on climate, geographical and physical condition. But water decline caused by sustained ground water pumping, poor monsoons, high demand water poor shortage facilities, careless attitude toward conservation which cause soil erosion and soil unable to permit water percolation and also over exploitation of water. Sufficient irrigation facilities are the prerequisite for the sustainable

development of the sector. The problem of farmers suicides is found concentrated in the Vidarbha region of the state. Lack of institutional mechanism to conserve the rain water makes for water shortage, which are no more irrigation and watershed development project. Hence farmers have to remain deprived from the benefits of the good rainfall. Because of severe drought situation continuing for last four years the Vidarbha region becomes graveyard of farmers.

B) Economical Reasons

1- Indebtedness of farmers due to failure crop:-

It indicates that the indebtedness of the farmers is an outcome of an unrewarding nature of agriculture than other social and cultural factors. The agriculture has become unrewarding due to increasing gap between the cost of cultivation and the income received from the produce prices. The average gap between cost of cultivation and received price is high per cent for all crops. But the returns from agriculture were disproportionate to the investment hence farmers could not be able to cover the cost of cultivation from their agricultural income. Social structure added by agricultural distress make the situation much worse. Sometimes farmers have to work as tenants who are not sufficient to lead their life and aggrieved when they become unable to arrange dowry for daughter and sisters marriage much expenditure than income daily dispute in family inability to fulfill requirement of family members lead to farmers suicide.

2- Costly modern agriculture technique:- After the green revolution and innovation of new technologies new hybrid seeds, insecticides, pesticides and farm cultivation technologies makes farming more easier and production is increased considerably. But these technologies and innovations are so costly and not affordable to poor small and marginal farmers.

3- Cutback in agriculture subsidies

– The government reduced different types of subsidies due to the fluctuations in the market. Cutback in subsidies and control of fertilizers has adversely affected agriculture. It increase

the input cost and made agriculture less profitable.

4 Cotton Cultivation:- Vidarbha is one of the major Cotton crop producing regions in Maharashtra state. The crop has shown a wide fluctuation over the years due to heavy dependence on monsoon. The increasing cost of cultivation with declining returns did not help the farmers to recover the cost of cultivation. Further which leads to indebtedness and thereby increasing incidences of farmers suicides. Government allowed private traders in the marketing of Cotton. But, the situation has further deteriorated after the entry of private traders in the Cotton marketing. The functioning of the federation was collapsed during the last few years. All the nerves of the farmers and the rural economy were in the hands of private traders. This started to squeeze rural economy. The Cotton, which was called ‘White Gold’, became a suicide crop in Vidarbha region of the state of Maharashtra. Increasing cost of cultivation with declined returns led to deterioration of the farmers

C) Educational Reasons

1-Lack of Education- Education means form of learning in which information; knowledge and skills of a group of people are transferred from one generation to the next through teaching, training, research, and understanding. A right to education has been created and recognized by some jurisdictions. After acquiring these basic abilities education is commonly focused towards individuals gaining necessary knowledge and skills to improve ability to create value and a standard of living for themselves. But the effects of poor condition definitely fall on the farmers education system. Because of poorness farmers cannot provide proper education to their children’s. Therefore we see the farmers sons becomes farmers and this sequence carry forward generation to generation

2-Illiteracy, Traditions & Culture:- Due to illiteracy and inadequate knowledge, farmers does not believe in importance of education. Lack of education skills their decision making skills. Lack of money and perception capacity, They are cultivating land in traditional method if farmers fail to perform all these tradition and cultural activities they become frustrate and turn towards suicide.

D) Social reasons**1. Cruel circle of money lenders loan**

:- for the production of agro product farmers are always in great need of short or long term loans similarly there is also great need of money for farming related activities like taking bore well, pipeline setting purchasing seeds, bees, tractors and others related things to the farm. But there are lot hindrances and impediments while sanctioning such lone amount to the farmers by bank finalizing all the related documents is almost like an ordeal. So most of the farmers at the critical time traditional source of money as like savkar and money lenders come to their help and sanctions loan immediately but charges interest at the very high rate even after accepting all such adversities a natural calamities make a great sabotage to the farm and finally the farmers are totally collapsed because not a single agro product is encased. At last they are left with no option. Due to continuous pressure from money lenders for the payment of loans and their inability to repay the lone complete, farmers to commit suicide.

2- Fragmentation and subdivision

of labour- According to Mahatma Gandhiji "Rural India and agriculture has become handicapped because of division of labour and mind". As predicted by him before 100 years, now it is found to be true that rural development is not possible without integration of labour force. Most farmers in Vidarbha are multi-generational family farmers and the farms are often subdivided among inheriting children.

E- Religious reasons**1 Cultural programme** - Farmers and

their family members of the society in which they live. In any society there is strong pressure on its members to believe in certain ways f or the farmers some of the pressure comes from within. In all society there are accepted ways of doing things these ways are directly related to the culture

2- Festivals – In festival seasons farm distress

has hit the utsav badly in Vidharb. Very few have money to spend. Meanwhile farmers suicide there are going up As agrarian distress deepens the numbers of farmers suicide in Vidharb is mounting.

F) Basic facilities reasons**1-Lack of transport facilities** –It is

main obstacle way of efficient marketing. The rural areas are not linked with the market by roads. A lot of agricultural product is wasted due to transport problems.

2- Lack of basic infrastructural facilities -The infrastructure facilities

like electricity, safe drinking water, inadequate health facilities, proper food, cloth, shelter and absence of adequate social support infrastructure at the level of the village and district, uncertainty of agricultural enterprise in the region, affects on psychological and physical condition of the farmers. Sometimes they become drug addicted and drunker. All these things attracted heavy diseases and turn them to die.

G) Individuals reasons**1-Unnecessary expenses of inorganic farming:**

In inorganic farming, farmers are required to spend on costly hybrid B.T. seeds, high prices of chemical fertilizers and pesticides; high irrigation is required till the season ends. Due all these reasons, cost of production increases which requires heavy loan. This burden of loan recovery follows the farmers. Inability to repay the loan leads to suicidal tendencies among the farmers.

2-Negative land work tendency-

Structural change in the workforce is taking place slowly. In previous time the percentage of the workforce in agriculture was more. Now days it has been decreased percentage. Encourage non-farm employment opportunities by developing particular sectors and sub-sectors where demand for the product or services is growing namely trade, restaurants and hotels, transport, construction, repairs and certain services.. Unavailability of labour is one of the main causes of farmers suicide

H) Addiction reasons -In the true sense

whatever may be the addiction it is finally resulting into an end. farmers are getting themselves addicted with product like Liquor, wine smoking drugs Tobacco

chewing cigrates and Gutka etc. it result into disease like situation in their physical and mental capacities when they do not get what they want then there is a great depression in and among them which lead to suicide. All these things attracted heavy diseases and turn them to die.

I) Reduce the Government investment in agricultural sector -After globalization, the government expenditure and investment in agriculture has been drastically reduced because of its policy of minimum mediation .The expenditure of the government in rural development including agriculture, irrigation, flood control, village industry, energy and transport declined more percentage The rate of capital formation of agriculture came down, and the agricultural growth also was much reduced affecting the lives of farmers very much and they become frustrate and turn towards suicide.

J) Market system: Market does not provide proper price to the farmers products which are enhanced difficult situations with high cost of production. Owners of company and Merchants decide price of product but not farmers for their produces. Farmers get exploited in the market which is controlled by brokers and big traders. They do not get proper price for their produces and they become depressed. There is no place in the market for the farmers who grow traditional crops with higher price. He returns to the village with whatever meager amount after selling the crops. Thus farmers are unable to recover their cost of production. This happens every season continuously de motivating them to commit suicide.

K) New changes: After the green revolution and innovation of new technologies new hybrid seeds, insecticides, pesticides and farm cultivation technologies makes farming more easier and production is increased considerably. But these technologies and innovations are so costly and not affordable to poor small and marginal farmers

Remedies to avoid farmers suicide: Natural and manmade calamities forces farmers to commit suicide. We cannot avoid natural calamities but we can give relief and control on manmade calamities by taking following remedies

1.Crop Diversification for Maximizing Productivity:-Crop diversification is important to alleviate the problems of farmers suicide through fulfilling the basic needs and regulating farm income, controlling price fluctuation, ensuring balanced food supply conserving natural resources, reducing the

chemical fertilizer and pesticide loads, environmental safety and creating employment opportunity.

2.Irrigation: Government has to provide Irrigation facilities by construction dams, project etc. it increase the productivity of agriculture,

3. Agriculture farmer training and use of Modern technology:-We should train them in modern method of cultivation. They should learn to employ scientific method. Update our agriculture research and try improving our agricultural yield. Our farmers must be taught to use better seeds, proper manure and fertilizers and appropriate machines to improve the quality and output of one agricultural produce. It is also necessary to adopt new technology by the farmers which helps to increase the agricultural productivity, training & modern equipment shall be provided by the government at free of cost. This helps to increase the income of the farmers.

4.Supportive sources for farmers and Minimum support price:

Encourage the farmers to adopt allied activities like dairy, fishery, poultry etc. with farming activities Adoption of Non-Farm activities with allied agricultural activities.

5. Implementation of Natural farming Crops are grown by using different factors in nature such as, sunlight, shadow, cow urine, cow dung etc. Farmers are not required to purchase anything from outside and therefore, Padmashree, Mr. Subhash Palekar, an agriculture expert, rightly call it 'Zero Budget Farming'. Production cost for farmers goes down by using traditional seeds with the farmers, natural crop nutrients, and natural insecticides. Thus, there is no need for farmers to take loan for sowing. Farmers become self sufficient and self reliant by using this technique. which will be useful to minimize the farmer's suicide

6. Sustainable Agriculture: -Chemical agriculture, which is being adopted by farmers it is not only highly expensive but also environmentally damaging and health hazardous. Sustainable agriculture with farm produced seeds, organic manures; non-pesticide management etc is proved to be cost-effective. Hence, Government should extend incentives, subsidies, credit and other support to sustainable agriculture to reduce farmer's expenditure on cultivation and to make agriculture profitable and sustainable.

7. Fighting Natural Calamities: Cultivation of multiple crops it will profitable result to the farmers. Multiple crops are taken in a single land area instead of single crop to fight natural calamities. Natural calamities

like heavy raining, floods, droughts, delay in raining, heavy cyclones, floods, hot and cold waves, hail storm, only one crop bears the loss, sowing other crops, intercrop pattern, generating income for the farmer. Traditional seeds are more immune to deceases and are not easily get affected by insects. Therefore, it becomes easy for farmers using multi crop pattern to fight natural calamities.

8. Water management:- In most cases, it is not the lack of water but the lack of proper water management that causes water shortage. Improved modern methods of rain water harvesting should be developed. Most of the water from drainage is drained into the river. Instead of draining the water into the river, they can be desalted and purified and diverted to some tanks or lakes in nearby agricultural lands to be used for irrigation. The silt can be used as manure.

9. Improving market system: It is need for positive change in agricultural marketing system. It is needed to form direct relation between farmers and ultimate consumer instead of traders and intermediaries. The system needs to be more flexible and decentralized by reducing the monopoly of intermediaries. Farmers are able to decide the price of their products in direct marketing system without intermediaries which makes them more confident and powerful.

10. Special agricultural zone or Camp: Just like industrial zone there is need to establishment special agricultural zones where only farming and agriculture related activity should be allowed. Some farmers are very expert in different crop production e.g. grape cultivation, lemon, orange, pomegranate etc. but due to the marginal farmers they unable to do their agriculture practice, so government should have to start agriculture camp on government land to perform the practice by paying salary to the skilled farmers.

11. Proper educational facilities

Education is a important tool which can reach the farmers on prosperous path. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi, Mahatma Jotiba Fule etc social workers have identified and stressed on the importance of education for farmers. This is used for upliftment and development of the farmers there is needed to take a joint initiative by state government with central government. Financial institutions, NGOs, social thinkers and planners have to play proper and convenient role to eradicate the farmers related problems by helping hands.

Overall educational level in the Vidharbh region especially in rural areas is not satisfactory. Special

attention is need on main basic reason of education problem of farmers in that region.

12. Counseling to farmers:-The problem cannot solve through economic package alone what is needed in social and spiritual interventions so that farmer realise that suicide is not the way out they should understand that they need to develop self confidence. The future generation should have the mental strength to face life challenges. Amma felt that counseling and education would immensely help farmers overcome adverse situation.

IV. CONCLUSION

The agriculture sector largely depends on rainy season. Rainy season plays important role in the agriculture development of Maharashtra Vidarbha is home for mostly cotton farmers and 80% of these are struggling with the massive debt. Most of the villages in Vidarbha are basically fundamental need of infrastructure like drinking water, regular electricity, primary health care, and basic education. But the farmers suicides in Vidarbha are due to the complex interplay of social, political and environmental constraints Majority of suicide cases are from cotton growing areas. The cotton farmers paying more prices for inputs like seeds, pesticides, fertilizers, electricity, water, and labor whereas the price of cotton has gone down along with decreased productivity Farmers perceived debt, addiction, social, natural, economical educational, environmental problems basic-infrastructure, religious, poor prices for farm produce, stress and family responsibilities, government apathy, poor irrigation, increased cost of cultivation, private money lenders, use of chemical fertilizers and crop failure as the reasons for farmers suicides. Solutions for reducing the farmers suicide as self-reliance and capacity building among farmers, a monitoring and support system, counseling services, a village-level, transparent system for the disbursement of relief packages. farmers are required to perform new experiments and cultivate crops that requires less water, use less external resources and start adopting natural farming techniques. Farmers themselves should do small processing on agricultural outputs and should supply it directly to consumers without intermediaries. These can be the remedies to stop farmers' suicides. It is also necessary to implement income generating activities which may reduce the farmer suicide. It is necessary to encourage the farmers to adopt allied activities like dairy, fishery and poultry etc. with farming activities. In order to solve the problem of farmers suicide a holistic approach is necessary.

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