

Trends and Causes of Farmers Suicide in Maharashtra State, India

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ABSTRACT

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The present study accepted out with an investigative strategy of social research on farmer's suicide trend in Maharashtra state, Over 15,000 farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra between 2013 and 2018. In Vidarbha and Marathwada from January 2001 to July 2018, a total of 29602 farmers from 18 districts of died by suicide. About 83.74% of the state's total farmer suicides were in the two regions of Vidarbha and Marathwada. The highest farmer suicide in Amravati division is 57.8%, than Nagpur division 15.6%, Aurangabad division 13.6%, Nasik division 8.3%, Pune division 4.5% and lowest farmer suicide 0.8% in Konkan division. A farming disaster has rainfall a spate of suicides in Maharashtra. The suicide mortality rate for farmers in the state has increased from 2001 to 2018. The rain dependent cotton growing farmers of Maharashtra are faced with declining profitability because of dumping in the global market by the US, low import tariffs, failure of the Monopoly Cotton Procurement Scheme and withdrawal of the state are resulting in declining public investment in agriculture, poor government agriculture extension services and the diminishing role of formal credit institutions. The farmer is faced with yield, price, credit, income and weather uncertainties. The way out is to merge bold public policy initiatives with civil society engagement.

Keyword : - Maharashtra State, Geo-Political View, Farmers' Suicide.

I. INTRODUCTION

Geographic and demographic variations in suicide rates have continued to be noted in Australian farmers (32, 37, 38). Taking person and place into account, and noting the importance of community and environmental contexts on well-being, have been cited as critical to any future rural suicide prevention

intervention (5, 7, 13). Farmers do not just belong to an occupational group, but are part of families, small and often tight-knit rural communities, and operate within a unique geographical, psychological, environmental and social context within Australia. The farmers' work environment has been described as characterised by "high stress". with "relentless demands". Social factors such as relationship

breakdown, isolation and loneliness, as well adherence to sociocultural norms of masculinity, stoicism and self-reliance have been implicated in Australian farmer suicide (6, 8, 9, 31). Farmers themselves perceive risk for suicide to result from a highly interactive combination of individual, environmental and social factors Risk of suicide in farmers has 'been recognised to be higher than in other occupations in Australia and some countries across the world 12, 14, 30, 29). Whilst well documented, the phenomena of rural suicide remains poorly understood. Geographic and demographic variances in Australian farmer suicide cases suggest we need to look more carefully at the complex interaction of factors at play if targeted prevention strategies are to be developed and delivered to those most at risk (28, 15, 20, 27). Farmers impression a repeated sense of impossibility due to the loss of crops, dwindling income levels, shrinking lands and even the loss of a way of life (16, 18, 19, 21). Another factor that increases suicides is the probable for social segregation developing from the loss of communities as well as geographical remoteness. Rising trend of nuclear families leading to non-sharing of problems or tensions causes mental stress. The lack of access to mental health services in rural areas and the stigma attached to treatment is also a contributing factor.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To look into the trends and patterns of the recent suicide scenario in Maharashtra.
- To study the Geo-political situation of Maharashtra State.
- To identify and examine other socio-economic factors leading to suicidal death by the deceased farmers.

III. METHODS

Focus groups were conducted in three diverse sites across two states in Maharashtra with trend and pattern 2001 to 2018, separately to gain perceptions about suicide risk and protective factors and attitudes towards suicide and help seeking. All data collected on census of India, Divisional Commission rate Office, Aurangabad and Nagpur etc.

IV. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Brief History of Maharashtra:-

During the 18th century almost all of western and central India, as well as large segments of the north and east, was brought under the suzerainty of the Maratha confederacy, an alliance formed after Shivaji's kingdom had collapsed. Europeans, however, had been present along the coast since the early 16th century. Britain gained control of Bombay Island in 1661, and from the early 19th century onward the Marathas gradually succumbed to British expansion on the mainland. The British proceeded to establish an administrative province known as the Bombay Presidency. After India gained its independence in 1947, the province became Bombay state (1950). A number of former princely states (notably Baroda [now Vadodara]) subsequently were merged into the new state. On November 1, 1956, in a major linguistic and political reorganization of the states of peninsular India, Bombay state received large parts of Madhya Pradesh, as well as the northwestern portion of the dismembered Hyderabad state (which had been formed after Indian independence from the former Hyderabad princely state). The outcome of that reorganization, however, was still a linguistically divided state, in which most of the Gujarati-speaking peoples lived in the north and most of the Marathi-speaking peoples lived in the south. Demands by the two language groups that the state be divided into two parts resulted, on May 1, 1960, in the creation of Gujarat in the north and the newly renamed

Maharashtra in the south. Bombay, remaining part of Maharashtra, became the new state's capital.

Geographical Profile:-

The word Maharashtra, the land of the Marathi speaking people, appears to be derived from Maharashtra, an old form of Prakrit. Some believe that the word indicates that it was the land of the Mahars and the Rattas, while others consider it to be a corruption of the term 'Maha Kantara' (the Great Forest), a synonym for 'Dandakaranya' (Fig. 1).

The Land:-

Located in the north centre of Peninsular India, with a command of the Arabian Sea through its port of Mumbai, Maharashtra has a remarkable physical homogeneity, enforced by its underlying geology. The dominant physical trait of the state is its plateau character. The Maharashtra Desh is a plateau of plateaux, its western upturned rims rising to form the Sahyadri Range and its slopes gently descending towards the east and southeast. The major rivers and their master tributaries have carved the plateaux into alternating broad-river valleys and intervening higher lever interfluves, such as the Ahmednagar, Buldana, and Yavatmal plateaux. The Sahyadri Range is the physical backbone of Maharashtra. Rising on an average to an elevation of 1000m. it falls in steep cliffs, to the Konkan on the west. Eastwards, the hill country falls in steps through a transitional area known as Mawal to the plateau level. The series of crowning plateaux on the crest forms a distinctive feature of the Sahyadri Range. The Konkan, lying between the Arabian Sea and the Sahyadri Range is narrow coastal lowland, barely 50 km. wide. Though mostly below 200 m., it is far from being a plain country. Highly dissected and broken, the Konkan alternates between narrow, steep-sided valleys and low laterite plateaux. The Satpudas, hills along the northern border, and the Bhamragad-Chiroli-

Gaikhuri Ranges on the eastern border form physical barriers preventing easy movement, but also serve as natural limits to the state.

Geology and Topography:-

Except around Mumbai, and along the eastern limits, the State of Maharashtra presents a monotonously uniform, flat-topped skyline. This topography of the state is the outcome of its geological structure. The state area, barring the extreme eastern Vidarbha region, parts of Kolhapur and Sindhudurg, is practically co-terminous with the Deccan Traps. Roughly 60 to 90 million years ago, the outpouring of basic lava through fissures formed horizontally bedded basalt over large areas (10, 11, 26). Variations in their composition and structure have resulted in massive, well-jointed steel-grey cliff faces alternating with structural benches of vesicular amygdaloid lava and ash layers, all of which contribute to the pyramida-shaped hills and crest-level plateaux or mesas. Earth sculpturing under the tropical climate completed the panorama-sharply defining the landform features in the semi-arid conditions, and rounding the hilltops under wetter condition. Fluvial action by the Krishna, Bhima, Godavari, Tapi-Purna and Wardha-Wainganga river (21, 22, 25) systems has further aided in the compartmentalisation of the Desh into broad, open river valleys, alternating with plateau interfluves, that form the ribs of the Sahyadrian backbone. In sharp contrast, the hill torrents of the Konkan, barely a 100 km. long, tumble down as roaring streams which flow in deeply entrenched valleys to terminate in tidal estuaries.

Climate:-

The state enjoys a tropical monsoon climate; the hot scorching summer from March onwards yields to the rainy monsoon in early June. The rich green cover of the monsoon season persists during the mild winter that follows through an unpleasant October transition, but turns into a dusty, barren brown as the summer sets in again. The seasonal rains from the

western sea-clouds are very heavy and the rainfall is over 400 cm., on the Sahyadrian crests (23, 24). The Konkan on the windward side is also endowed with heavy rainfall, declining northwards. East of the Sahyadri, the rainfall diminishes to a meagre 70 cm. in the western plateau districts, with Solapur-Ahmednagar lying in the heart of the dry zone. The rains increase slightly, later in the season, eastwards in the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions. The highly pulsatory character of the monsoon, with its short spells of rainy weather and long dry breaks, floods, as well as droughts add much to the discomfort of the rural economy.

Resources:-

The total population of Maharashtra is 11.42 crores in 2011 (Table 1). Forests comprising only 17% of the state area cover the eastern region and the Sahyadri Range, while open scrub jungle dots the plateaux. If Maharashtra represented the Maha Kantara in the historic past, today little of it is left; vast sections have been denuded and stripped of the vegetal cover. The soils of Maharashtra are residual, derived from the underlying basalts. In the semi-dry plateau, the regur (black-cotton soil) is clayey, rich in iron, but poor in nitrogen and organic matter; it is moisture-retentive. Where redeposited along the river valleys, those kali soils are deeper and heavier, better suited for rabi crops. Farther away, with a better mixture of lime, the morand soils form the ideal Kharif zone. The higher plateau areas have pather soils, which contain more gravel. In the rainy Konkan, and the Sahyadri Range, the same basalts give rise to the brick-red laterites productive under a forest-cover, but readily stripped into a sterile varkas when the vegetation is removed. By and large, soils of Maharashtra are shallow and somewhat poor. Water is the most precious natural resource of the state, greatly in the demand, and most unevenly distributed. A large number of villages lack drinking water, especially during the summer months, even in the wet Konkan. Barely 11% of the net sown area is irrigated. Perched water tables in the basalt aquifers have contributed to

increased well irrigation, which accounts for approximately 55% of the irrigable water. The granitic-gneissic terrain in the eastern hilly area of Vidarbha accounts for all tank irrigation. Tube-wells in the Tapi-Purna alluvium and shallow wells in the coastal sands are the other main sources of water. The mineral-bearing zones of Maharashtra lie beyond the area of the basalts in eastern Vidarbha, southern Kolhapur and the Sindhudurg area. The Chandrapur, Gadchirali, Bhandara and Nagpur Districts form the main mineral belt, with coal and manganese as the major minerals and iron ore and limestone as potential wealth. The Ratnagiri coast contains sizeable deposits of illmenite.

Politics of Maharashtra:-

Politics of Maharashtra and List of Chief Ministers of Maharashtra .The politics of the state in the first decades after its formation in 1960 were dominated by the Indian National Congress party or its offshoots such as the Nationalist Congress Party, but since the 1990s Hindu parties have dominated. In the early years, politics of Maharashtra was dominated by Congress party figures such as Yashwantrao Chavan, Vasantdada Patil, Vasantnao Naik and Shankarrao Chavan. Sharad Pawar, who started his political career in the Congress party, has been a towering personality in the state and national politics for over forty years. During his career, he has split the Congress twice with significant consequences for the state politics. The Congress party enjoyed a near unchallenged dominance of the political landscape until 1995 when the Shiv Sena and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured an overwhelming majority in the state to form a coalition government. After his second parting from the Congress party in 1999, Sharad Pawar founded the NCP but then formed a coalition with the Congress to keep out the BJP-Shiv Sena combine out of the Maharashtra state government for fifteen years until September 2014. Prithviraj Chavan of the Congress party was the last Chief Minister of Maharashtra under the Congress / NCP alliance. For the 2014 assembly polls, the two

alliances between NCP and Congress and that between BJP and Shiv Sena respectively broke down over seat allocations. In the election, the largest number of seats went to the Bharatiya Janata Party, with 122 seats. The BJP initially formed a minority government under Devendra Fadnavis. The Shiv Sena entered the Government after two months, and provided a comfortable majority for the alliance in the Maharashtra Vidhansabha for the duration of the assembly. In 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance secured 41 seat out of 48 from the state. Later in 2019, the BJP and Shiv Sena alliance fought the assembly elections together but the alliance broke down after the election over the post of chief minister. Uddhav Thackeray of Shiv Sena then formed an alternative governing coalition under his leadership with his erstwhile opponents from NCP, INC, and a number of independent members of legislative assembly. On 28 November 2019, Thackeray took oath as 19th Chief minister of Maharashtra after being elected as the president of the newly formed coalition named Maha Vikas Aghadi.

State representation in Indian Parliament:-

The people of Maharashtra also elect 48 members to the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament. In the 2014 general elections, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), consisting of the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Shiv Sena, and Swabhimani Paksha, won 23, 18, and 1 seats, respectively. The NDA retained its dominance in the state by winning 41 out of the 48 seats in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. The members of the state Legislative Assembly elect 19 members to the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Indian Parliament.

Local government:-

A Gram panchayat office in a Abdul Lat village, Kolhapur district The state has a long tradition of highly powerful planning bodies at district and local levels. Local self governance institutions in rural areas include 34 zilla parishads (district councils), 355 Taluka Panchayat samitis (district Sub-division

councils) and 27,993 Gram panchayats (village councils). Urban areas in the state are governed by 27 Municipal Corporations, 222 Municipal Councils, four Nagar Panchayats and seven Cantonment Boards.[100][134] Although Maharashtra had Gram panchayat with elected members since 1961, the 73rd amendment to the Indian constitution of 1993 put in place a statutory requirement of 33% of seats on the panchayats reserved for women. In addition, 33% of the sarpanch (panchayat chief) positions were also reserved for women. Although the amendment boosted the number of women leaders at the village level, there have been cases of harassment by male members of the panchayat towards the female members of the organisations. The administration in each district is headed by a District Collector, who belongs to the Indian Administrative Service and is assisted by a number of officers belonging to Maharashtra state services. The Superintendent of Police, an officer belonging to the Indian Police Service and assisted by the officers of the Maharashtra Police Service, maintains law and order in addition to other related issues in each district. The Divisional Forest Officer, an officer belonging to the Indian Forest Service, manages the forests, environment, and wildlife of the district, assisted by the officers of Maharashtra Forest Service and Maharashtra Forest Subordinate Service. Sectoral development in the districts is looked after by the district head of each development department, such as Public Works, Health, Education, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Judiciary:-

The Bombay High Court, one of the most distinguished high courts in India The judiciary in the state consists of the Maharashtra High Court (The High Court of Bombay), district and session courts in each district and lower courts and judges at the taluka level. The High Court has regional branches at Nagpur and Aurangabad in Maharashtra and Panaji which is the capital of Goa. The state cabinet on 13 May 2015 passed a resolution favouring the setting up

of one more bench of the Bombay high court in Kolhapur, covering the region. The President of India appoints the chief justice of the High Court of the Maharashtra judiciary on the advice of the chief justice of the Supreme Court of India as well as the Governor of Maharashtra. Other judges are appointed by the chief justice of the high court of the judiciary on the advice of the Chief Justice. Subordinate Judicial Service is another vital part of the judiciary of Maharashtra. The subordinate judiciary or the district courts are categorised into two divisions: the Maharashtra civil judicial services and higher judicial service. While the Maharashtra civil judicial services comprises the Civil Judges (Junior Division)/Judicial Magistrates and civil judges (Senior Division)/Chief Judicial Magistrate, the higher judicial service comprises civil and sessions judges. The Subordinate judicial service of the judiciary is controlled by the District Judge.

Trends across Marathwada and Vidarbha:-

The present study accepted out with an investigative strategy of social research on farmer's suicide trend in Maharashtra state, Over 15,000 farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra between 2013 and 2018. In Vidarbha and Marathwada from January 2001 to July 2018, a total of 29602 farmers from 18 districts of died by suicide. About 83.74% of the state's total farmer suicides were in the two regions of Vidarbha and Marathwada 1, 2, 3, 4). The highest farmer suicide in Amravati division is 57.8%, than Nagpur division 15.6%, Aurangabad division 13.6%, Nasik division 8.3%, Pune division 4.5% and lowest farmer suicide 0.8% in Konkan division. A farming disaster has rainfall a spate of suicides in Maharashtra. The suicide mortality rate for farmers in the state has increased from 2001 to 2018 (Fig. 2). Farmer suicides are an unfortunate result of the agrarian distress plaguing the rural economy of many states of the country. Vidarbha (Table 2) and Marathwada (Table 3) regions in Maharashtra have recorded very high numbers of farmer suicides, and an attempt to calculate the number of suicides and the

suicide mortality rate is the first step towards gaining an in-depth understanding of the prevalence and seriousness of the issue. An analysis of the data reveals the relationship between farmer suicides and issues such as monsoon failure, water shortage, drought, absence of social security, robust crop procurement mechanisms and increasing debt burdens. For over two and a half decades, suicides by the farming community in India have become a cause for concern. At the all-India level, states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have become the hotspots of farmer suicides. This issue in India has triggered academic discourse, but very few public policy initiatives have been put forth to redress a problem of this magnitude. By now, it is clear that suicide by farmers is a complex phenomenon. It is easy to quantify the suicide deaths; however, it is difficult to decode the reasons in their entirety. It is estimated that during the period between 2001 and 2018 (Fig 3), the years of life lost on account of farmer suicides increased by 12%. During the same period, India moved from the 20th to the eighth position in the global index of life lost due to suicides. As per the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) estimate of 2010, India accounts for 35.6% of the global years of life lost on account of suicides. It is more than double of its global population share. In India, the data on suicides is collected and published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Information compiled by police stations goes to the respective state crime records bureau (SCRB)/criminal investigation department (CID) and then to the NCRB, which compiles information at the national level. However, in India, what is reported by the NCRB is just half of the GBD estimate. Links such poor reporting to the Indian Penal Code, which holds suicide as a criminal act, or to the society which often does not report a suicide to avoid social stigma. Further, it needs to be noted that suicides by cultivators and agricultural labourers cannot be termed as farmer suicides. This is because in India cultivators and agricultural labourers are two distinct groups of the rural population. In some countries, suicides by cultivators are included in

suicides by agricultural workers. In Europe and North America, which have small population groups, suicide rates are computed for “farm population” that includes farm owners and workers. However, in the Indian context, cultivators and agricultural labourers being two distinctly large population groups cannot be clubbed together. Besides an economic dimension, such classification also has a social dimension. Another vital factor that complicates the estimation of farmer suicides in India is that in states like Maharashtra, a large number of them are categorised as ineligible suicides. The classification as eligible and ineligible farmer suicides has a significant connotation, especially when it comes to the ex-gratia compensation of 1 lakh granted by the state government to the family of a deceased farmer. For the administrative machinery, a farmer who dies by suicide but does not possess the 7/12 abstract in their name (a revenue department land record stating presumptive title of land ownership), is not deemed eligible to be treated as a farmer. In Maharashtra, the proportion of such cases is one of the highest. Thus, farmer suicides at the state level and thereby at the all-India level are grossly underestimated. Accordingly, this paper proceeds as follows. The following section articulates the methods of analysis and describes the sources of the data. The review of literature on farmers’ suicides is discussed in the next section, while the regional profile of Marathwada and Vidarbha is given in the section following it. Moving further, an attempt is made to bring out the spatial and temporal analysis of the data pertaining to the various aspects of farmer suicides in the two regions of Marathwada and Vidarbha. The section after that focuses on the complexity of eligible and ineligible farmer suicides and the final section concludes the article.

Farmers' Suicide Causes:-

In the Maharashtra are various causes are environmental disasters economic imbalance, social and individual causes of farmers’ suicide in Maharashtra.

1 **Environmental Disasters:-** The global warming are an effective agricultural production is mostly depends on favorable weather condition. 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. 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 (33, 35).

2. **Crop letdown:** - India is an agricultural land 65% of family depends on rain the probability of farming committing suicide is more during bad rain years. Inspire of the farmers work the production of the crop low which is also one of the basic causes of farmer’s suicide

3. **Thankfulness and low income:** Rural farmers often become burdened with over debt. The farmers are indebted because of low income the farmers have to face many social and financial problems. 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 farmer’s suicide

4. **Values of farm product:-** The government does not seen to be paying attention to this vicious circle. Nobody has tried to fix the prices based on the cost of the agricultural production. It would be seen that in the last twenty years the prices of the farm product have relatively dropped as compare to the prices of other product. It is often seen that when sowing season for the kharif and rubi crops come the prices of the grains reach much more but when harvesting season comes the rate drops (34, 36).

5. **Growth in cost of production:-** The digging, soil maintenance, for insecticides, pesticides, cutting, transportation and selling of products requires money In addition to this hybrid seeds are also requires for good quality & quantity of product, which are very costly and not affordable to marginal and poor farmers. Increase in cost of production which forces to farmers to commit suicide.

6. Agriculture loan:- 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 , 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

7. Income disparities in economy:-Today, the person who is rich is becoming rich and one who is poor is becoming poor therefore the valley of reciprocal

economy is increasing day by day so the farmers are turning to suicide.

8. 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.

9. Additional Causes:-lack of basic infrastructural facilities like safe drinking water, inadequate health facilities, transport facilities, proper food, cloth and shelter 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.

Table No. 1 Population of Maharashtra districts 2011

Rank	District	Papulaion						Sex Ratio	
		Male	Female	Total	Share	Ural	Urban	F- Per 1000 M	M- Per 100 F
1	Thane	5,865,078	5,195,070	11,060,148	9.84	23.01	76.99	886	112.897
2	Pune	4,924,105	4,505,303	9,429,408	8.39	39.01	60.99	915	109.296
3	Mumbai Suburban	5,031,323	4,325,639	9,356,962	8.33	0.00	100.00	860	116.314
4	Nashik	3,157,186	2,950,001	6,107,187	5.43	57.47	42.53	934	107.023
5	Nagpur	2,384,975	2,268,595	4,653,570	4.14	31.69	68.31	951	105.130
6	Ahmadnagar	2,342,825	2,200,334	4,543,159	4.04	79.91	20.09	939	106.476
7	Solapur	2,227,852	2,089,904	4,317,756	3.84	67.60	32.40	938	106.601
8	Jalgaon	2,197,365	2,032,552	4,229,917	3.76	68.26	31.74	925	108.109
9	Kolhapur	1,980,658	1,895,343	3,876,001	3.45	68.27	31.73	957	104.501
10	Aurangabad	1,924,469	1,776,813	3,701,282	3.29	56.23	43.77	923	108.310
11	Nanded	1,730,075	1,631,217	3,361,292	2.99	72.81	27.19	943	106.060
12	Mumbai	1,684,608	1,400,803	3,085,411	2.75	0.00	100.00	832	120.260
13	Satara	1,510,842	1,492,899	3,003,741	2.67	81.01	18.99	988	101.202
14	Amravati	1,480,768	1,407,677	2,888,445	2.57	64.09	35.91	951	105.192
15	Sangli	1,435,728	1,386,415	2,822,143	2.51	74.51	25.49	966	103.557
16	Yavatmal	1,419,965	1,352,383	2,772,348	2.47	78.42	21.58	952	104.997
17	Raigarh	1,344,345	1,289,855	2,634,200	2.34	63.17	36.83	959	104.225
18	Buldana	1,337,560	1,248,698	2,586,258	2.30	78.78	21.22	934	107.116

19	Bid	1,349,106	1,235,943	2,585,049	2.30	80.10	19.90	916	109.156
20	Latur	1,273,140	1,181,056	2,454,196	2.18	74.53	25.47	928	107.797
21	Chandrapur	1,123,834	1,080,473	2,204,307	1.96	64.82	35.18	961	104.013
22	Dhule	1,054,031	996,831	2,050,862	1.83	72.16	27.84	946	105.738
23	Jalna	1,011,473	947,573	1,959,046	1.74	80.73	19.27	937	106.744
24	Parbhani	942,870	893,216	1,836,086	1.63	68.97	31.03	947	105.559
25	Akola	932,334	881,572	1,813,906	1.61	60.32	39.68	946	105.758
26	Osmanabad	861,535	796,041	1,657,576	1.48	83.04	16.96	924	108.227
27	Nandurbar	833,170	815,125	1,648,295	1.47	83.29	16.71	978	102.214
28	Ratnagiri	761,121	853,948	1,615,069	1.44	83.67	16.33	1,122	89.130
29	Gondiya	661,554	660,953	1,322,507	1.18	82.92	17.08	999	100.091
30	Wardha	668,385	632,389	1,300,774	1.16	67.46	32.54	946	105.692
31	Bhandara	605,520	594,814	1,200,334	1.07	80.52	19.48	982	101.800
32	Washim	620,302	576,858	1,197,160	1.07	82.34	17.66	930	107.531
33	Hingoli	606,294	571,051	1,177,345	1.05	84.82	15.18	942	106.172
34	Gadchiroli	541,328	531,614	1,072,942	0.95	89.00	11.00	982	101.827
35	Sindhudurg	417,332	432,319	849,651	0.76	87.41	12.59	1,036	96.533

Table 2. Absolute and relative number of farmers' suicides in various divisions of Maharashtra.

Division	Number of Farmers Suicide	Percent to Total Number	Liabe for grant	Percent of liabe for grant to total suicides
Konkan Division	12	0.1	12	100
Pune Division	585	4.6	321	54.9
Nasik Division	1040	8.3	598	57.5
Aurangabad Division	1713	13.6	866	50.55
Nagpur Division	1967	15.6	796	40.5
Amravati Division	7274	57.8	2469	33.9
Maharashtra	12591	100	5062	40.2

Table 3. Absolute and relative number of farmers' suicides in districts of Vidarabha.

District	Farmers suicide	
	Number	Percentage
Napur	403	3.2
Wardha	789	6.3
Chandrapur	323	2.6
Gadchiroli	59	0.5
Bhandara	280	2.2
Gondia	113	0.9
Amravati	1798	14.3
Akola	1079	8.6

Buldhana	1212	9.6
Yawatmal	2289	18.2
Washim	896	7.1
Vidarabha	9241	73.5

Table 4. Number of farmers suicides in Marathwada region

Year	Aurangabad	Latur	Beed	Prabhani	Jalna	Hingoli	Osmanabad	Nanded	Total
2010	02	04	79	22	04	02	23	55	191
2011	00	04	73	23	06	05	25	33	169
2012	02	00	91	35	06	03	22	39	198
2013	04	03	98	17	08	02	29	146	207
2014	56	44	152	70	32	31	71	118	574
2015	144	106	301	104	83	41	164	190	1133
2016	151	116	222	989	76	49	161	180	1053
2017	139	94	207	125	91	56	126	153	991
Total	498	371	1223	494	306	189	621	814	4516

(Source: Divisional Commission rate Office, Aurangabad)

Table 5 Farmer Suicide in Maharashtra (2001-2018).

Year	Total No. of Cases	Year	Total No. of Cases
2001	62	2010	1741
2002	122	2011	1518
2003	180	2012	1473
2004	640	2013	1296
2005	609	2014	1981
2006	2376	2015	3228
2007	2076	2016	3051
2008	1966	2017	2917
2009	1605	2018	2,761
		Total	29602

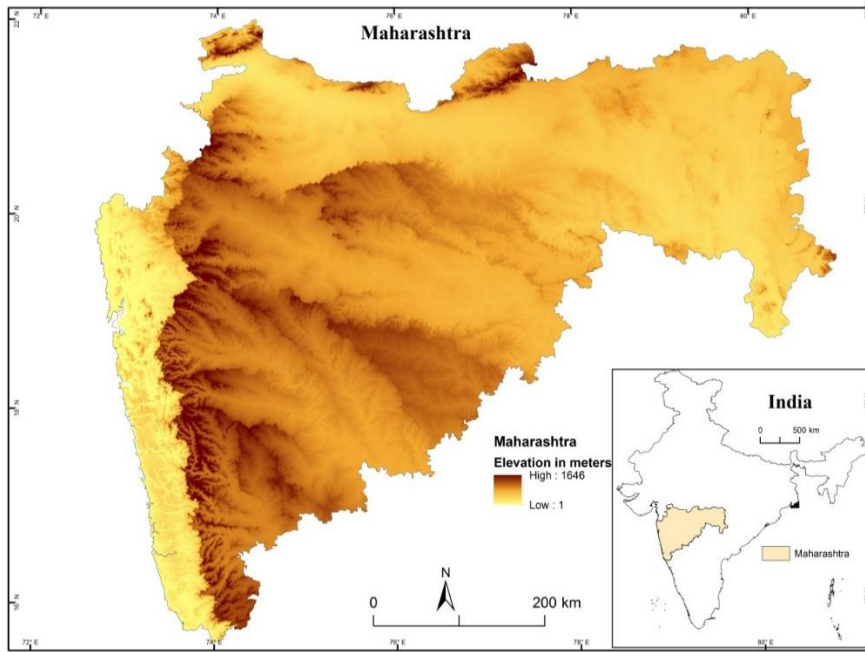


Fig. 1: Location Map Maharashtra State

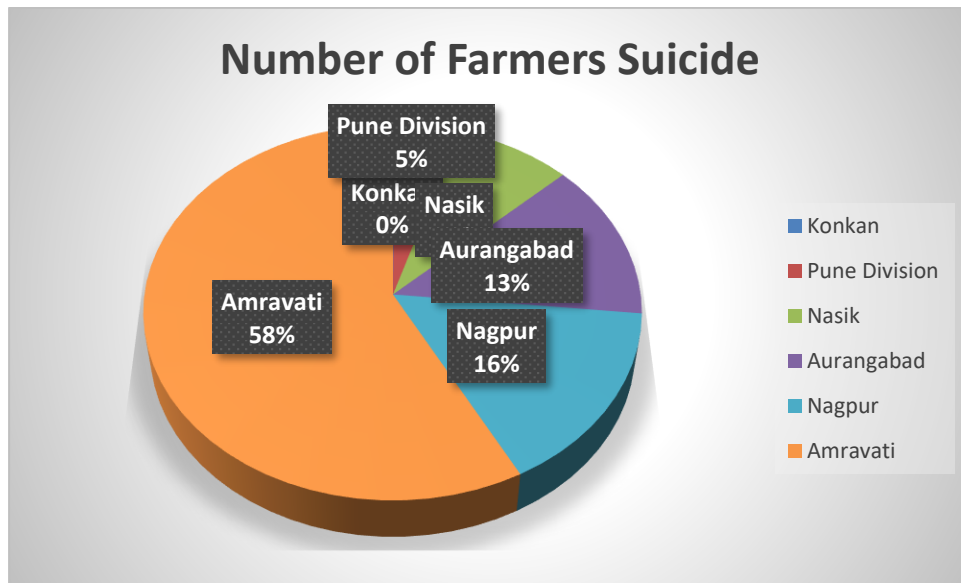


Fig. 2 Number of Farmers Suicide

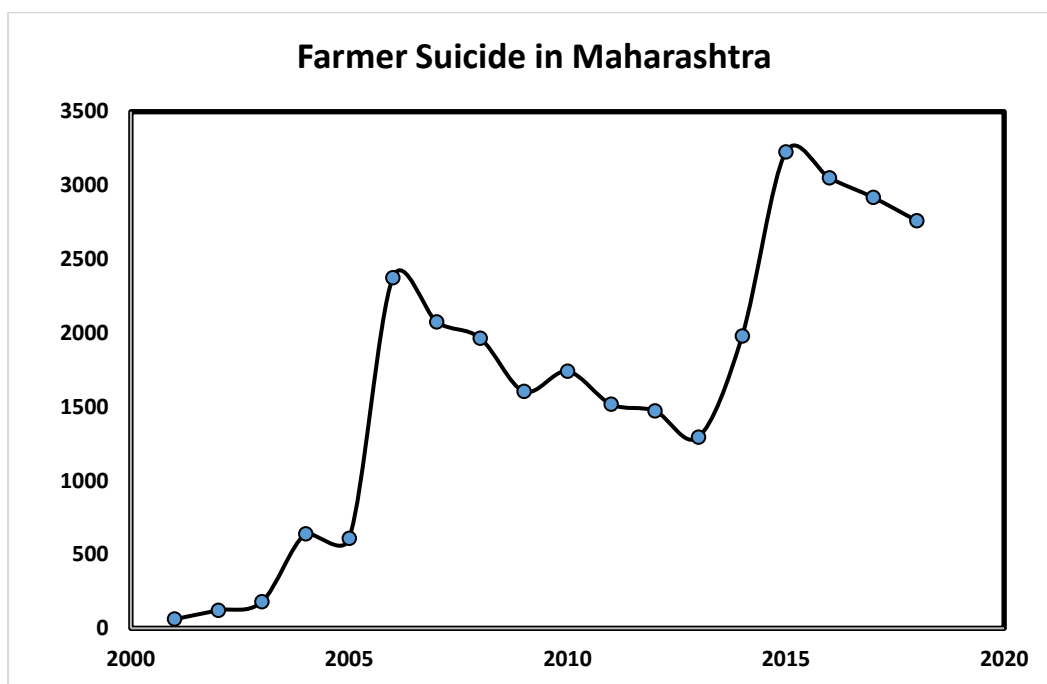


Fig. 3 Farmer Suicide in Maharashtra

V. CONCLUSION

Maharashtra has recorded as many as 32,605 farmer suicides in the 19-year span between 2001 and 2019, shows the latest state revenue department data. This means the average number of cases per year was 1,716. Overall, the number of farmer suicides in the state has shown a rise. Nearly 14,898 cases were reported in the five-year period between 2015 and This is a steep jump from 8,071 cases reported in the previous five years—2010 to 2014. As many as 9,272 farmer suicide cases were reported in the five-year period between 2004 and 2009, according to the data. The agriculture sector largely depends on rainy season. Rainy season plays critical role in the agriculture development of Maharashtra. On the basis of the result of the study it can be concluded that indebtedness, low productivity crop failure, more expenditure than income tension of daughter's marriage and continuous pressure from money lenders and banks persons for repayments etc. were the major causes of suicide of farmers. Farmers leader and social leaders should come together and help the farmers and should reduce the rate of suicide. So it is

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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