

NUXES OF FARMER SUICIDE AND LAND HOLDING IN INDIA

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Abstract

The pattern of farmer suicide in India shows an increasing trend during 1995-2015. There are 10720 farmers committed suicide in 1995 and 12,602 farmers committed suicide in 2015. As per the NCRB 2015 report most of suicides were reported in Maharashtra followed by Karnataka, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu during 2015, they together represented 87.5 per cent of total suicides in the nation. Indebtedness and crop failure due to climate change are the significant reasons for suicides among farmers. Other major reasons for farmer suicides were family problems, health problems and alcoholic addiction. The suicide rate is higher among the farmers with small land holdings. This study examines the nexus of farmer suicide and land holding in India. The study largely rely on secondary sources of data which were collected from the various reports of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

Keywords: Farmer Suicide, Land Holding, Stagnation, Agriculture distress.

Introduction

India has been recorded the higher production of wheat, palatable oil, potato, flavors, rubber, tea, natural products, and vegetables since independence. The Ministry of Agriculture has introduced several policies and programmes to boost the agriculture production in India. Among these, the promotion of agriculture research has progressed under the supervision of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (1929). Moreover, the associations like the National Dairy Development Board (1965), and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (1982) supported the agriculture development in the country through adequacy financing and infrastructure development.

The workforce is an essential component for the sustainable development of agriculture sector. The male workforce in the country has declined from 75.9% in 1961 to 60% in 1999–2000 (Rajib, 2015). There were around 45 million agricultural families in the nation in 1999–2000.

The green revolution causes the high yielding of crops which likewise expanded the utilization of composts and pesticides. About 90% of the pesticide utilization in India is represented by DDT and Lindane (BHC/HCH) (Sebby, 2010). As indicated by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), in a report on "Unintentional Deaths and Suicides in India 2015" places farming suicides in India at 12,602. Of these, it

characterized 8,007 as farmers and 4,595 as farming workers. Also, the report stated that the suicide is higher among small land holders than the large farmers. This paper made a modest attempt to analyse the relationship between farmer suicide and land holdings in India.

Review of Literature

Agriculture is the major occupation of the majority population in India. Over 80 percent of the farmers in the country are peripheral and small farmers. They rely upon financial support from private cash moneylenders or from budgetary organizations for the development of their property. They rely upon farming income frothier family costs, education and marriage. The agriculture is etched and farmers are in trouble because of obligation, rehashed disappointment of yields, expanding cost of production, low quality of seeds, effect of globalization, debt trap of moneylenders and different variables are the primary driver for their pain which lead to suicides (Sangalad, 2012). The small and huge farmers obtained moderately higher extent of the non-institutional sources of credit (Anneshi and Gowda, 2015). Low yields, amazingly decreased benefits and mounting obligations, made their life incredibly troublesome (Macharia, 2015). The regrettable condition has developed for the suicide casualties' families because of the loss of the troubled relative ended it all by different financial reasons. Size of land holding, operational land holding has been unfavorably influenced. (Amarjeet Singh, 2016). Obviously the size of land has critical relationship with farmer suicide in India.

Farmer Suicide in India

Farmer's suicide is the consequence of numerous factors that occurs in the different phases and different places. In this manner, the suicide rate is higher specifically year and the other way around. The information of farmer's suicide in India is appeared in table 1. It is evaluated from the table that during 1995-15, 321407 farmer's ended it all in India. This showing the passing of atleast one farmer in likes clockwork. Somewhere in the range of 1995 and 2015, the NCRB detailed 321407 farmers' suicides, which is 13.10% of all

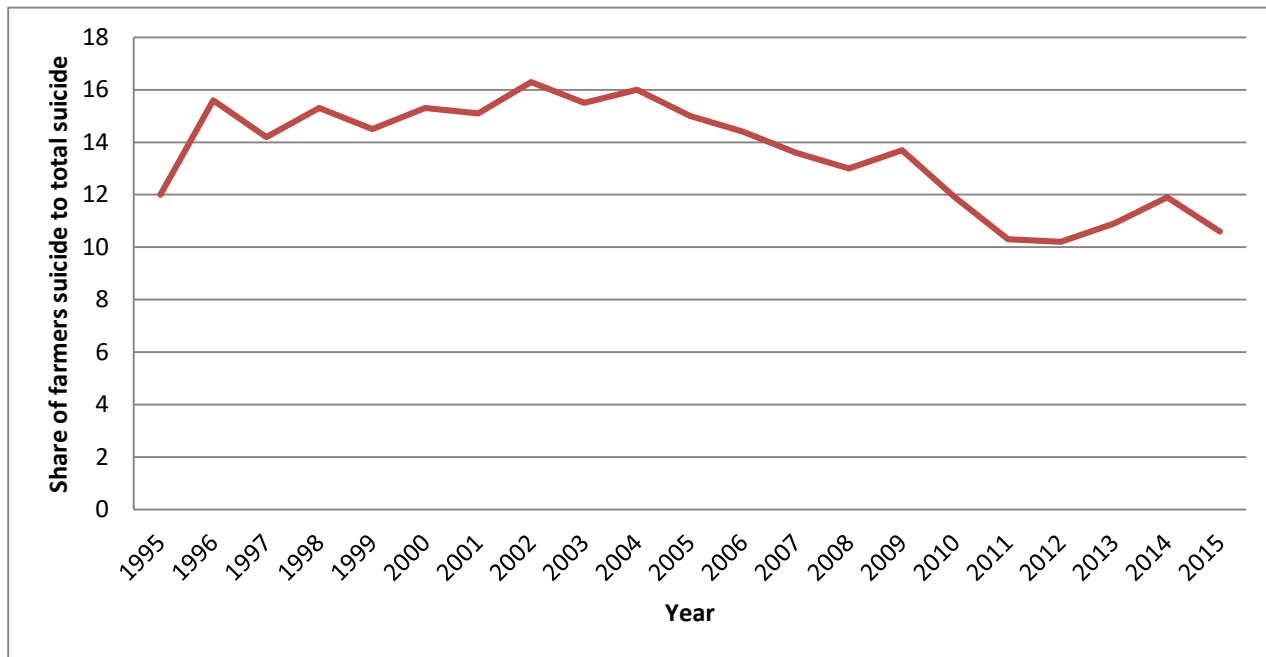
announced suicide passings. From every revealed farmer's suicides, 83.92 percent are guys and 14.65 percent are females. Somewhere in the range of 1995 and 2004, the absolute number of farmer suicides showed a rising pattern, expanding from 10720 of every 1995 to 18241 out of 2004. From 2004 onwards, the absolute number of farmer suicides in the nation has drifted downwards, tumbling to 11772 out of 2013 and afterward moving back to 12360 out of 2014. A sum of 12,602 people engaged with cultivating area have committed suicides during 2015, representing 9.4% of absolute suicides casualties (1,33,623) in the nation. It is important that the all out number of farmer suicides in 2015 is still much higher than the number recorded in 1995.

Table 1: Farmer's suicide and all suicides in India, 1995-2015

Year	Farmers' suicides				ALL suicides			
	Male	Female	Person	Percentage of Male to Farmer's Suicide	Male	Female	Person	Percentage of Farmers Suicide to Total Suicide
1995	8295	2425	10720	77.4	52357	36821	89178	12.0
1996	10897	2832	13729	79.4	51206	37035	88241	15.6
1997	11229	2393	13622	82.4	56281	39548	95829	14.2
1998	12986	3029	16015	81.1	61686	43027	104713	15.3
1999	13278	2804	16082	82.6	65488	45099	110587	14.5
2000	13501	3102	16603	81.3	66032	42561	108593	15.3
2001	13829	2586	16415	84.2	66314	42192	108506	15.1
2002	15308	2663	17971	85.2	69332	41085	110417	16.3
2003	14680	2463	17143	85.6	70068	40511	110579	15.5
2004	15929	2312	18241	87.3	72651	41046	113697	16.0
2005	14973	2158	17131	87.4	72916	40998	113914	15.0
2006	14664	2396	17060	86.0	75702	42410	118112	14.4
2007	14509	2123	16632	87.2	79295	43342	122637	13.6
2008	14145	2051	16196	87.3	80544	44473	125017	13.0
2009	14951	2417	17368	86.1	81471	45680	127151	13.7
2010	13592	2372	15964	85.1	87180	47419	134599	11.9
2011	12071	1956	14027	86.1	87839	47746	135585	10.3
2012	11951	1803	13754	86.9	88453	46992	135445	10.2
2013	10489	1283	11772	89.1	90543	44256	134799	10.9
2014	10889	1471	12360	91.65	89119	42521	131666	11.9
2015	7566	441	12602	94.95	91528	42088	133623	10.6

Source: Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India, National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

Figure 1: Share of farmer's suicide to total suicide in India



It is obvious from the figure 1 that the level of farmer suicide to add up to suicide has expanded from 12 percent in 1995 to 15.3 percent in 2000, and afterward came to the most elevated pace of 16.3 percent in 2002. The pattern since 2002 demonstrating a decrease from 16 percent in 2004 to 11.9 percent in 2010 and 10.6 percent in 2015. Consequently, it is to state that the proportion of farmer's suicide to add up to suicide has been declining in the nation.

Land Holding Pattern

The land holding status of the farmers is divided into four categories- small farmers (having under 1 hectare of land), medium farmers (having 1 hectare to underneath 2 hectare of land), marginal farmers (having 2 hectare to beneath 10 hectare of land) and large farmers (having in excess of 10 hectare of land).

Table 2: Land Holding Status of Farmers/Cultivators who have Committed Suicides

Landholding Status	Year	
	2014	2015
Small Farmers	44.5%	45.2%
Medium Farmers	25.2%	26.1%
Marginal Farmers	27.9%	27.4%
Large Farmers	2.3%	1.3%

Source: NCRB, 2014 & 2015

Land holding status of farmers in 2014 uncovered that 44.5% and 27.9% of land holders were small farmers and minimal farmers individually, they together represented 72.4% (4,095 out of 5,650) complete farmer suicides. 53.1% and 14.5% of little farmers who committed suicides were accounted in Maharashtra (1,135 out of 2,516) and Telangana (366 out of 2,516) individually during 2014.

The land holding status of farmers who committed in 2015 uncovered that 45.2% and 27.4% of all out such casualties were small farmers (3,618) and medium farmers (2,195) individually, these together represented 72.6% of all out farmers/cultivators' suicides (5,813 out of 8,007). Out of 2,195 suicides submitted by marginal farmers, 834 and 354 such suicides were accounted for in Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh, representing 38.0% and 16.1% of absolute such suicides separately during 2015. Among suicides committed by small farmers, 35.5% and 20.1% were accounted in Maharashtra (1,285 out of 3,618) and Karnataka (751 out of 3,618) individually. A sum of 160 large farmers has committed suicides in the year 2015. Figure 2: Land Holding Status of Farmers who Committed Suicide in 2015

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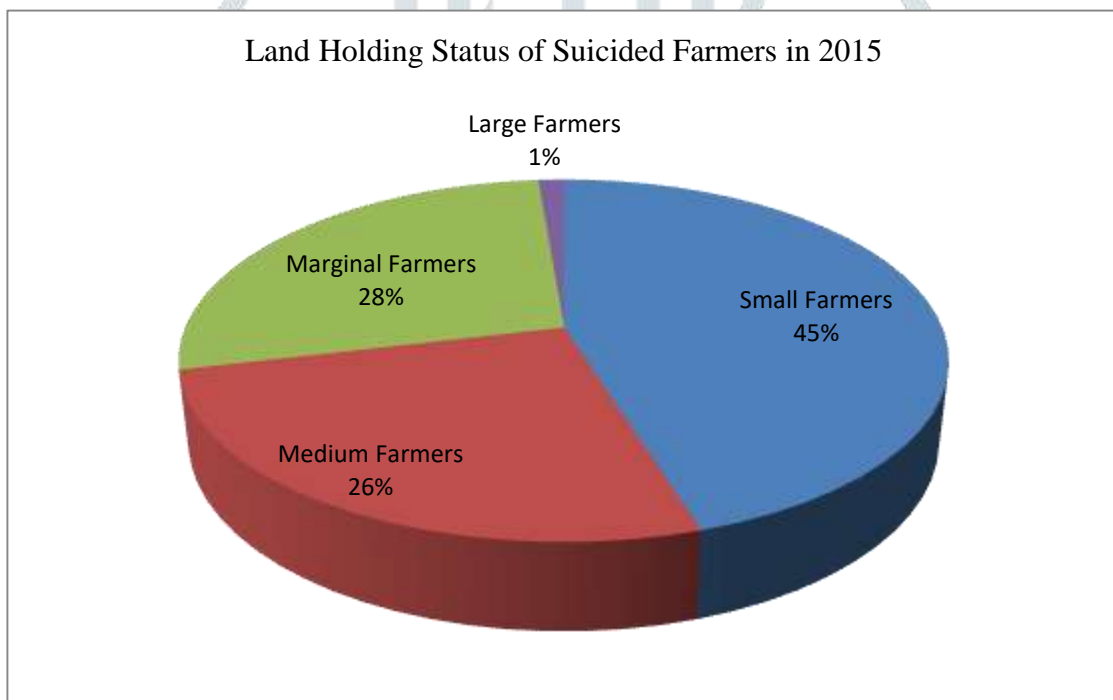
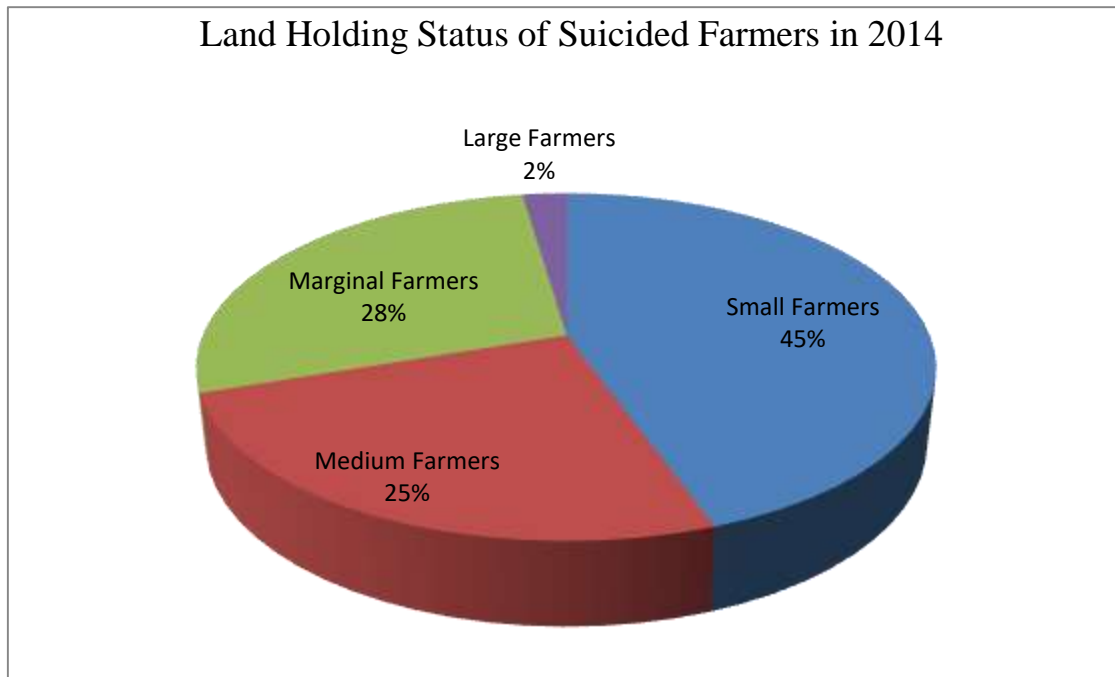


Figure 3: Land holding status of farmers who committed suicide in 2014



Conclusion

The farmers' suicide has been rose by 42 percent in between 2014 and 2015. Out of 12,602 people who committed suicide in 2015, 8,007 were farmers and 4,595 agriculture workers. It implies each hour, one farmer committed suicide in India in 2015. The most elevated number of farmer suicide was recorded in 2004 when 18,241 farmers committed suicide.. Be that as it may, in 2014 it expanded to 12360 from 11772 out of 2013, establishing an expansion of almost 5 percent. It is discovered that small and medium farmers were committing suicide than huge farmers in the nation. Farmers need insurance through defensive enactment as nothing is ordinarily done to assist them with settling their obligations or handle the uncommon value rise that drives them to submit suicides. Negligible lip compassion by ideological groups and government authorities isn't sufficient to connect the augmenting request supply hole in the rural area.

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