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Farmer Suicide in India

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Abstract: Farmer suicides are the most tragic and dramatic symptom of the crisis of survival faced by Indian peasants. It refers to the intentional ending of one's life by a person dependent on farming as their primary source of livelihood. Rapid increase in indebtedness is at the root of farmers taking their lives. Other causes range from drought to failure of governmental policies. The first state where suicide was noted is Maharashtra in the early 1990s. Soon newspapers began to report similar occurrences from Andhra Pradesh. Maharashtra ranks first in farmer suicide in India with 3146 distressed

farmers ending their lives in 2013 according to the latest data released by National Crimes Records Bureau. Suicide among female farmers has increased in the recent years. The chief reason being the anxiety caused by the role of conflict. If the government does not make any urgent legal provision to offer relief to the farmer in affected areas, the whole country will suffer the consequences.

Key words: farmer suicide, tragic, intentional, government policies, role conflict.

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Farmer suicide is the intentional ending of one's life by a person dependent on farming as their primary source of livelihood. In 2012 the National Crime Records Bureau of India reported 13,754 farmer suicides in India. Rapid increase in indebtedness is at the root of farmers taking their lives. Significant reporting in suicides among farmers in India began in the 1990s by the Rural Affairs Editor of The Hindu, P.Sainath. The first state where the suicide was reported was Maharashtra in 1990. Soon newspapers began to report similar occurrences from Andhra Pradesh. The National Crime Records Bureau of India reported in its 2013 annual report that 1,35,445