

‘A Comparative Study of Male and Female Farmers Suicide in Maharashtra from 1995 to 2014’

Dr. Mahesh Danapa Chougule, Asst. Professor Dept. of Commerce Shivraj College,
Gadhinglaj

Abstract: The degree of concentration here is significantly higher in case of male farmer’s suicides as compare to the female farmers suicides. It is also worth nothing that the indices of male suicide among farmers have increased quite rapidly than female farmer’s suicide during the period of from 1995-2014 in Maharashtra.

The total number of male farmer’s suicide in Maharashtra 56589 from 1995 to 2014. Total female farmers suicide in Maharashtra 6184 during same years. In 1995, the number of male farmer’s suicide had 978 and the number of female farmer’s suicide had 105. In 2014, the number of male farmer’s suicide had 3726 and the number of female farmer’s suicide had 278.

1) Introduction:

Suicide is a universal and oldest concept in India. Suicide behaviour is a major problem across the world. Agriculture is backbone of our country but, share of agricultural in total national income is very low as compare to the secondary and territory sector. 54.6 % of the population is engaged in agriculture and allied activities (Census 2011) and it contribution 17.45 % to the country’s gross value added for the year 2016-17 (at current prices). Given the importance of agriculture sector, government of India look several steps for its sustainable development. Steps have been taken to improve soil health card scheme, to provide improved access to irrigation and enhanced water efficiency through Pradhan Mantra Krish Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), to support organic farming through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and to support for creation of a unified national agriculture market to boost the income of farmers. Further, to mitigate risk in agriculture sector a new scheme Pradhan Mantra Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been launched for implementation from kharif 2016. Even though the agriculture male and female farmer’s suicide remains still increased in Maharashtra.

2) Objectives:

- a) To make a comparative study of male and female farmers suicide in Maharashtra.
- b) To study the causes of farmers suicides in short.

3) Scope of the study:

A Comparative study of male and female farmers suicide is limited to Maharashtra state only. The duration of the study is 1995-2014. The present study concentrates on the comparative analysis of male and female farmer’s suicide in Maharashtra.

4) Research Method:

The present study is a macro level study. Use Secondary data for analysis of subject. The secondary data collected from the various book, web site, research paper, articles and journals etc. A percentage is defined as a number represented as fraction of 100 and it is used to compare things and use it in ratios.

$$\text{Percentage (\%)} = \frac{x_1}{\sum x} \times 100$$

5) Analysis of Data:

Maharashtra is developed state of India as compare to the Bihar and some other state, although it could not avoid tendency of citizens towards suicide. The growth rate of farmer’s suicide is not same in all states of India. Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra pradesh, Madhya pradesh has been found relatively large number of farmer’s suicide. These five states account average almost 65% farmers’ suicides of India during 1995 to 2014, but it

contributes only 30% population share of India.¹ Suicides as whole are largely concentrated among male. The employment scenario of India is quite disappointing. There is acute unemployment and underemployment in India. The problem of unemployment is also considered to be a biggest challenge to the development planning in India.² It's also reason for suicide.

Table No.1.1
A Comparative Study of Male and Female Farmers Suicide in Maharashtra from 1995 to 2014

Year	All Maharashtra		
	Male Farmers Suicide	Female Farmers Suicide	Total Farmers Suicide
1995	978 (90.31)	105 (9.69)	1083 (100)
1996	NA	NA	NA
1997	1600 (83.46)	317 (16.54)	1917 (100)
1998	1938 (80.44)	471 (19.56)	2409 (100)
1999	2050 (84.61)	373 (15.39)	2423 (100)
2000	2492 (82.46)	530 (17.54)	3022 (100)
2001	2945 (83.28)	591 (16.72)	3536 (100)
2002	3155 (85.38)	540 (14.62)	3695 (100)
2003	3381 (88.14)	455 (11.86)	3836 (100)
2004	3799 (91.61)	348 (8.39)	4147 (100)
2005	3638 (92.66)	288 (7.34)	3926 (100)
2006	4111 (92.32)	342 (7.68)	4453 (100)
2007	3968 (93.62)	270 (6.38)	4238 (100)
2008	3573 (93.98)	229 (6.02)	3802 (100)
2009	2692 (93.74)	180 (6.26)	2872 (100)
2010	2947 (93.82)	194 (6.18)	3141 (100)
2011	3093 (92.68)	244 (7.32)	3337 (100)
2012	3483 (91.99)	303 (8.01)	3786 (100)
2013	3020 (95.99)	126 (4.00)	3146 (100)
2014	3726 (93.06)	278 (6.94)	4004 (100)
Total	56589 (90.14)	6184 (9.86)	62773 (100)

(Source³: nrb.nic.in, various reports of accidental and suicide deaths in India.)

The total number of male farmer's suicide in Maharashtra 56589 from 1995 to 2014. Total female farmers suicide in Maharashtra 6184 during same years. In 1995, the number of male farmer's suicide had 978 and the number of female farmer's suicide had 105. In 2014, the number of male farmer's suicide had 3726 and the number of female farmer's suicide had 278. The degree of concentration here is significantly higher in case of male farmer's suicides as compare to the female farmers suicides. It is also worth nothing that the indices of male suicide among farmers have increased quite rapidly than female farmer's suicide during the period of from 1995-2014 in Maharashtra.

Many causes are responsible for male and female farmers suicides in Maharashtra in this lower agriculture product prices in case of support prices, illiteracy in the farmers, transformation of traditional inputs into corporate inputs, indebtedness, addiction of alcohol and other habits, declining public expenditure on agriculture sector, large number of small and marginal farmers, crop failures, low rate of return, lack of irrigation facilities, low level of farmers income, social customs of festivals, dominant place of money lenders, family dispute, high level of power load shading, non-cordial marital relation, absence of political will power, weak infrastructure facilities, absence of agro subsidiary business etc.

6) Conclusion:

In short, the farmer's suicide is increased rapidly in Maharashtra due to the above causes and also lack of proper implementation of various schemes regarding to the agriculture sector it is responsible for male and female suicide. It is also point out that the male suicide among farmers have higher than female farmer's suicide during the period of from 1995-2014 in Maharashtra.

7) Suggestion:

- 1.) Financial support made by government to victim families on large scale.
- 2.) Improve the banking sector in rural areas, because declining performance of banking sector in rural areas.
- 3.) To implement proper central and state government policies regarding agriculture sector.
- 4.) Control on black money and black marketing of agriculture product because it's adverse effect on agriculture price.

8) Reference:

- 1) Government of India, Census of India 2011: Provisional population totals, Registrar General Comissioner, New Delhi, Pp.X and XI.
- 2) Mercy Johnsan (2012), Economics, Manan Prakashan, Mumbai.
- 3) ncrb.nic.in (various reports of accidental and suicide deaths in India, national crime record beauro, new delhi.)