

## CHAPTER- 2

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Introduction

Review of literature is an important component of any research as it helps to understand the research problem in depth. Keeping in view the significance and relevance of previous studies concerning the present problem, efforts have been made to collect them and present in a brief manner. As such the literature on farmers' suicides is available in a limited sense rather than farmers' suicides in Maharashtra. As regards empirical studies related to this phenomenon are few. Nevertheless some of the relevant studies have been reviewed here. Most of the studies have highlighted the relationship between indebtedness and farmers suicides. These studies have also attempted to analyse socio-economic aspects of the farmers and the political economy of agrarian distress in the country. Several studies have been carried out in India rather than on specific states like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Maharashtra so as to analyse the problem of farmers' suicide.

#### 2.2 Ph.D. Thesis

**Epper V**<sup>1</sup> in his thesis made study on farmers' indebtedness in Vidarbha and Marathwada region of Maharashtra and submitted to BAMU, Aurangabad. It represents increasing population, lack of irrigation, lack of infrastructure, imbalanced distribution of public funds, slow development of cooperative financial institutions, apathy of commercial banks and its positive impact on money lenders, lack of business mindset, natural calamities, declining growth rate of agriculture sector, large number of small and marginal farmers are the major causes of increasing indebtedness among farmers and farmers' suicide in Marathwada and Vidarbha region of Maharashtra.

**Ghavane S.**<sup>2</sup> focuses on socio economic situation of suicide victims' households and factors responsible for farmers' suicide in Beed district of Maharashtra in his thesis, which submitted to BAMU Aurangabad. The study represents that large

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<sup>1</sup> Epper V (2009), "*A critical study of Rural Indebtedness with special reference to Selected Districts From Vidarbha and Marathwada Region*", A Ph.D. thesis, BAMU, Aurangabad.

<sup>2</sup> गव्हाणे एस . (2012), "*बिड जिल्हयात आत्महत्या केलेल्या शेतकऱ्यांच्या आर्थिक स्थितीचा अभ्यास*", पी.एचडी . शोध प्रबंध, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, औरंगाबाद

number of suicide victims were male married farmers, illiterate or had taken basic education, marginal and small farmers and were economically weak. Indebtedness, crop failure, low rate of return, permanent illness, family dispute and court cases, addiction of alcohol, bidi and cigarette, nature of nuclear family, loss of social status were the major factors responsible for farmers' suicide in Beed district. The thesis suggests that structural changes in the agriculture policy and international trade, provide sufficient crop loan, loan for supplementary and agro processing business at lowest interest, construction of warehouses, reduce load shading, extend coverage of crop insurance scheme, organize seminars and workshop, promote self-help group etc. are essential measures for preventing farmers' suicide.

**Gurumeet Kaur**<sup>3</sup> tried out to ascertain the basic causes of farmers' suicide in Punjab state of India through conducting the study of 455 farmers' suicide victims of Punjab state. Sangrur, Mansa, Bhatinda and Faridkot are the most suicide prone districts of Punjab, which is the cotton belt. She has pointed out that the mechanization of harvesting, intensive cultivation of crops, borrowed credit from informal money lenders and banks, stagnant or slowly increase in the minimum support prices of conventional crops, unproductive use of loan were major responsible factors of the decline in the net income of farmers. Moreover, adverse weather increases the risk of farmers. All these factors are responsible for increasing indebtedness among farmers' community in Punjab. On the contrary, family expenses are rapidly growing and lead farmers towards social, economical and psychological problems among farming community in Punjab. All these problems increase the depression, anxiety, frustration among farmers. Therefore, farmers are committing suicide.

**Reeja P.**<sup>4</sup> has selected 100 suicide attempters and families of people who have committed suicide. In this study researcher found that nearly 28 persons commit suicide in Kerala everyday with an increasing suicide rate. It is almost three times more than national average. Her study found that more males commit suicide than female and more than 80 percent suicide victims were from productive age group

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<sup>3</sup> Gurumeet Kaur (2011), "*An analysis of farmers' suicides in Rural Punjab*", P.hD thesis, Punjab University, Patiala.

<sup>4</sup> Reeja P. (2010), "*Causes and Consequences of Suicide: A case study of Kerala*", P.hD thesis, Kerala University,

of 15-59 years. Moreover, there is no direct relationship between economic problems and suicide but indirectly an association is found between same. The economic factor includes bank loans for construction and maintenance of houses, buying of home appliances, marriages of daughters, education expenses. This study also ascertains that suicide rate is higher among the lower income group than higher income group. The present study states that women have stronger negative attitude towards the acceptability of complete suicide but more positive attitude towards suicide attempts. Suicide is prone more in rural areas than in urban areas.

**Sangalad Purnand**<sup>5</sup> represents that more than 30,000 farmers have committed suicide in only Karnataka. Dependent on rainfall, common drought, depletion of groundwater, negligence of youth towards farming and growing indebtedness are the main challenges before farmers. The growing indebtedness among farmers' is main outcome of globalization and privatisation in Dharwad district. New methods of farm cultivation have need of more money for buying inputs. However, most of the farmers could not buy through own resources and financial institutions have apathy about agriculture loan. Finally, farmers take loans from money lender at high interest, however, could not repay the existing loan due to crop failure and low level of income and surrounded by the debt trap. This situation is found more among the small and marginal farmers.

### **2.3 Reference books**

**Dubhasi P.**<sup>6</sup> represented impact of economic reforms on agriculture sector which leads to farmers' suicide in his book. The economic reforms have positive impact on economic growth of country. However, it adversely affected agriculture sector and income distribution, employment level and many more factors in India. Therefore, irrigation extension, credit supply, separate budget for agriculture sector, planning for drought prevention, agro processing through cooperation, expansion of crop insurance across country and pressurise WTO in favour of subsidies and export etc measures are suggested to improve the situation of agriculture sector in India.

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<sup>5</sup> **Sangalad Purnand (2011), "Suicidal Tendencies among farmers of dharwad District- A Study",** P.hd thesis, Karnataka University, Dharwad.

<sup>6</sup> दुभाषि पी. (2006), "जागतिकीकरण, उदारीकरण आणि अर्थकारण", श्री विद्या प्रकाशन पुणे .

**Khupse M.**<sup>7</sup> explains many more facts of farmers' suicides, which enables society think and discuss on the issue of farmers' suicides in his book. This book contains statistical data of farmers' suicide and suggested measure for preventing farmers' suicide. He represented that farmers' of Vidarbha did not sluggish, but there is no opportunity to work because of seasonal rainfed farming. It is essential to control the expenditure on customs and traditions to avoid the economic distress by distressed and economically poor farmers.

**Langewar N.**<sup>8</sup> edited fourteen articles of journalist and researcher. The former minister of agriculture and cooperation suggested that farmers must begin agro supplementary business to avoid the agrarian crisis in India. Similarly, use of modern technology, restructuring of market and remove debt burden of farmers are essential to improve the situation of farmers and farming sector of nation was suggested by him. In the words of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, "Government should introduce such agriculture policy, which supports marginal and small farmers". P. Sainath represents national economic policy is sole responsible for farmers' suicide. All other writers also represent their views on various issues which are responsible for farmers' suicides.

**Jadhav Y.**<sup>9</sup> represents that agriculture sector of Maharashtra is continuously surviving under the pressure of uneven and uncertain rainfall and lack of irrigation. Government has failed to create optimal irrigation potential, regional balance in irrigation extension, justice in interstate water distribution of various river basin during last 60 years of planning and it adversely affected cropping intensity and income of the farmers. Most of the farmers in Vidarbha and Marathwada had taken loan for consumption purposes. It leads to vicious circle of indebtedness. Therefore, there is need of optimum use of irrigation potential and revaluation of interstate water distribution of various river basins for improving the socio-economic situation of farmers in Maharashtra.

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<sup>7</sup> खुपसे एम . (2006), "शेतकऱ्यांच्या आत्महत्या थांबवायच्या कशा : चिंता आणि चिंतन", समीर पकाशन कलंब

<sup>8</sup> लांजेवार एन . (2007), "शेतकऱ्यांच्या आत्महत्या थांबवायच्या कशाः चिंतन आणि उपाय", सुमेरू पकाशन, डोंबिवली

<sup>9</sup> देसाई जीवन (2012), "संयुक्त महाराष्ट्राच्या पेरणा : शोध आणि उपाय", योजना ,ऑक्टोबर, 2007, अंक 35 (3), PP. 88-97

**Rathod G.**<sup>10</sup> discusses the causes of farmer's suicides in India in his book. According to him, not only natural factors like flood, cyclones, drought, loss of crop through wild animals are responsible for agricultural crisis but also declining values and new economic policies are responsible for farmers distress and suicide in India. Moreover, increasing dependency of farmers on purchased inputs, channel of exploitation, absence of economic holding, increasing load shading, lack of risk mitigation system are increasing vulnerability in agriculture sector during globalization. Consequently, net income from farm business has declined and most of the small and marginal farmers cannot meet our basic needs. Not only this, they are working as a labour during the lean season. All these factors lead to farmers towards suicide. Therefore, he has suggested an ultimate and long term measures to improve the economic status of farmers in this book.

**Kulkarni R.**<sup>11</sup> in his book explains the insight experience of the Padyatri (travellers) about the drastic survival of the village community. This padyatra set out in January, 1, 2006 in Marathwada and Vidarbha by the "Sahyog Nirmati" non-governmental organisation to study the intensity of drought. This Padyatra (March) was 944 Km long and took 59 days. The route of patdyatra going through the districts Ahmednagar, Beed, Osmanabad, Latur, Nanded, Parbhani, Hingoli, Yawatmal and Wardha. It starts from the Kasari village of Beed district and end at Sevagram Ashram of Wardha.

The travellers of the march visited many villages and discussed with the rural people about drought and other rural problems during the padyatra. Mr. Ramakant Kulkarni noted the insight experience of the padyatri in our diary and published book in 2013.

The padyatra insight report shows that the major problems of rural India rather than Marathwada and Vidarbha were absence of easy drinking water, traditional education which don't provide employment, low quality of education, absence of rural need based education system, huge unemployment among educated youth, seasonal migration of landless labourers and marginal farmers, presence of child labour and their exploitation, women health, exploitation of

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<sup>10</sup> राठोड एच . (2006) , “ शोषित शेतकरी (आत्महत्येची मुलभुत कारणे) ” ,राजगुरू पब्लिकेशन , औरंगाबाद

<sup>11</sup> कुलकर्णी . आर . (2013), “इथे नांदतो दुष्काळ : एका पदयात्रेत दिसलेले वास्तव”, समकालीन प्रकाशन, पुणे

agricultural labourers by sugar factories and contractor of employment guarantee scheme, child marriages and girls' protection. The book also represents prices of agriculture produce are less than the cost of cultivation of major crops. Sometime, farmers cannot fulfil the cost of production from the value of production. Therefore, most of the farmers are indebted. Not only this, farmers' were accepted organic farming method for reducing the cost of production, although low quality of organic fertilisers turned the views of farmer's towards chemical fertilisers in these districts.

**Bokare D.**<sup>12</sup> in his book focuses on the factors responsible for increasing tragedy among farmers' in India. The book represents national income of country has been increasing rapidly since independence but economic disparity also widened due to exploitation of poor people rather than farmers' by the white collar and agents. Therefore, poor became poorer and rich became richer. Similarly, supply of spurious seeds, open competition in agriculture sector, perishable nature of agriculture produce, price fluctuations, monsoon based farming are the major problems of farmers in India. Consequently, there is no assurance of stable income and it adversely affected agricultural sector and create frustration among farming community and ultimately committing suicide. This situation would be continued it may affect per capita food availability rather than food security of nation.

Therefore, government must take initiative for improve the socio economic status of Indian farmers to avoid the fear of food security and complex situation of economic disparity in rural India. Similarly, expansion and proper utilisation of irrigation, promote for short term and low water based crops, ponds at every village, oppose ill timed and corrupt government policy decision, organise discussion panel, establish agro processing units etc. remedial measures suggested for reducing the uncertainty of agriculture sector of India.

**Dhoble V.**<sup>13</sup> discussed journey of Indian agriculture from Sindu civilisation to new economic reforms through various reports and references in his book. Farming was the prestigious and stable business during Sindu civilisation although; Aryans had destroyed the Indian farming system and given status of

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<sup>12</sup> बोकारे डी. (2008), “शेतक-यांच्या आत्महत्या थांबवायच्या कशा ?”, डायमंड पब्लिकेशन पुणे .

<sup>13</sup> ढोबळे व्ही. (2009), “शेतक-यांच्या आत्महत्या : जागतीकीकरणातील शोकांतिका”, सुगावा प्रकाशन, पुणे .

slave (labour) to farmers. This system of slavery has been continued in ancient period by the name Shudras, in Medieval age by the cultivators and in modern period by the name of farmers. A reducing status of labour prestige is main cause of increasing farmers' suicides in India.

The government of India has taken positive initiative for balanced development of economy during planning period. However, government did not taken seriously land ceiling act and rehabilitation of peoples affected through irrigation projects and it leads to increasing hunger, declining net sown area, economic disparity among peoples in India. Henceforth, introduction of new economic reforms has adversely affected not only the socio economic status of farmers' but also minimum food for survival of rural people. This book has focused on diplomatic policy of government of developed countries who provides heavy subsidy to farmers. Therefore, suggested that it is essential for the government to rethink on the existing new economic reforms programme.

#### **2.4 Reports**

**Planning Commission**<sup>14</sup> had set up a fact finding team on March, 2, 2006. The main goals of this team was to study the long term causes of rural distress and regional disparities in Maharashtra specially Vidarbha, effectiveness of existing mechanism for balanced regional development, existing relief package announced by the state government and to recommend necessary measures for reducing regional disparity and issues of Vidarbha.

The team had visited Vidarbha on March 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The team subdivided itself into 3 groups and undertook intense touring of Wardha, Yawatmal, Buldhana, Washim, Akola and Amravati districts of Vidarbha region.

The team observed the features of Vidarbha during long march and found that absence of industrial units, potholes on the road, oil linters or a single bulb in homes, three wheelers on the road for public transport, large rainfed area, few ginning mills with open cotton bales and covered high with dust waste, absence of textile mills, sellers of oranges in heaps with low quality oranges, cotton purchasing by the private traders and paying money in instalments, bare home

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<sup>14</sup> Government of India (2006) *"Report of the Fact Finding Team on Vidarbha"*, Planning commission of India, New Delhi

without acquisitions of note, alcoholism in youngsters and existence of small shops, Panwalas and Dhabas.

The team visited villagers and found that most of the input dealers exploit farmers through providing scrupulous seeds at high prices, misguidance by the input supplier, reducing prices of cotton since removal of Monopoly Procurement Scheme, reduction in productivity of BT-cotton from 10-12 quintals to 3 quintals within last five years, absence of government advice about seeds and fertilizers use, absence of electricity, low level of EGS wages for males and females etc. issues of rural Vidarbha.

The team also reported that the state government has neglected continuously Vidarbha region. Therefore, backlog has touched to Rs. 14434.64 crores at 2003-04 prices and recommended that the backlog must be removed within 5 years. As well as, absorbing capacity of various sectors for incurring expenditure must be improved. The government needs to establish strong mechanism for insuring implementation, create a non lapsable budget head for funds allocated by governor and include separate chapter on regional imbalance. Government focus should be on overall perspective planning for the backward regions and removal of backlog.

The Maharashtra government needs Rs. 10,600 crores for the completion of on-going projects in Vidarbha region. These projects must be reviewed and new projects should be introduced within six months of span by the government. The efforts must be taken by the government on water harvesting with public participation and effective management.

**TISS**<sup>15</sup> Tata Institute of Social Science, Tuljapur (MH) submitted its enquiry report to the Mumbai High Court on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2005. The team of TISS has selected 36 suicide victim farmers from 12 districts of Vidarbha, Marathwada and Khandesh for study. The major cause of farmers' suicides is indebtedness. Continuous crop failure and cultivation cost exceeding value of production are major responsible factors of increasing indebtedness among farmers. Therefore, the farmers did not repay the loans of the banks. Almost 75 percent farmers had

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<sup>15</sup>TISS (2005), "*Causes of Farmer Suicides in Maharashtra: An Enquiry*", Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur (M.H), March 15, 2005

taken the loans from the non-institutional agencies and could not repay it. It leads to frustration and some farmers are taken decision of suicide. The committee has recommended the measures to immediate relief, rehabilitation and for removal of issue. They are as follows.

- The compensation of 2.5 lakh should be offered immediately to family of victims.
- The committee of eminent persons be set up to arrive at a complete list of farmers who have committed suicide.
- Court should direct the state and central government to support marginal and small farmers to remain in agriculture sector.
- The central government should be directed to reduce the interest rate on the credit offered to cultivators.
- The minimum support prices should take care of matches the cost of cultivation in each state and crop by crop.
- The central government establishes the commission with statutory powers to take decisions about impact of genetic technology on Indian agriculture, agriculture pricing policy and cropping pattern.

**IGIDR**<sup>16</sup> made a survey in Yawatmal, Washim and Amravati districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra on farmers' suicides and submitted to government of Maharashtra. The prime objective of this survey was to ascertain the social and economical factors responsible for rising crisis in agriculture sector and suggested preventive policy measure to the government. The committee had selected 116 suicide victim farmers of 109 villages and 111 non suicide victim farmers from 105 villages for study. Suicide victims were not statistically satisfactory in terms of operated area, large number of suicide victims was from the Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes among them.

Over the years profit from cotton crops has declined due to failure of the MCPS, declining public investment, poor extension services, declining role of financial institutional, dominant position of money lenders, increasing dependency of farmers on input dealers, low import tariffs and high subsidy given by the USA

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<sup>16</sup> Mishra Srijit & Others (2006), "*Suicides of Farmers in Maharashtra: A Background Paper*", Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai (MH), January 2006.

leading to price distortions. The declining net margin from cotton crop and some policy oriented causes are responsible for increasing farmers' suicides in Vidarbha rather in Maharashtra. Similarly, high indebtedness, nature of nuclear family, high size of family, declining standard of living, family dispute, crop failure, alcoholism, deterioration in social status, illness, family dispute, burden of daughter/ sister marriage, health problem, a recent death in family and illness of other family member are also important causes of farmer suicide in Vidarbha.

The committee has suggested the policy measures as follows.

1. Restructure formal credit system through reduce interest rate on the crop loans, bring co-operatives under the RBI regulations, regulate private money lenders, introduction of crop insurance on basis of risk, credit and income, reduce the intermediaries of co-operative credit institutions.
2. Increase irrigation potential and efficiency through watershed development, use of sprinkler and drip irrigation and avoid excess use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, diversify cropping pattern from cotton and soybean to horticulture crop, adopt crop rotation system, encourage organic farming.
3. Regulate input suppliers, provide quality inputs, increase import tariffs, restructuring agriculture marketing system, promote for non-farm employment opportunities and control expenses on ceremonies like marriage.
4. The concept of farmer must be broader than ownership of land. As well as, government should include the informal loans while evaluating indebtedness status of farmers and crop loss due to fire, theft and other causes must be considered in existing norms of immediate financial support system of farmers' suicides.

**Nagaraj K.**<sup>17</sup> published a report on the secondary data published by the NCRB entitled "An Accidental Death and Suicide in India." He has concluded from the secondary data as follows.

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<sup>17</sup> Nagaraj K. (2008), "*Farmers' Suicides in India: Magnitudes, Trends And Spatial Patterns*", Madras Institute of Development Studies, 2008

1. Almost 1, 90,753 farmers committed suicide during 1995-2006 all over India. In other words, on an average nearly 16,000 per annum. As well as 85 percent farm suicides were made only by the male farmers.
2. Every 5<sup>th</sup> suicide in the India is farmer suicide. Number of farm suicides has more or less steadily increased in India.
3. The all India general suicide rate and farm suicide rate is at 10.6 and 12.9 in India.
4. He has divided all states and union territories into four groups according to the suicide rate in different state in India.
  - Group I consists of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. In this group suicide rate for general population was 15.6 and 24.8 for farmers' suicides. These states accounts 57 percent general suicides and 63 percent farm suicides.
  - Group II considers Kerala, Tamilnadu, Goa, Pondicherry, West Bengal and Tripura. General suicide rate and farm suicide rate in this group was highest in the India at 20.1 and 28.8. He has mentioned that except West Bengal all other states are small. Therefore, the total number of suicides in this state are too less than the first group.
  - Group III Considers Assam, Gujarat, Haryana and Orissa. The general and farm suicide rate of this group is comparatively lower than the all India average. It was at t10.0 and 6.9 respectively.
  - Group IV considers Bihar, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarpradesh and Uttarakhand. The general suicide rate was 2.4 percent and 2.6 percent farmers' suicides rate of this group.

The factors responsible for increasing farmers' suicides particularly in contiguous semi arid zone in south and central part of India consisting Vidarbha, Deccan, Hyderabad, Karnataka, Talangana and Rayalaseema and Chhattisgarh are as follows. They are divided into three main heads.

1. Pre existing conditions of very high vulnerability which includes scanty and uneven rainfall, poor crop pattern, absence of modern technology, lack of irrigation facilities.

2. A neoliberal policy adversely affects public investment, irrigation extension, soil deterioration, withdrawal of subsidies, farm quotas and tariffs.
3. The alternative livelihood opportunities are not available in this region.

**SRTMRI**<sup>18</sup> had studied the issue of farmers' suicide in Marathwada region of Maharashtra. The investigator had selected 77 suicide victim farmers of 8 districts of Marathwada region. It represents about 68 percent farmers committed suicides caused by institutional indebtedness, family problems (25 percent), illness (10.5 percent), addiction of alcoholism (5 percent), loss of status (4 percent), crop failure (10.5 percent). Further, 17 farmers reported Rs. 1176 negative net average income, indicating cost of cultivation exceeding gross income. The report has suggested many remedial measures for preventing farmers' suicides in Marathwada region.

1. Restoration of confidence among farmers about farming is urgently required in Marathwada.
2. Indebtedness of farmers due to unregistered money lenders should be considered as criteria for giving financial assistance to family of victims.
3. Central bank should provide financial assistance to co-operative credit societies. As well as banks must restore adequate credit flow to the cultivators.
4. Burden of loan and interest of the farmer who committed suicide should be borne by government.
5. Provide loans to farmers at the minimum rate of interest.
6. Unregistered money lenders should be considered legally invalid and mortgage lands with them should be restored to the farmers.
7. The special package for development of Marathwada region should be announced by government for investment in pending irrigation projects (Rs. 4000 crores), digging of new wells, horticulture development programme, subsidies for promotion to drip irrigation.

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<sup>18</sup>SRTMRI (2006) "*Farmers suicides in Marathwada region of Maharashtra state*" Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada Research Institute, Aurangabad (Maharashtra), Nov. 2006

**Daily Sakal**<sup>19</sup> Daily Sakal newspaper team and Tirpude Institute of Social work, Nagpur had made study on farmers' suicides in Vidarbha region. The team had selected 121 suicide victim farmers and 50 non suicide farmers of Yawatmal and Amravati district. By this study indebtedness, low prices of agriculture produce, natural calamities, exploited marketing system, absence of agro-supplementary business; private money lenders, insufficient credit supply and huge unemployment are the basic causes of indebtedness and farmers' suicides. Similarly, division and fragmentation of land, low level of productivity, high prices of inputs, lack of employment opportunity, crop-failure and unproductive use of loan leads to economic distress and suicides. Similarly, 76 percent (38 farmers) farmers had the tendency of suicide due to the same factors. The team suggested that government should made efforts for providing fair prices for agriculture produce, subsidy on electricity, seeds and irrigated water and assistance for promoting agro supplementary business.

## **2.5 Articles published in journals, periodicals and magazines**

**C. Strak & Others**<sup>20</sup> focuses on causes of male farmers and farm workers in Scotland. The study represents that the overall annual rate of suicide was 31.4 per lakh population. Further, the areas with lower proportions of farmers have higher rates of farmer's suicide and undetermined deaths on the other hand cattle and sheep farmers was less associated with suicide. The weak social network creates mental illness and frustration among the farmers and consequently farmers commit suicide. The study suggested social network and mental health is essential to eliminate the issue of farmers' suicides.

**Fiona Judd, Henry Jackson, Caitlin Fraser, Gerg Murry, Garry Robins and Angela Komiti**<sup>21</sup> aims at investigate the rate of mental health problems among the farmers' and non-farmers rural residents and understand the factors responsible for increasing risk of suicide among farmers in Australia. Paper represents that farmers' had higher rate of mental health problems than non

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<sup>19</sup> Daily Sakal & others (2006) "**Causes of Farmer Suicides in Vidarbha: Findings**", Daily Sakal, Newspaper, Maharashtra

<sup>20</sup> C. Strak & Others (2006), "**Suicide in Farmers in Scotland**", **International Journal of Rural and Remote Health, Research, Education, Practice and Policy**, March, 2006

<sup>21</sup> Fiona Judd, Henry Jackson, Caitlin Fraser, Gerg Murry, Garry Robins and Angela Komiti (2006), "**Understanding suicide in Australian Farmers**", **Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology**, vol. 41 (1), January 2006, PP. 1-10

farmers' rural residents. Consequently, approximately one male farmer dies by suicide every four days, which is significantly higher than the non farming rural men and general male population. Loneliness, social isolation and breakdown of relationship, genetic influence, physical and mental illness, financial and business related problems, seasonal changes in sunlight exposure and exposure of pesticide are the major responsible factor for increasing suicidal ideation and behaviour among farmers in Australia.

**Mujumdar**<sup>22</sup> represents that the public sector banks continuously defaulted priority sector credit target of 40 percent and sub target of 18 percent credit to agriculture sector due to mind set of prevent the flow of agriculture credit. The share of priority sector advances declined from 41 percent before 1991 to almost 37 percent in 1995-96 and advances by public sector banks were less than 16 percent of net bank credit to agriculture sector in March 1998. The paper ascertain that the annual growth rate of fixed investments in agriculture sector and farm investment by the public sector was 5 to 6 percent and 7 percent respectively before the 1970's as against almost negative and 3 percent respectively during 1980's. It was continuously down turn during 1990's and there was no hop of an upswing.

**Satish P.**<sup>23</sup> reveals that the indebtedness is not a prominent and single cause of farmer suicide in Punjab. The institutional credit for agriculture has increasing in Punjab since green revolution and nationalization of banks. However, unproductive use of credit is responsible for increasing indebtedness among farmers in Punjab. The study represents that large number of farmers committed suicide due to family discord (38 percent), addiction of alcohol and drug (18 percent), indebtedness (18 percent), low status (17 percent) and lack of resources (6 percent). The basic causes of farmers' suicides are stagnant economy, increasing unemployment, inequality, declining labour absorption capacity of agriculture sector, deteriorating work culture among the youth, increasing problem of alcoholism and drug addiction, dissipation of economic and social infrastructure and structural retrogression in the social fabric in Punjab.

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<sup>22</sup> Mujumdar N. A. (1999), "*investment in Agriculture and Globalisation Syndrome*", Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. XXXIV (14), April, 3 1999, PP. 807-808

<sup>23</sup> Satish P. (2006), "*Institutional Credit, Indebtedness and Suicides in Punjab*", Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. Vol. XLI (38), June 30, 2006, PP. 2754-2761

The investment for modernizing and refurbishing of the canal irrigation, introduction of risk mitigation system for crop and credit, provide social infrastructure like schools and health centres, create awareness about the unproductive expenses among rural people, work ethics, establishment of e-centres, quality control of inputs, supportive systems etc. are essential to prevent the suicide in Punjab.

**Narayanmoorthy A.**<sup>24</sup> focused light on the controversy between the issues of farmers and relief package announced by the central government for Vidarbha. The paper represents high burden of private loan, lack of income to meet the consumption expenditure of farmers, absence of remunerative prices to agriculture produce, regional backlog (Rs. 11,000 crores) in irrigation, low profit margin, low quality of inputs and absence of quality infrastructure had the basic causes of increasing distress among farmers of Vidarbha. The package announced by central government could not solve issues of farmers of Vidarbha region. Therefore, government must provide inputs at subsidy rate, promotion to contract farming, open input delivery centres and regular assessment of cultivation cost for preventing farmers' suicide. Similarly, quality infrastructure like roads, market, irrigation, schools, watershed development, credit institutions and extension network is also essential to control farmer's suicide in Vidarbha.

**Kumar & Others**<sup>25</sup> focuses on impact of neo liberal policy on the farmers in Kerala. By this study, the prices of export oriented crops like rubber, pepper, tea and coffee were largely affected during the period of 1997-98 to 2003-04. Small and marginal farmers were worst affected due to crop losses and fall in price of agriculture produce. It is also found that out of 35 suicide victims 24 percent had sold land and 8.36 percent of the suicide victim cultivated land holds by formal and non formal financial institutions for repay the loans. This study suggests that government must provide sufficient institutional loans to farmers and announce some relief packages to the suicide victim families. Moreover, changes in economic policy in terms of regulating taxes, prices of agriculture produce and inputs, import duties are required for increasing status of farmers in Kerala.

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<sup>24</sup> A Narayanamoorthy (2006), "*Relief Packages for Farmers: Can it Stopped Suicide*," *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. 41 (31), August 5, 2006 P.P. 3353-3355

<sup>25</sup> Kumar & Others (2006), "*Analysis of Farmers Suicides in Kerala*," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XLI (16) April 22, 2006, PP. 1553-1558

**Rao & Others**<sup>26</sup> represents extended indebtedness among farmers and losses of the hope to repay it are major causes of increasing suicides in Andhra Pradesh. The causes of increasing indebtedness and committing suicides are high dependence of farmers on the external inputs and its high prices, diminishing returns due to crop failure, declining productivity and low prices of agriculture produces in Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, changing cropping pattern towards commercialization, which is highly risky and highly expensive also responsible for increasing farmers' distress. Moreover, concentration of government on urban development also adversely affected farm business.

**Anita Gill and Singh L.**<sup>27</sup> focuses on issues of agriculture sector and farmers' suicide in Punjab. Farmers' suicides became a public issue since mid of 1980's decade in Punjab state rather than in Sangrur and Mansa district. The introduction of new economic reforms has been adversely affected cost of production and net income generated through farm business. Consequently, farmers' particularly small and marginal have in a situation either meet the basic needs or repay loan. Similarly, marital discord, poverty, crop failure, addiction of alcohol, stagnant industrial growth and reduced the employment opportunities extends the vulnerability among farmers in Punjab. All these factors adversely affected prestige and psychology of farmers and finally some committed suicides. The researcher suggests that the government should give financial relief to suicide victims' families and prevent the farmers' from global economic crisis through innovative policies. Further, people must be entered in processing and marketing of the agriculture produce to eliminate chain of intermediaries.

**Vaidyanathan A.**<sup>28</sup> found that the farmer's suicide have been mostly concentrated in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala and Punjab because of paradox of structural changes in the agriculture sector. It has an adverse impact on climate, soil fertility, groundwater level, net return of farm business and consequently indebtedness and farmers' suicides. The issue of

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<sup>26</sup> Rao & Others (2006), "*Dimensions of Agrarian Distress in Andhra Pradesh*," Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLI (16), April 22, 2006, PP. 1546-1552.

<sup>27</sup> Anita Gill and Singh L. (2006), "*Farmers' Suicides and Response of Public Policy Evidence, Diagnosis and Alternatives from Punjab*", Economic and Political Weekly Vol. XLI, (60), June 30, 2006, PP. 2762-2768.

<sup>28</sup> Vaidyanathan, A. (2006), "*Farmer" Suicides and Agrarian Crisis*," Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLI (38), September 23, 2006, PP. 4009-4013.

farmers' suicide can be solved by change in the organizational structure of programme implementation and the effective participation of the Panchayati, change in the policy design of public expenditure, reducing water and soil waste and modernization of existing water management. Moreover, government must be transfer the responsibility of deciding and enforcing rules of water allocation, maintenance, repair, levy and collection of water charges to autonomous, financially self-reliant, user-controlled organizations by providing technical expert and government administration.

**Mishra Surjit**<sup>29</sup> focuses on the issues of farmers' suicides in Wardha, Washim and Yawatmal district of Maharashtra. Farmers' suicide is complex phenomenon and minimum two risk factors were responsible for farmers' suicides in Maharashtra. Indebtedness, deterioration in economic status, crop failure, change in social status, marriages of daughter or sister, addiction of alcohol, psychological behaviour of suicide victim, family dispute, personal health problem, death of close person, suicide history of family are responsible for farmers' suicide in selected area. As well as the gross value addition of cotton has declined since 1993-94 because of dumping of cotton prices by United States, unfavourable remunerative prices and failure of MPCSC were responsible for increasing farmers' suicides in Maharashtra rather than Vidarbha.

**Sangeeta Shroff and Mitra S.**<sup>30</sup> argue that the epidemic of suicides is the sign of agrarian distress and impoverished condition of farmers. The suicide rate is found high in states where cotton is the major crop i.e. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Crop failure, yield uncertainty, high global production, free trade policy, declining prices in global market and increasing cost of cultivation are the major causes of farmers' suicide in cotton belt of India. Extension of irrigation, efficient use of water through drip irrigation, interest free loan, prevention on spurious seeds, stimulation of research in crossing of traditional cotton seeds with the BT cotton, regulation of BT cotton seeds etc. measures must be adopted to avoid and prevent farmers' suicides in cotton belt of India.

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<sup>29</sup> Mishra Surjit (2006), "*Farmers' Suicides in Maharashtra*," Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLI (16), April 22, 2006, PP. 1538-1545.

<sup>30</sup> Sangeeta Shroff and Mitra S. (2007), "*Farmers Suicides in Maharashtra*", Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLII (49), December 8, 2007, PP. 73-77.

**Bose A.**<sup>31</sup> focuses on the increasing distress among farmers' in Mansa district of Punjab, which is the heart of cotton belt in Punjab. The study represents that farmers in Mansa district are in economic distress since mid 1980's because of crop failure, decline in cotton yield, high cost of seeds and pesticides, over mechanization, needless purchase of tractors, demonstrative culture of farmers, increasing unemployment among youth, alcoholism. These factors lead to heavy indebtedness and it transform in the vicious circle of poverty, declining social status and ultimately committing suicide in Mansa district.

**Narayanamoorthy A. and Kalamkar S.**<sup>32</sup> represents the empirical study on cost of cultivation, yield and net return of irrigated BT and non BT cotton producing farmers of Buldhana and Yawatmal district of Vidarbha. Cultivation cost and yield of BT cotton producing irrigated farmers' is more than non BT cotton producing irrigated farmers. Hence, the net income of BT cotton producing farmers was higher than non BT cotton producing farmers. However, there is a need to introduce policy measures for controlling prices of BT cotton seeds, prevention and strict action against the dumpy seeds suppliers and compensation for the pest attacks on BT cotton.

**Muzaffar A.**<sup>33</sup> argues causes of farmer suicide in Bidar, Raichur, Gulbarga and Dharwad districts of Karnataka. Insufficient and unseasonal rainfall increases the intensity of crop failure and leads towards indebtedness to farmers. Similarly, mass cultivation of tur, urid, cotton and sugarcane and over production of same, absence of strong peasants organization, exploited private money lenders and commission agents, lack of employment opportunities are major responsible factors for increasing farmers suicide since mid 1990's in particular area of Karnataka.

**Sridhar V.**<sup>34</sup> argues causes of increasing distress in agriculture sector rather among farmers. The intensity of agriculture crisis is more in Royalsima and

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<sup>31</sup> Bose A. (2000), *"From Population to Pests in Punjab-American Boll Worn and Suicides in Cotton Belt"*, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 35 (38), September 1, PP. 3375-3378

<sup>32</sup> Narayanamoorthy A. and Kalamkar S. (2006), *"Is BT Cotton Cultivation Economically Viable for Indian Farmers? An Empirical Analysis"*, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 41 (26) June 30, 2006, PP. 2716-2724

<sup>33</sup> Muzaffar A. (1998), *"Karnataka Farmers Suicides: Signs of Distress in Rural Economy"*, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 33 (14), April, 4, 1998, PP .747-748

<sup>34</sup> Sridhar, V. (2006), *"Why does Farmers Commit Suicide? The Case of Andhra Pradesh"*, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. XLI (16), April 22, 2006, PP. 1559-1565.

Talangana region of Andhra Pradesh due to drastic natural and manmade changes in agriculture sector. Frequent droughts, indebtedness, soil degradation, inappropriate agriculture practices, rising cost of inputs, fluctuations in the prices of farm output, stagnant employment level in farm and non-farm business, shifting of farmers from traditional rain-fed cereal crops to non-food cash crops, increasing dependence on monetized inputs, declining growth rate of yield, falling prices of primary commodities in globe, high cost of borrowings of private money lenders, reduction in agriculture subsidies, withdrawal of state support for agricultural extension services, declining investment in public infrastructure i.e. irrigation and energy, low voltage electricity, erratic power and burned motors, increasing charges of canal irrigation, digging of wells and bore wells by own pocket, declining ground water level, reducing expenditure on the agriculture research and education and public extension services are directly or indirectly responsible for agrarian crisis and increasing distress among farmers.

**Deshpande R.**<sup>35</sup> argues the causes of farmer's distress in northern Karnataka and measures to solve the problems of farmers. The causes of farmer's distress are hidden behind the agriculture policy implemented during last sixty years of planning period. The policy have promote to commercialization of agriculture, adaptation of monoculture and over exploitation of soil, cultivation of crop on uneconomic holdings, change in technology, inadequate knowledge of global changes, existence of lease system, unseasonal rainfall, inferior quality of inputs, high prices of inputs, absence of marketing infrastructure, heavy credit burden, failure of extension services, volatile in prices of agriculture produce, sudden attack of pests and diseases and it leads towards increasing distress among farmers in Karnataka state of India.

**Behere & Behere**<sup>36</sup> focuses on the farmers' suicides in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. It represents that absence of adequate social support, low quality of infrastructure, increasing uncertainty in farm business, indebtedness, rising costs of cultivation, plummeting prices of farm commodities, lack of credit availability to small farmers, lack of irrigation facilities, repeated crop failure, rainfall

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<sup>35</sup> Deshpande R. S (2002), "*Suicide by Farmers in Karnataka: Agrarian Distress and Possible Alleviatory Steps*", Economic and Political Weekly, 37 (26), June 29, 2002, PP. 2601-2610.

<sup>36</sup> Behere & Behere (2008), "*Farmers' suicide in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state: A myth or reality?*", Indian Journal of Psychiatry, Vol. 50 (2), Apr-Jun 2008, PP.124-127

dependent farming, easy availability of poison, large number of cotton growers and lack of political will power are the major causes of farmers' suicide in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. The study suggest there is an urgent need of create awareness among farmers regarding agricultural policies both financial and those extended by the government. Moreover, religious leaders, economist, psychiatrists and social worker should take initiative for preventing suicide in Vidarbha region.

**Surve G.**<sup>37</sup> reveals market based input use, crop failure, insufficient credit supply, unproductive use of loan, lower prices of agriculture produce, lack of agro supplementary business are responsible for increasing debt trap among farmers' in India. As well as agriculture policy adopted by government did not support to farmers. Consequently, farmers' are committing suicide to release from the debt burden. Hence, government should made structural changes in banking sector for providing sufficient credit to farmers at affordable rate of interest, irrigation policy for irrigation extension and promote self-employment for eradicate issue of farmers suicide.

**Mundhe N**<sup>38</sup> focused on the impact of LPG policy on agriculture sector in Maharashtra. A rapid increase in prices of inputs and stagnant prices of agriculture produce adversely affected net return in Maharashtra. Consequently, indebtedness is increasing among farmers and pressure of same leads to suicide. Therefore, government should restrict the domestic and foreign policy regarding agriculture sector and promote to agro based and agro processing industry for preventing farmers' suicides in Maharashtra. Similarly, participation of society is also essential to strengthen the farming community in state of Maharashtra.

**BhavaniPrasad A.**<sup>39</sup> focused on issue of farmers' suicide in Andhra Pradesh and other states of India and represents central and state government are more responsible for increasing farmers' suicide in many states of India. Government

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<sup>37</sup> सुर्वे जी . (2006), “शेतकऱ्यांच्या आत्महत्यांना कृषी धोरण , नापिकी आणि कर्जबाजारीपणा जबाबदार”, योजना, अंक 34 (1), ऑगस्ट 2006 , PP. 51, 52.

<sup>38</sup> मुंदे एन . (2006), “जागतिक व्यापार संघटना (WTO) आणि शेतकरी आत्महत्या”, योजना , अंक XXXIV (1), ऑगस्ट, 2006, पान . 53-58.

<sup>39</sup> भवानीप्रसाद ए . (2006), “शेतकऱ्यांच्या आत्महत्या रोखण्यासाठी आवश्यक उपाय योजना” , योजना, अंक 44 (1), ऑगस्ट 2006, PP. 44- 46

policy produces exploited market, low MSP, high cost of electricity with load shading, low level of irrigation potential use, lack of credit adversely affected agriculture sector in India. He has suggested that farmers must be protected by adopting villages to promote farmers and other self-employed business by bank, effective implementation of irrigation projects, restructuring of marketing policy and strict action against low quality inputs supplier, introduce new social security schemes to prevent farmers suicide in India.

**Mahajan B.**<sup>40</sup> represents causes of farmer suicides and preventing measures. Indebtedness, illness, low level of minimum support prices, uneven rainfall pattern, lack of infrastructure facilities, absence of agro supplementary business and substitute employment opportunities, lack of agro processing industries, privatisation of education, addiction of alcohol and tobacco, domination of private money lenders are responsible factors for farmers' suicide in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. The paper represents government packages are useless for eradicating the issue of farmers' suicides. Hence, government should made efforts for expansion of irrigation, watershed development, expansion of insurance scheme and instant compensation to the affected farmers, promote for use of bio-fertilizer farming, MSP of agriculture produce declared on factual cost, adopt vertical industrial pattern for cotton, legally abolish private money lending, promote for cattle rearing and poultry farming through finance and training.

**Datir R.**<sup>41</sup> represents debt relief, institutional credit supply at low interest and financial assistance to family of suicide victim cannot permanent solution on the issue of farmer's suicide. Government should make structural changes in cooperative credit, irrigation services, infrastructure, diversification of cropping pattern, marketing act, contract farming, agriculture research and extension institutions, risk fund, agro subsidiary business, national agriculture policy, international trade with existing financial package is essential for preventing farmers' suicides in India.

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<sup>40</sup> महाजन बी . (2006), “ *विदर्भातील शेतकऱ्यांच्या आत्महत्या* ” , योजना, अंक XXXIV (1), डिसेंबर, 2006, पान . 54-59

<sup>41</sup> दातीर आर . (2007), “ *शेतकऱ्यांच्या आत्महत्या : शोध आणि उपाय* ” , योजना, अंक XXXV (III), ऑक्टोबर, 2007, पान . 25-28.

**Gupta E. & Roshan**<sup>42</sup> represents there is positive relationship between rural poverty and issue of farmers suicide and failure of poverty alleviation programme mainly responsible for farmers' suicides in India. The benefits of poverty alleviation programme have taken by rich people and targeted poor people have been continuously unsatisfied. It leads to increase distress among poor people, rather in agriculture labourers and farmers. Further, indebtedness, neglected towards proper design of development programme and allocation of smaller budget to development of backward areas, increase in the prices of farm inputs, credit mismatch are also responsible for increasing the intensity of distress among poor community in India.

**Patil A.**<sup>43</sup> studied income and expenditure of farmers' all over India according to NSSO report. The paper represents per capita consumption expenditure has been more than income of farmers through all sources and it creates issue of indebtedness. Consequently, 40 percent farmers are ready to leave farm business due to failure to provide subsistence level of income. Moreover, increasing natural risks, lack of optimum prices for agriculture produce, strong intermediates in marketing of agriculture produce, low level of institutional credit supply, wide gap between MSP and WPI of agriculture produces, lack of freedom to the APC, deficient irrigation, lack of agro-supplementary business, free import policy, unproductive expenditure on unnecessary things all these factors are responsible for increasing farmers' suicides in India.

**Alka Mankar**<sup>44</sup> represents farmers' distress is the major obstacle in development of agriculture sector. An introduction of liberalization policy has been affected agriculture sector from last two decades in India. Moreover, increasing natural calamities, lack of agro subsidiary business, ill-timed credit system, low level of yield, limited irrigation, increasing prices of inputs, liberty to non-certified seeds companies, low level of cotton prices are adversely affected net return of farmers. Consequently, farmers' has been continuously under the pressure of debt trap and ultimately it leads towards mental illness and finally committing suicide all over

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<sup>42</sup> Gupta E. & Roshan (2012), "*Poverty, Farmers Suicide and Alleviation Programmes*", Southern Economist, Vol. 50 (17), January 2012. Pp. 23-26

<sup>43</sup> पाटील ए. (2012), "शेतकऱ्यांची आर्थिक स्थिती व शेतकरी आत्महत्या", अर्थसंवाद, अंक 36 (1), एप्रिल – जून 2012, पान. 15-20

<sup>44</sup> अल्का मानकर (2012), "शेतकरी आत्महत्या", अर्थसंवाद, अंक 36 (1), एप्रिल – जून 2012, पान. 43-46

India. It is essential to organise work shop on soil testing, groundwater survey, crop insurance, declared MSP for all crops, promoting agro based industries based on local crops for removing obstacles of agriculture development and government can play important role in development of farm sector.

**Talule D.**<sup>45</sup> evaluated the socio-economic conditions of suicide victim and non-suicide victim households of Yawatmal district. The study represents productivity of major crops i.e. cotton, soybean, tur and jowar had stagnant since 1997 and return from same crops was found negative during field visit. Consequently, all suicide victim households were indebted and committed suicide because of unable to return. Crop failure, low quality seeds, stagnant growth, low quality of output, unseasonal and uneven rainfall, inadequate capital, attack of wild animals were major causes of farmers' suicide. The paper represents that government should provide immediate relief fund to all suicide victims who were engaged in farm business with or without title of land, provide loan at low interest for farm and farm subsidiary business and many more facilities for preventing the issue of farmers' suicides.

**Satapathy C. and Mishra B.**<sup>46</sup> focuses on farmers' suicides in western part of Orissa. The paper represents crop failure, debt burden, weak psychology of farmers, exploited market structure, government policy, lack of social and family communication, low economic condition of farmers, pressure of credit agency to repay the loan and unsuitable technological development for small and marginal operational holdings are increasing vulnerability among farmers' community and leads to committing suicide.

Besides these studies on agrarian distress and farmers' suicides have done by Vandana Shiva & Kunwar J.<sup>47</sup>, Deshmukh P.<sup>48</sup>, Posani B.<sup>49</sup> CHR & GJ<sup>50</sup>,

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<sup>45</sup> Talule D. (2013), "*Political Economy of Agricultural Distress and Farmers Suicides in Maharashtra*", International Journal of Social Science & Interdisciplinary Research, Vol.2 (2), February 2013, PP. 95-124

<sup>46</sup> Satapathy C. & Mishra B. (2012), "*Farmer's Suicide: A Ground Level Study*", International Journal of Extension Education, Vol. 8, PP. 89-95

<sup>47</sup> Vandana Shiva & Kunwar J. (2006), "*Seeds of Suicide: The Ecological and Human Costs of Seed Monopolies and Globalisation of Agriculture*", Navdanya, New Delhi.

<sup>48</sup> Deshmukh P. (2011), "*Farmers' Suicide in India*", *Indian Streams Research Journal*, Vol. 01 (1), February 2011, Pp. 113-117

<sup>49</sup> Posani B. (2009), "*Crisis in the Countryside: Farmers' Suicide and the Political Economy of Agrarian Distress in India*", London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton, London.

Sharma V.<sup>51</sup>, Vandana Tyagi<sup>52</sup>, Chand R. & Raju S.<sup>53</sup>, Mishra S.<sup>54</sup>, Sidhu R., Singh S and Bhullar A.<sup>55</sup>, Raghwan M.<sup>56</sup>, Sonune B; Gabhane V; Rewatkar S; Sawangikar M.<sup>57</sup>, Mene T<sup>58</sup>, Bhise R.<sup>59</sup>, Behare P & Bhise M.<sup>60</sup>, Pratima Ingole<sup>61</sup>, Rasal R.<sup>62</sup>, Shinde K.<sup>63</sup>, Kadam G<sup>64</sup>, Kothari A<sup>65</sup>, Sangari R.<sup>66</sup>, Deshpande R. and Nagesh P.<sup>67</sup>

## 2.6 Conclusion:

Many social scientists, academicians, NGOs and the government has made detailed study on issue of farmers' suicides in India and particularly of farmers' suicides in Punjab, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Therefore, researcher has taken

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<sup>50</sup> CHR&GJ (2011), *“Every Thirty Minutes: Farmers’ Suicides, Human Rights and the Agrarian Crisis in India”*, Centre for Human Rights and Global Justice, NYU School of Law, New York, 2011

<sup>51</sup> Sharma V. (2011), *“India’s Agricultural Development under the New Economic Regime: Policy Perspective and Strategy for the 12th Five Year Plan”*, IIM, Ahmadabad, November 2011.

<sup>52</sup> Vandana Tyagi (2012), *“India’s agriculture: Challenges for Growth & development in present scenario”*, International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences, Vol. 2(5), May 2012, Pp.116-128.

<sup>53</sup> Chand R. & Raju S. (2009), *“Instability in Indian Agriculture During different Phases of Technology and Policy”*, Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics, Vol. 64 (2), April-June 2009, Pp. 187-207

<sup>54</sup> Mishra S. (2006), *“Rural Credit and Suicides in Maharashtra, India: A Case-Control Study”*, IGIDR, Mumbai.

<sup>55</sup> Sindu R; Singh S; Bhullar A. (2011), *“Farmers’ Suicides in Punjab: A Census Survey of the Two Most Affected Districts”*, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol - XLVI (26-27), June 25, 2011, PP.131-137

<sup>56</sup> Raghwan M. (2008), *“Changing Pattern of Input Use and Cost of Cultivation”*, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol - XLIII (26-27), June 28, 2008 , PP. 123-129

<sup>57</sup> Sonune B; Gabhane V; Rewatkar S; Sawangikar M. (2012), *“Productivity of Rainfed Cotton and Soil Health as Influenced by Tillage and Integrated Nutrient Management in Vertisol under Semi-Arid Agro- Ecosystem of Maharashtra”*, Indian Journal of Dryland Agricultural Research & Development, Vol. 27(1), 2012, PP. 10-17

<sup>58</sup> Mene T (2013), *“Underestimation of Suicide: A Study of the Idu Mishmi Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh”*, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 48 (52), December 28, 2013, PP. 129-133

<sup>59</sup> भिसे आर . (2012), *“स्वातंत्र्य प्राप्तीनंतरच्या काळात शेतीची वाटचाल”* , योजना, वर्ष 40 (1), ऑगस्ट, 2012, पान . 49-51.

<sup>60</sup> Behare P. & Bhise M. (2009), *“Farmers’ suicide: Across culture”*, Indian Journal of Psychiatry, Volume 51 (4), PP. 242-243

<sup>61</sup> प्रतिमा इंगोले (2014), *“शेतकरी स्त्रीच्या आत्महत्या”* , दिवाळी विशेष अंक मिलुन सा-याजनी , ऑक्टोबर - नोव्हेंबर 2014, पान. 94-101

<sup>62</sup> रसाळ आर . (2012), *“भारतातील शेतक-यांच्या आत्महत्या”* , अर्थसंवाद, खंड 36 (1), एप्रिल – जून 2012 , पान . 35-38

<sup>63</sup> शिंदे के . (2012), *“शेतक-यांच्या आत्महत्या : एक अभ्यास”* , अर्थसंवाद, खंड 36 (1), एप्रिल – जून 2012 , पान . 47-49

<sup>64</sup> कदम ग . (2012), *“यवतमाळ जिल्ह्यातील शेतक-यांच्या आत्महत्या”* , अर्थसंवाद, खंड 36 (2), जुलै – सप्टेंबर 2012 , पान . 172–176

<sup>65</sup> Kothari A (2014), *“A Hundred Days Closer to Ecological and Social Suicide”*, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 49 (39), September, 27, 2014, PP. 10-13

<sup>66</sup> Sangari R. (2015), *“Death of Small-Farmer Dairies amidst India’s Dairy Boom”*, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 50 (19), May, 9, 2015, PP. 21-23

<sup>67</sup> Deshpande R. and Nagesh P. (2005), *“Farmers’ Distress”*, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol. 40 (44, 45), October 29, 2005, PP. 4663-3665

review of the study through reference books, articles published in journals, reports of the government agencies and non government organisations and PhD theses and reviewed factors responsible for increasing farmers' suicides and agrarian distress in India and many states in this chapter. The researcher has led to give a balanced justification to all these sources in this chapter.

It is concluded that from the taken review, neither any one factor is responsible for increasing distress among farmers nor any agency consists with farmers' suicide. The issue of farmers' suicides is complex and complicated in India. However, failure and negligence of government policy, exploitation by market intermediaries and local agents, natural disasters and somewhere farmers are responsible for increasing suicidal tendency in India and particularly in Maharashtra.

Generally, declining per capita income in agriculture sector, uneconomic size of operational holding, reducing cost- benefit ratio, increasing prices of market inputs and dependency on marketable inputs, natural disasters, low level of irrigation, absence of subsidiary business, low level of minimum support price, high indebtedness, exploitation of intermediaries and many other factors are responsible for increasing distress among farmers. Moreover, large number of farmers committed suicide in cotton belt of India. Therefore, cotton is found largely responsible for increasing issue of farmers' suicides in the states of Punjab, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Similarly, large number of experts have discussed on the remedial measures on issue of farmers' suicides. The large number of experts has preferred irrigation extension, remunerative MSP prices, easy access of credit at lowest interest rate, promoting subsidiary business and agro processing industry, legal action against private money lenders, market intermediaries, low quality input suppliers for removal the issue of farmer's suicide in their study. It means government has an important role for preventing and removing the issue of agrarian distress and farmers' suicides.