

MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE FOR RURAL INDUSTRIALIZATION, WARDHA'S TECHNOLOGY IS AN ALTERNATIVE LIFE-GIVING BOON FOR FARMERS

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Received: 12 Feb 2019

Accepted: 16 Feb 2019

Published: 28 Feb 2019

ABSTRACT

Suicide is becoming a global crisis among Farmers in India in the last two decades. Between 1997 and 2006, 166,304 farmers took their own lives (K. Nagaraj 7). In the 4 years between 2001 and 2005, nearly 87,000 farmers in India committed suicide (Mishra 6). In addition, farmer suicides make up 20.9 percent of all suicides in India (K. Nagaraj 14). Farmers commit suicide at a higher rate than the rest of the Population in India. For example, the suicide fatality rate per 100,000 among farming households increased from 9.7 to 16.2 between 1995 and 2001, compared to 12.5 to 14.0 for the general Indian male population during the same time span (Mishra 1568). Small-scale farmers, who are usually the poorest in rural areas, are often more likely to commit suicide. Local producers committed 68 percent of all communal violence, according to a survey performed in two of India's most agriculturally dependent states (Mohanty 253). The most surprising claim, according to journalist P. Sainath, is that since 2003, one farmer has committed suicide every 30 minutes ('Nearly 2 lakh farm...').

KEYWORDS: MGIRI, Remedial Instrument, Farmers Suicides