

**FARMERS SUICIDE IN AKOLA DISTRICT OF
VIDARBHA: CASE STUDIES**

THESIS

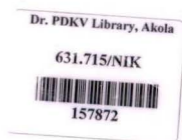
Submitted to
Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola
in partial fulfilment of the requirements
for the Degree of

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN
AGRICULTURE
(EXTENSION EDUCATION)**

By
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DECLARATION OF STUDENT

I hereby declare that the experimental work and its interpretation of the thesis entitled "**FARMERS SUICIDE IN AKOLA DISTRICT OF VIDARBHA:CASE STUDIES**" or part thereof has neither been submitted for any other degree or diploma of any University, nor the data have been derived from any thesis / publication of any University or Scientific Organization. The sources of material used and all assistance received during the course of investigation have been duly acknowledged.

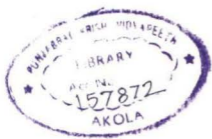
Place: Akola.

Date : 15 /06 /2015



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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "**FARMERS SUICIDE IN AKOLA DISTRICT OF VIDARBHA:CASE STUDIES**" submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of "**Master of Science in Agriculture (Extension Education)**" of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola is a record of bonafide research work carried out by **Nikhade Ashvinee Sudhakar** under my guidance and supervision.

The subject of thesis has been approved by the Student's Advisory Committee.

Place : Akola
Date : 15/06/2015





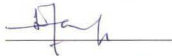

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THESIS APPROVED BY THE STUDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE INCLUDING EXTERNAL EXAMINER (AFTER VIVA-VOCE)

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(D) List of Abbreviations

%	:	Percent
- /	:	Per
Dr. PDKV	:	Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth
Et al	:	et alia(and others)
Fig	:	Figure
Govt.	:	Government
Ha	:	Hector
J	:	Journal
Km	:	Kilometer
No	:	Number
N	:	Nomadic tribe
OBC	:	Other Backward Class
PHC	:	Public Health Centre
Q	:	Quintal
Rs.	:	Rupees
SC	:	Schedule Caste
Soc. Sci	:	Social Science
SSC	:	Secondary School Certificate
ST	:	Schedule Tribe
Std	:	Standard
Unpub	:	Unpublished
VJ	:	Vimukta Jati
Vs	:	Versus
www	:	world wide web

(E)

Glossary

Age: Defined as chronological age of the suicide farmer in completed years at the time when he / she committed suicide.

Agricultural infrastructure : Agricultural infrastructure refers the various input, credit, information, and transport and post harvest amenities available to victim and his household for his farming operations with them and in his village or nearby vicinity.

Annual Income: Gross income in rupees received by the victim and his family members, from all sources.

Caste : Caste is the hereditary ascribed class of the suicide farmer.

Consequences: Consequences means the changes that occurred within the family after suicidal death of family head or victim farmer in due course of time.

Crop failure: Crop failure denotes the number of time crop fails on farm of victim during last three succeeding years.

Education: Defined formal schooling passed by the victim from primary school to University Degree.

Family size: It refers the number of family members in the family including the victim.

Family type: It refers to weather the victim belongs to member individual /nuclear family.

Farming experience: The farming experience refers the number of years from which the victim was engaged in farming business.

Family Disputes: Indicates the presence of any dispute/ quarrel between victim and their family members due to which family relations were breakdown.

Family health: Indicate the health status of victim's household.

Family responsibilities fulfilled: The extent to which the individual has fulfilled the various family responsibilities that he holds.

Habits : The existence of any bad habits with suicide farmers were noted like chewing of tobacco, smoking, drug addiction with suicide farmers were noted like chewing of tobacco, smoking, drug addiction (particularly alcoholism), gambling etc.

Indebtedness: Total outstanding debt amount of institutional and non-institutional credit sources towards the victims and his households at the time when he/she has committed suicide.

Irrigation Facilities: It refers the sources available such as well, tube well, canal etc. for irrigation to the deceased farmer.

Land Holding: Total hectare of land possessed by the victim's household was considered.

Productivity: Productivity refers to the agricultural production per unit area in qtls./ ha.

Social participation: Social participation is operationally defined as taking part in various formal and organizations by victim.

Socio- psycho Risk Factor of Suicide: Refers the aggregation of different socio-psychological risk factors coexisted with an individual victim externally within last five years of suicide incidence.

Subsidiary occupation: It refers the sub occupation towards the victim and his households in addition to agriculture for getting additional source of income.

Suggestion: It refers the opinion of family members about what action should have to be taken for avoiding recurrence of suicides.


Type of Land: Defined as soil status of an individual victim's farm as mentioned in land use classification as very deep, deep, moderately deep, shallow and very shallow.

Victim's habit: It denotes the any bad habits of the selected victims.

Information regarding the age of selected victims was collected with a view to study their distribution in different age group and presented in Table 5.

(F)

Thesis Abstract

- a) Title of the thesis : "FARMERS SUICIDE IN AKOLA DISTRICT OF VIDARBHA:CASE STUDIES"
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- e) Year of award of degree : 2015
- f) Major subject : Extension Education
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- h) Number of words in the abstract : 270
- i) Signature of the student : 
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ABSTRACT

The study entitled, "Farmers suicide in Akola district of Vidarbha:case studies" was purposively conducted in Akola district. For present study, 10 victims were selected from 10 villages by using random sampling method with following objectives.

1. To study the personal, socio-economic, psychological and situational characteristic of the deceased farmers and their families.
2. To study suicide path of each individual victim.
3. To study credit sources and indebtedness of suicide farmers.
4. To document the suggestions for avoiding suicides of farmers.
5. To study the post suicide consequences faced by the farmers families.

The data were collected by personal interview with the help of pretested and structured interview schedule. The finding emerged out of present investigation have been summarized as follows.

The results of the case studies pointed out that the causes of suicide are complex as are the causes of any social phenomenon. Many factors combine to cause, one particular individual (and not others) to divert his aggression upon himself in the form of suicide. Suicide of farmers was not a random or pointless act in study area on the contrary, it was a way adopted by deceased farmers to escape from various problems or a crisis that were invariably causing intense suffering to them. Thus study also conducted that causes of suicide were varying from case to case but the main reason behind all the causes were non-profitable farming business, crop failure.

The most common risk factors were 'indebtedness' that was found in (100.0%) in all deceased farmers followed by fall in economic position of deceased farmers. In nearly three fourth of the cases, crop failure was mentioned.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Main focus of any development plan of India since beginning after the independence are the farmers. As years pass by, agriculture as an industry lost its importance by policy makers of India. This over the time caused severe distress among the farmers leading to recent dramatic rise in the number of suicide among farmers community. Every day in newspaper, invariably, there is news related to farmer's suicide.

1.1 Background Information

Suicide is the term applied to all cases of death resulting directly or indirectly from a positive or negative act of the victim himself, which he knows, will produce this result (Durkheim, 2002).

The term suicide in English is derived from the latin words 'sui' meaning 'one self' and 'cideo' meaning to 'to kill'. Thus etymologically suicide means 'to kill one self'.

Case study is a kind of qualitative analysis. It is an intensive study through which one can know precisely the factors and causes of a particular phenomenon.

According to P.V.Young (1989) "case study is a method of exploring and analyzing the life of social unit be it that a person, a family, an institution, cultural group or even an entire community".

According to Wilson Gee (1990) "case study method is method used in social research where by the data are collected and studied, which depict the life of an individual on entire process of units various inter relationships and its cultural setting".

According to Oxford English dictionary suicide means, the act of taking one's life or the act of killing oneself. But suicide is not just

a blind act of killing oneself. It is motivated act of self distraction. As the noted British Psychiatrist, Elwin Stengel, point out, 'suicide is the fatal act of self-injury undertaken with conscious self-destructive intent, however, vague and ambiguous (Phal, 2000).

1.1.1 Definition of suicides

Pandey (1985) defined suicide as an index to the relative degree of social disorganization in society and the process by which group relationship are broken.

According to Kaplan *et al.*, (1994), suicide is not a random or pointless act on the contrary it is a way out of problem or a crisis that is invariably causing intense suffering. Suicide is associated with thwarted or unfulfilled needs, feeling of hopelessness and ambivalent conflicts between survival and unbearable stress, a narrowing of perceived options, and a need for escape, the suicidal person sends out signal of distress.

India consisting of 16 per cent of world's population sustains only on 2.4 per cent of land resource. Agriculture sector is the only livelihood to the two-third of its population which gives employment to the 57 per cent of work force and is a raw material source to large number of industries. Despite of portrayal of farming as healthy and happy way of life, agriculture sector experiences one of the highest numbers of suicides than any other industry. In 1990's, India woke-up to a spate of suicide among farmers community with particular reference to Vidarbha region. A look at the figures given out by State Crime Records Bureau makes it evident that farmer as a professional category is suffering from this problem of high suicide rates (Behere and Benja, 2005).

According to National Crime Bureau, its prove that in country 45 farmers make suicide daily in Maharashtra. In year 2011, 3600 farmers committed suicide. The number increases up to 3786 in

year 2012. In year 2013, the number decreases and reported as 3146 (Anonymous 2014).

Maharashtra Government Report (2006) reported that the farmers from Vidarbha who had committed suicide grow single crop every year. Cotton is dominant crop of this region. Dominance of cotton in cropping pattern, low yield, high cost of cultivation and low return are major contributing factors of agrarian crisis.

In Vidarbha particularly in six districts namely, Yavatmal, Amravati, Buldana, Washim, Akola and Wardha, the incidence of suicide of farmers has increased tremendously. Since, January 2001 to August 2014, total 10,451 farmers committed suicide, out of which 3959 number of suicide cases were reported legal at Government level and 6404 were illegal. The detail data about farmer's suicide of suicide prone six districts of Vidarbha during 2001 to 2014 has been depicted in Table 1.

Table 1: Districts Wise Farmers Suicide (Jan 2001-Aug 2014)

Sr. No	Districts	Total	Legal	Illegal
1	Yavatmal	2903	1059	1828
2	Amravati	2297	731	1543
3	Buldana	1580	603	962
4	Akola	1494	728	741
5	Washim	1096	392	701
6	Wardha	1081	446	629
Total		10,451	3959	6404

(Source:- Commissioner Office Amravati Division, Amravati 2014)

More than one lakh persons (1, 35,445) in the country lost their lives by committing suicide during the year 2012. This indicates a decrease of 0.1% over the previous year's figure (1, 35,585). (Table-2).

The number of suicides in the country during the decade (2002–2012) has recorded an increase of 22.7% (1, 35,445 in 2012 from 1,10,417 in 2002). An increase in incidence of suicides was reported each year up to 2011. The population has increased by 15.5% during the decade but the rate of suicides in 2012 was 11.2 which is marginally greater than 10.5 recorded in 2002. The rate of suicides has shown a declining trend since 2002 to 2003 and thereafter an increasing trend is observed during 2005 to 2010. However, it was declined in 2011(from 11.4 in 2010 to 11.2 in 2011) and remained static in 2012 (Table 2).

Table – 2 : Incidence of suicides, growth of population and rate of suicides during 2008 to 2012

Sr. No.	Year	Total No. of Suicides	Estimated midyear population (in lakh)	Rate of Suicide (col3/col4)
1	2008	125017	11531.3	10.8
2	2009	127151	11694.4	10.9
3	2010	134599	11857.6	11.4
4	2011	135585	12101.9	11.2
5	2012	135445	12133.7	11.2

Source: The Registrar General of India

One Lakh = 0.1 Million

In the year 2015, total 275 farmers committed suicide from which 88 suicides were in month of January, 93 suicides were in the month of February and 94 suicides were in the month of March. Farmers from the district Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Buldana, Washim, and Wardha were depressed and they have no capability to do farming because of low production and change in weather conditions. Total 93 per cent farmers were indebted.

Table 3 : District wise Suicide of Farmers in 2015

District	Suicides of Farmer
Yavatmal	103
Amravati	46
Akola	32
Buldana	38
Wardha	30
Washim	26

Source: Anonymous 2015, Deshonnati newspaper 3rd April, Akola.

Vidarbha Region of Suicides

The difference between cost of cultivation and cost of production makes farmers indebted. Due to indebtedness not only in Maharashtra but also in all over India farmers committed suicide. Since 1995 to 2014 more than 3, 00,000 farmers committed suicide all over india. Among that near about 61,000 farmers are from Maharashtra. In Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra from 2001 to 2014 more than 10,450 farmers committed suicide. In western vidarbha since 2001 the question of farmer's suicide is being critical. But from last 5-6 years in Marathwada region and now-a-days in khandesh the farmers are committing suicide.

1.2 Need and importance of study

For the first time in the known history of India, peasants in recent year had taken recourse to suicide. Although this phenomenon has been present in most of the agriculturally advanced states. This one is the most disquieting development in the era of the neoliberal policy in the India has been widespread occurrence of farmers suicide in different parts of country including not only the drought prone areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka sand Maharashtra but also a state of

heavy rainfall like Kerala, also a state like Punjab with large areas under irrigation.

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy as it produces approximately 18 per cent of national GDP farmers are the real cultivators of agricultural land, but, recently the farmers have been committing suicide. This incidence we have been hearing from vidarbha and other parts of country over last 13 years. In Vidarbha region during last fourteen years, 10451 farmers committed suicide in suicide hit prone six districts of Vidarbha, namely, Yavatmal, Amravati, Buldana, Akola, Washim, and Wardha. From these six distressed districts, Akola district was purposively selected for the present case studies of the farmers. In this district during 2008 to 2012 total 870 farmers ended their life.

Hence to understand the various factors behind the suicide of farmers, the present study was thought necessary to study the few cases in detail by applying case study method of social research in Akola district of Vidarbha region with following objectives.

1.3 Specific objectives of the study

1. To study the personal, socio-economic, psychological and situational characteristics of the deceased farmers and their families.
2. To study suicide path of each individual victim.
3. To study credit sources and indebtedness of suicide farmers.
4. To document the suggestions for avoiding suicides of farmers.
5. To study the post suicide consequences faced by the farmers families.

1.4 Scope and Limitations of the study

The present study was conducted in Akola district of Vidarbha. The research findings of the study help to understand the causes and various factors behind the suicide. The study was also

found useful to know the present status and constraints faced by the family after death of the family head.

1. The study was conducted in Akola district. The findings were applicable wherever similar conditions prevail.
2. The act of suicide is a confidential attempt, so researchers have to depend on others for information related to victim. Hence the result of the study was depending on the information given by the households and neighbours.
3. The present thesis submitted to partial fulfillment of the requirements for the post graduate degree and therefore the study has to complete in a stipulated period of time, hence time and money are the prime limitations for the researcher.

Being a student's research project the study has been carried out with the following limitations.

1. At the time of data collection, it was observed that due to the death of closest family member, almost in every house there was sadly environment. Hence, the finding of this study was based on the opinion expressed by the households of the victims. Therefore, the objectivity of data would be limited to the readiness, honesty and opinions expressed by the victim's family members.
2. Due to the absence of the deceased farmer, the collected information about some aspects may sometime less consistent, because this information was based on the perception of the family members.
3. The suicide is the fatal act of self-injury undertaken with conscious self-destructive intent; however, it is strictly personal, confidential and ambiguous. Hence, it is very difficult to find the exact causes, with an individual due to which suicide incidence happened.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Consulting relevant literature on the topic of the study is an essential aspect of research. The researcher has to review the literature at every stage. It is not a one shot exercise but a continuous process. Through review the researcher know the methods, procedures used and findings of previous research studies. It provides clues and guidelines to the researcher in the process of research. In the present chapter, the review of previous research studies is presented. While going through the literature, it was noted that very few studies were related with the suicides of farmers in Akola district of Maharashtra State. Most of the literature was found from other parts of India, where space of suicides was noted earlier than in Maharashtra.

In this study, researcher has given stress on finding various new reasons/stressors having direct or indirect influence on suicides of farmers. For this, researcher has formulated various new aspect/variables which were not studied earliest. Hence, on such aspects of this study no relevant literature was found to the researcher. In this chapter, researcher has made an attempt to review the available literature, which has direct and indirect bearing on the topic; the review so collected has been presented under the following sub heads.

- 2.1 Theoretical orientation about causes of suicide.
- 2.2 Variables
 - 2.2.1 Personal characteristics
 - 2.2.2 Socio-economic characteristics
 - 2.2.3 Socio-psychological characteristics
 - 2.2.4 Situational characteristics
 - 2.2.5 Socio-psycho risk Factors of Suicide
- 2.3 Suggestions for avoiding suicide

2.1 Theoretical orientation about causes of suicide

Agriculture is no longer a profitable enterprise. Income from crop cultivation is not enough to meet the annual cultivation expenditure. This has been overwhelmingly proved by the recent Situation Assessment Survey (SAS), carried out by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO, 2005). However, Madan (1980) revealed that the cause of suicide were complex as the causes of any other social phenomenon. Many factors combine to cause one particular individual (and not another) to divert his aggression upon himself in the form of suicide.

In present study, researcher has tried to find out various stressors of factors related with each selected victim and his family which lead to present agrarian crises, then distress and finally suicides. For this, researcher has selected different variables like personal, socio-economic, socio-psychological and situational variables, and assumed that, some of them may be precipitated as stressors for aggregation of different socio-psychological risk factors with an individual farmer who committed suicide in Akola district.

2.2 Variables

2.2.1 Personal characteristics

1. Age

Jodkha (2006) stated that more than 70 per cent of the victims were Jat caste exception of one; they were all men from a relatively younger age group.

Kale (2008) found that young (36.50%) and middle (37.50%) age group seemed to be more prone to suicides as compared to old age group (26.00%).

Deshmukh *et al.* (2010) observed that 38.37 per cent deceased farmers were from young age group.

Gavhane (2012) reported that out of twelve victims, six were young (up to 35 years) and remaining six were middle aged (36-50 years).

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that 35 per cent of immediate family heads of selected victim farmers were under young category. Followed by one third (33.33%) were in middle age category and remaining 31.67 per cent found in old age.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that 36.67 per cent victims were found in young age category, followed by 33.33 per cent found in middle age group and 30.00 per cent were found in old age category. The data revealed that from all age group more than one third victims were observed.

Kale *et al.* (2014^a) observed that 45.42 per cent of the selected farmers were under old age category i.e. above 50 years, followed by more than one third respondents (37.50%) were from middle age group having age between 36 to 50 years. The remaining 17.08 per cent respondents were from young age group.

Kale *et al.* (2014^b) reported that nearly equal percentages of the victims were under young (36.50%) and middle (37.50%) age category whereas remaining over one-fourth (26.00%) victims were found under old age category.

Kale *et al.* (2015) revealed that 35.00 per cent of the immediate family heads of selected victim farmers were under young age category of up to 35 years. It was followed by one third (33.33%) of family head were found in middle age category of 36 to 50 years and remaining 31.67 per cent were found under old age category of above 50 years.

2. Education

Anita Gill and Singh (2006) reported that the Sangrur and Masna is the two district of Punjab which have reported the most

incidents of suicides and found that the most of the suicide victims were illiterate.

Kale (2008) revealed that out of total sample, 16.50 per cent were illiterate and from 83.50 per cent literates majority had education between primary level to high school level education, While 9.50 per cent victims were having higher secondary school level education and only 4.00 per cent passed college level education.

Deshmukh *et al.* (2010) observed that 55.8 per cent deceased farmers possessed middle level education (up to 10th standard).

Gavhane (2012) found that out of twelve victims, only two victims were possessed educational standard above higher secondary level. Whereas two victims were illiterate and remaining having education up to 10th standard.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that 28.33 per cent were illiterate and 31.67% found in old age.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) found that more than one third respondents 35.00 per cent were illiterate and remaining 65.00 per cent were literate. Within the literates 26.67 per cent victims were having education up to middle school level and 16.67 per cent were educated up to high school level. While 13.33 per cent had primary school level education and 05.00 per cent victims had college level education. Only 03.00 per cent possessed higher secondary school education.

Kale *et al.* (2014^a) observed that out of the total respondents, maximum 40.00 per cent of the selected respondents were having high school level education, 21.66 per cent had higher secondary school level education followed by middle school (15%), college level (12.92 %), primary (7.92 %) and 2.50 per cent were illiterates have not attended formal schooling.

Kale *et al.* (2014^b) revealed that only 16.50 percent were illiterate and remaining 83.50 per cent were literates. Within the literates, 27.00 per cent victims were having education up to high school level and 24.00 per cent were educated up to primary level; while 19.00 per cent had middle school level education and 9.50 per cent victims had higher secondary level of education. Only 4.00 per cent possessed college level education.

Kale *et al.* (2015) revealed that out of the total respondents, over one fourth *i.e.*, 28.33 per cent were illiterate and remaining 71.67 per cent were literates. Within the literates 21.67 per cent family head were educated up to high school level, followed by 20.00 per cent of the family head having education up to the primary, 18.33 per cent have middle school and remaining 11.67 per cent had higher secondary school level education and not a single family head possessed college level education. From the results it is concluded that overall education level of the selected families were low.

3. Caste

Mishra (2006) stated that the most number of cases are Kunbi's (31.00% spread across the Wardha, Washim and Yavatmal districts), Banjara's (16%, mostly in Yavatmal) and Boudha (9.00%, mostly in Washim). Kunbi's are the predominant peasant community in the selected district and Banjara's have a substantial presence in Yavatmal and Karanja sub-division of Washim.

Kale (2008) observed that over half (57.00%) suicide cases were belonged to OBC category and mostly the Kunbis from all selected six district. Secondly more or less in all caste groups suicide were observed.

Gavhane (2012) observed that majority of victims were from open (Maratha) caste.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that exactly half of respondents were belonged to OBC category and mostly Kunbis from six district followed by SC (18.33%), ST(8.33), and 1.67 per cent from open category.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that majority 30.00 per cent suicide cases were belongs to OBC category and mostly the Kunbi's from all the victims in Yavatmal district. This was followed by Vimukta Jati 26.67 per cent. The victims belonging to Schedule Tribe (ST) category were 13.33 per cent, next to this Nomadic Tribe (VJ-A) and Nomadic Tribe (NT-C) were found in 8.33 per cent and 8.33 per cent respectively, whereas 06.67 per cent victims were found in Schedule caste (SC) followed by 05.00 per cent found in Nomatic Tribe (NT-D). Only 1.67 per cent victims were found in open class category whereas no one was from SBC category.

Kale (2015) revealed that over half (51.66%) of the respondents belonged to other backward classes (OBC) category and mostly the Kunbi's from six distress districts. This was followed by scheduled caste (SC) category (18.33 %), scheduled tribe (ST) 8.33 per cent, Vimukta Jati (VJ-A) category (6.67 %), three families each (5.00%) from Nomadic Tribe (NT- B) and special backward class (SBC) category. Whereas one (3.33%) each of the family from Nomadic Tribe-C (NT- C), Nomadic Tribe-D (NT-D) and open category. The data revealed that over half of the families were from OBC group. Kale (2008) also found that Majority (57.00%) of the suicide cases belonged to OBC category and mostly the Kunbi's from all selected six districts of Vidarbha.

4. Family size

Deshmukh *et al.* (2007) revealed that the percentage of the families between 1 to 5 members size group was highest in Vidarbha (71.7%), it is followed by 6 to 10 member's family size group (25.85%). Among the districts, in Buldana the highest 79.17 per cent

families were categorized under 1 to 5 members and in Wardha district it was 35 per cent families comes under 6 to 10 member's family size.

Kamthe (2007) reported that 52.70 per cent of the deceased farmers had medium size (4 to 6 members) of family while 40.50 per cent and 6.80 per cent deceased farmers had small (up to 3 members) and big (above 6 members) sized families, respectively.

Kale (2008) observed that majority 61 per cent suicide concentrated in medium size family having 4-6 members, 25 per cent large family, 10 per cent small family.

Gavhane (2012) observed that out of twelve victims, eleven suicides concentrated in medium size family.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that over half of selected families were concentrated in small size family members, followed by 30 per cent under medium size 10 per cent large family and 1.67 per cent large families.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) revealed that majority 53.33 per cent suicides were concentrated in medium size family having 4 to 6 family members. While more than one forth 26.67 per cent victims having small family size (up to 3 members), followed by 20.00 per cent victims having large family size (7 to 9 members).

Tekale *et al.* (2013) observed that majority of respondents (76.00%) belonged to medium size of family (5-7 members). Followed by one fifth of respondents (21.00%) belonged to small size of family (1-4 members). The meager percent of respondents (03.00%) belonged to big size family (above 7 members).

Kale *et al.* (2014^b) Majority of suicide concentrated between medium (61.00%) family and large (25.00%) family size.

Kale *et al.* (2015) revealed that over half (58.33%) of the selected families were concentrated in small size family having up to 3

family members. This was followed by 30.00 per cent families under medium (4 to 6) family size. While 10.00 per cent victims' families having large family size (7 to 9 members). Whereas, 1.67 per cent respondents were having very large family size (above 9 members).

5. Family type

Suri (2006) pointed out that according to economists, social activist and advocacy groups who have studied farmers suicides, break up of joints families is also one of the social factors were responsible for the present agrarian crisis.

Kale (2008) reported that maximum (63.00%) victims were from nuclear type of families and 37.00 per cent victims belong to joint family.

Gavhane (2012) reported that out of twelve victims, exactly half of the victims were living in nuclear family.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that maximum 61.67 per cent, victims were from joint type of family and 38.33 per cent victims belonged to nuclear family.

6. Farming experience

Satish Kumar and Rao (2004) observed that 77.00 per cent of the Suicide farmers were possessing medium level of farming experience.

Mishra (2006) revealed that the 24.00 per cent victims had less than five years, 18.00 per cent had about 6-10 years and the remaining 58.00 per cent had more than 10 years of farming experience was observed in Vidarbha region.

Kale (2008) observed that more than one third of victims (38.00%) had farming experience up to 10 years, followed by 25.50 per

cent between 11-20 years, 20.50 per cent between 21-30 year, 60.00 per cent between 30 years farming experience.

2.2.2 Socio-economic characteristics

1. Land holding

Khan (2007) stated that as per government record, a majority of farmers are holding marginal land in Bhandara district were 79 farmers committed suicide in last year's

Kale (2008) observed that majority (43.50%) of victims were small farmers having land holding 1.01 to 2.00 ha, 23.50 per cent marginal up to 1.00 ha. 20.50 per cent and 12.50 per cent of victim had semi medium and medium land holding respectively.

Deshmukh *et al.* (2010) observed that 80 per cent deceased farmers had small land holding.

Gavhane (2012) found that out of twelve farmers, six victims were small farmers (1.01 to 2.00 ha) and two were marginal land holder (up to 1 ha), while remaining four victims were having semi medium and medium land holding.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that exactly half (50.00%) of families were came under marginal land holding group ,followed by small 36.66 per cent ,6.67 per cent semi medium land holding.

Shende (2012) reported that due to separation of families the total land owned by family is constantly divided into number of parts. Every time two - three brothers in one family leads to division of farms as per their share. Thus, big land is divided into small parts and this ultimately leads to low productivity. Small sizes of farms and further its size is constantly decreasing leads to adverse effect on financial structures of the farmers. It also becomes difficult for some cases to

utilize land for taking various crops. Due to small land size there is problem of sowing.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that more than half 55.00 per cent of the victims were small farmers having land holding between 1.01 to 2.00 hectares, followed by 25.00 per cent victims were semi medium farmers possessing land up to 1.00 hectares. Whereas, 10.00 per cent each of the victims had marginal (up to 1.00 hectare) and medium (4.01 to 10.00 hectare) land holding.

Kale (2015) revealed that over half (51.67%) of the families were under marginal land holding group *i.e.*, having land up to 1.00 ha. This was followed by small (36.66%) land holder (1.01 to 2.00 ha) group. Whereas 6.67 per cent were having semi-medium (2.01 to 4.00 ha) and 5.00 per cent had medium (4.01 to 10.00 ha) land holding. Out of the total 60 families, 5 (8.33%) families leased out their land to others.

2. Subsidiary occupations

Anonymous (2007) stated that small farmers couldn't sustain on agriculture alone. There was a need to inculcate amongst the small farmers a streak of entrepreneurship so that it is easier for them to sustain their families by diversifying, which is not possible if they continue to solely depend on agriculture.

Goel (2007) stated that the farmers of Western Maharashtra had not committed suicide because they cultivate crops with planning. They also engage themselves in the supplementary occupations.

Kale (2008) observed that 70.50 per cent engage in farm labour for wages, 20 per cent engage in farming, 6.50 per cent were engage in non-professional business with farming. Only 2 deceased farmers (1.00%) possessed dairy as an allied occupation through buffalo rearing in additional to farming.

Kale (2014^b) observed that among the selected farmers 51.25 per cent have only farming as the occupation, followed by agriculture + labour (34.58%), agriculture+ service/pension (7.50%), agriculture + non professional business (5%) and Agriculture + allied occupation was observed with only 4 (1.67%) farmers.

Kale (2015) observed that majority (91.67%) of the families were engaged in own crop cultivation (Agriculture) plus wage earning as a supportive endeavor and 8.33 per cent were engaged only in own farming. But, after suicidal death of family head most of the families (16.67%) presently availing benefits from milch animals those got them on subsidy from PM Package, 13.34 per cent families got the Niradhar allowances from government of Maharashtra and 6.66 per cent respondents got the service in Anganwadi. Hence, among one third (36.67%) families livelihood sources were changed due to the government help.

3. Annual income

Joshi (2007) revealed that Indian agriculture was in deep crisis. There was widespread unrest among farmers due to slowing down or stagnating income.

Kale (2010) observed that majority of suicides were concentrated having annual income up to Rs. 25,000/- (62.00%) and between Rs.25,001 to Rs. 50,000 (29.00%). The average annual income of all victims' households was Rs. 27,924/-

Gavhane (2012) found that among twelve victims, the annual income ranges from Rs. 10,800/- to Rs. 90,000/-

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that farming contributed near about half (49.8%) share over one third (34.42) by wage earning.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that 30.00 per cent of victims had annual income in the range of Rs. 75001 to 100000, followed by 28.33 per cent of victims had annual income between Rs. 50001 to 75000, one fourth (25.00%) victims had annual income in the range of Rs. 25001 to 50000. Only 16.67 per cent deceased farmers had annual income above Rs. 100000/-

Kale *et al.* (2014^b) observed nearly one third (32.92%) of the selected farmers have annual income up to Rs. 50,000 only, followed by in the range of Rs. 50,001 to 1, 00,000 (23.75%), Rs. 1,00,001 to 2,00,000 (23.33%), Rs.2,00,001 to 4,00,000 (11.67%), Rs 4,00,001 to 8,00,000 (6.25 %) and above Rs. 8,00,000 was observed with only 2.08 per cent farmers. The decreasing trend of annual income was observed with the selected farmers.

Kale *et al.* (2015) observed that 46.67 per cent of the families had annual income between 20,001 to 40,000 whereas 31.67 per cent having upto 20,000. This was followed by 18.33 per cent belonging to income group with annual income between 40,001 to Rs.60,000 and remaining 3.33 per cent families had annual income of above 60,000.

4. Social participation

Deshmukh *et al.* (2011) noticed that the level of social participation of 71.67 per cent of respondent was low while, 15.83 per cent and 12.50 per cent of respondents were in medium and high social participation category, respectively.

Zunjar (2011) noticed that majority (59.16%) of cotton growers were having low level of social participation, followed by medium level of social participation (35.00%). While, 5.84 per cent of the respondent were having high level of social participation.

Shetye (2012) revealed that only three farmers were participated in social activity but remaining all nine farmers were not participated in social activity.

2.2.3 Psychological characteristics

1. Victims health

Jacob (2006) stated that physical illness like disease of the nervous system, multiple sclerosis, Huntington's disease, brain and spinal cord injury, seizure disorders, malignant neoplasm's, HIV/AIDS, peptic ulcer disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, especially in men, chronic hemodialysis – treated renal failure, systemic lupus erythematosus, pain syndromes, functional impairment etc. are the risk factors associated with an increased risk of suicide.

Kale (2008) observed that 19 per cent ill health victim. One fourth mental health. Risk of suicide is 3-12 times greater as psychiatric illness patients than that of the non patients. 15.79 per cent.

Kale (2011) observed that the personal health problems of the deceased victim were identified in 32.50 per cent of the cases.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) seen that the personal health problem was noted in 26.67 per cent deceased farmers, who committed suicide in Yavatmal district, while majority 73.33 per cent were free from health problem.

2. Family health

Anonymous (2007^a) stated that a regular drunker farmers of 30 year old from village Adegaon (Chimur, Vidarbha) committed suicide by hanging. The farmers become a regular drunker after the death of his two daughters, who died of ailments (an illness) within month.

Kale (2008) observed that in one fourth (25.00%) deceased farmers, ill health of his family members has been observed. While three fourth (75.00%) victims were free from family health problems.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) revealed that in majority 91.67 per cent deceased farmers, family health was not the problem and in 8.33 per cent deceased farmers, ill health of their family members were observed.

3. Family disputes

Deshpande (2002) reported that 25.9 per cent of the cases had social and intra family problems as prevalent reasons for suicide. It includes intra family problems reported in 13.27 per cent cases, marriage of daughter/sister reported in 5.31 per cent cases, stress in married life reported in 2.02 per cent cases, whereas financial commitment for family reported in 5.30 per cent cases. He also added that these are not the sole reasons and that they worked in association with other reasons to force the victims to take the fateful decisions.

Gavhane (2012) observed that out of twelve victims, two victims had dispute with family members.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) that in 11.67 per cent victims, dispute /quarrel was noticed with their family members due to domestic reasons, whereas, majority 88.33 per cent victims were free from any domestic dispute /quarrel with their family members.

4. Victims habits

Reddy (2007) revealed that the prevalence of tobacco use in 30.00 per cent for India, which increases to 44.00 per cent for above 65 years. One out of every 10 males consumed alcohol for more than two days in the previous week, while 78.00 per cent of the respondents insufficient intake of fruits and vegetables.

Kale (2008) observed that 42.00 per cent victim were having alcohol addiction as one of the identified risk factors of suicide, 23.00 smoking, 21.00 per cent bidders, 1.00 per cent cigarettes, 1 per cent ganja, 4.00 per cent jugar and satta, respectively.

Kale (2011) observed that 45.00 per cent deceased farmers were addicted to the alcoholism.

Gavhane (2012) observed that, out of twelve victims, two victims were alcoholic in nature.

Shende (2012) reported that due to continuous stress farmers develop addictions which basically includes alcohol, tobacco etc. This may release their stress for short time but creates long term impact on their health. These addictions have direct impact on financial position of the farmers. In order to consume alcohol or tobacco and other things they require money. Further the prices of such substances are comparatively high. They lose their health and increasing expenses on the medical. Thus this adversely affects farmers' financial structure and making them poor and poor.

2.2.4 Situational characteristics

1. Type of land

Sharma (2004) stated that the National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning in India estimates that nearly 120 million hectares of the total cultivable land of 142 million hectares in the country were degraded due to the high chemical input based technology.

Deshmukh *et al.* (2007) revealed that the 68.29 per cent suicide farmers in Vidarbha has medium type of soils of their farms. 20.00 per cent farmers have heavy type of soils and 11.70 per cent farms of victims has light type of soils.

Kale (2008) observed that more than half of the victims (54.50%) have possessed shallow type of land, 24 per cent moderately deep, 14 per cent shallow type, 6.50 per cent deep and 1per cent very deep.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that 55 per cent families were having shallow type of land, followed by 38.33 per cent very shallow, and 6.67 per cent moderately deep.

2. Irrigation facilities

Narayanamoorthy (2006) reported that coverage of irrigation in Vidarbha region was only 13.00 per cent to total cropped area.

Patil (2007) stated that development of agriculture field depend on irrigation. In Vidarbha region lack of irrigation facilities is one of the important causes behind spate of suicides of farmers.

Talati (2007) reported that India's 75 per cent of net irrigated area were served by groundwater wells.

Kale (2008) observe that three forth (69.00%) victims were not having any source to access irrigation, one forth (24.00%) open well as source, (7.00%) canal, (3.00%) tube well, (1.00%) river.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that majority (81.67%) families didn't have any source to access irrigation they solely depended monsoon rains.

Shende (2012) reported that with only few exceptions the crops never get irrigated properly. There is always lack of water for irrigation. Many times there is drought so it is very difficult to grow crop in the farm. Even if there is small irrigation but it is not properly regulated. Many times farmer has to harvest the crop even it is not matured and feed to the cattle since no other option available. The water problem is serious and it must be resolved properly. Due to irrigation problem much of the land remains unutilized for six to eight months. It is utilized only during rainy season. Thus less or no crops leads to no income for the farmers. Thus farmers are suffering from financial crisis. So this leads to reduce the financial position of farmers.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that 40.00 per cent most of the victims were not having any source to access the irrigation. They solely depended on monsoon rains. Nearly one third (31.67%) deceased farmers were having only open well as irrigation source, whereas, 13.33 per cent victims had both canal and well as irrigation source. It is observed that the 10.00 per cent victims were having only canal and only 5.00 per cent victims were having river as irrigation source.

3. Productivity

Mehta Sanat (2007) reported that the cotton producers of India in 2005-2006 achieved productivity up to 728 kg/ha and achieved export at 47 lakh bales which is four times more than in the previous years.

Satish (2007) revealed that adequate infrastructure raises productivity and lowers production costs.

Shende (2012) reported the major crops in Vidarbha include cotton, Rice, Soybeans, pigeon pea, green gram, black gram and Rabi crops include wheat, Jowar, Linseed and Gram. Even seed quality is good but actual yield is very less than expected yield. Only very few exceptions (around 5.00%) all crops are under irrigation. This reduces the yield. Thus farmer are not getting the desired profit. Many times it becomes difficult to recover total expenditure also. This less yield ultimately having impact on financial structure of the farmers.

4. Indebtedness

Khan (2007) revealed that according to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) officials, only 25 per cent of the farmers from Bhandara district of Vidarbha, are able to access the institutional credit, where during last year; 79 farmers committed suicide.

Kale (2008) observed that out of 200 victims, 98.50 per cent victims were found indebted, whereas, only three victims (1.50%) were free from any obligation of debt. These victims obtained the credit from multiple sources as over half (51.50%) victims had utilized both institutional with non institutional and remaining (47.00%) utilized only institutional credit sources. Average per victim outstanding debt of institutional sources was observed Rs. 29,256 and non institutional sources computes to Rs. 24,156. Whereas average debts of the institutional and non institutional sources were Rs. 41,738 and per hectare debt was computed to Rs. 18,885.

Gavhane (2012) stated that among twelve victims, all victims were indebted and had debt of both institutional and non institutional sources.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that one forth (76.67%) indebted group and remaining 23.33 per cent were free from debt whereas out of total families sizable (43.42%) of families were defaulters from last 2-3 years.

Shende (2012) reported that majority of farmers is having debt. They renew it every year. Since if due to any reason farmers are unable to pay the debt the same is carry forward to next year. This debt is increases and creates heavy debt that the farmer thinks he will not able to pay. It creates more stress and finally debt leads farmer to kill himself. Due to this debt the financial structure of farmers is not sound. It is very poor. Majority of farmers many times spend 80 of their income on interest of debt. This is very dangerous. So there should be proper system to distribute the loan and in such cases some interest concession on interest rate should be given. Even government provides help to the farmers but it is not sufficient. There should be restrictions on private money lenders since they charge higher interest rate than banks and other government institutions.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that nearly half of the victims 51.67 per cent had outstanding debt of only institutional credit sources whereas 28.00 per cent victims had outstanding debt of both institutional and non-institutional credit sources. Only 20.00 per cent victims had outstanding debt of non-institutional credit sources.

Kale *et al.* (2014^a) observed that 23.75 per cent had availed loan in the range of Rs. 25,001-50,000, followed by Rs.50,001-1,00,000 (17.92%), upto Rs. 25,000 (10.83%), in the range of Rs. 1,00,001-2,00,000 (7.08%) and remaining 3.75 per cent have availed above Rs. 2,00,000 crop loan during 2012-13.

5. Agriculture infrastructure

Anonymous (2007^c) stated that the rural hospitals were established by the government with an aim to take medical facilities to the rural people. But hospitals defunct with staff crunch and lack of facilities have failed to achieve the purpose.

Reddy (2007) stated that due to non-availability of public health care services that led the poor into the arms of private hospitals.

Kale (2008) observes that two third deceased farmers (71%) have medium input infrastructure, followed by 28.50 per cent high input, 10.50 per cent of them hence low input.

6. Livelihood pattern

Khan (2007) reported that 60.00 per cent of the country's population depending on agriculture for their bread and butter.

Mehta Sanat (2007) stated that in India 23 crore peoples whose livelihood is agriculture.

Kale (2008) observed that agriculture (66.29%) with wage earning (25.02%) was major livelihood source of overall deceased farmers and contributed total 91.31% share in total annual income.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that 56.67 per cent families were engaged in agri plus labour for wage earning

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that majority of the victims (71.67%) were engaged in only Agriculture (farming) and remaining 28.33 per cent victims were farm labour for wage earning as a supportive endeavor to farming.

7. Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

Deshpande (2002) observed that, in 5.31 per cent cases, marriage of daughters in the one of the reasons for indebtedness and distress.

Mishra (2006) reported that 34.2 per cent victims had the responsibility of marriage of their daughter/sister and 3.6 per cent had the responsibility of taking care of sick family members.

8. Cropping Pattern

Kale (2008) observed that 70 per cent area was cultivated by rainfed cotton and soybean in kharif season. Negligible area was under *rabi* and horticultural crop.

Tekale (2013) observed that nearly one third of respondents (32.00%) grown paddy as mono crop and 7 per cent respondents grown cotton, paddy and soybean crop in kharif season. Over two fifth of respondents (41.00%) were grown crops in kharif season Paddy, Udid, Mung, Tur and Soybean whereas in rabi Wheat, Gram, Popat Wal, Vegetables etc. and perennial crop sugarcane. The 16 per cent of respondents were grown in kharif season cotton, paddy, soybean, udid and mung and in rabi season wheat and gram. The meager per cent of respondents(04.00%) were grown kharif, rabi crops and in summer paddy, soybean and vegetable crops.

Kale (2014^a) observed that soybean (91.25%) and pulses (88.75% mostly Tur in Kharif & Gram in Rabi) were grown by

per cent victims were found which having cropping intensity in the range of 101 to 186.1 per cent.

11. Crop failure

Kale (2011) observed that in more than three fourth of the cases (82.50%) repeated crop failure were mentioned as a reason of suicide by the household.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that 46.67 per cent victims had been suffered from two times crop failure during last two years. There was no failure had been seen in 30.00 per cent victims. 21.67 per cent victims were suffering from one times crop failure and only 1.66 per cent of victims were suffering from three times crop failure

2.2.5 Socio-psycho risk factors of suicide

Deshpande (2002) reported in his study "Suicide by farmers in Karnataka" that the family and social problems (40.63%), more alcoholism among other member of the family (6.59%), friction about dowry with spouses/ in laws (4.35%), son/daughter deserted home (3.26%), daughters/sisters marriage (21.51%), strong belief in rituals (8.7%), no children's especially boy (3.26%), separated from friends (18.48%) and problems from neighbour (11.49%) as disturbing incidents and events in the life victims.

Jog (2006) stated that largely indebtedness, crop failure, continuous drought, poor price and lack of support system have seen as main reasons, with immediate trigger being a combination of ill health and other social economic reasons for suicide in six district of Vidarbha.

Mohankumar and Sharma (2006) revealed that the price fall of primary commodities for consecutive years is viewed as prelude to economic depression. The ongoing spate of farmers' suicide in

seeds, changing the policy of crop insurance from mandal level to individual farmer at village level.

Singh (2006) pointed out the need for refurbishing the canal irrigation system, as 75 per cent of the irrigation in this surface water rich state is ground water and tube well based. This is unsustainable. There is a dire need to promote micro irrigation along with crop diversification and make these micro (water efficient and water saving) system mandatory for new tube well connections for farm irrigation. On financial institution have not pursued systematic and comprehensive long-term policy for agricultural credit growth in Punjab. There are 36 per cent small and marginal growers who suffer from inadequate access to short-term institutional credit and far too liberal an access to long term institutional credit.

Garg (2007) revealed that the National Commission on farmers has drawn attention to the knowledge deficit, which constraints agriculture productivity. To overcome this, the farmers need effective and efficient linkages with universities and best practices. A good extension system is the mean for achieving this linkage, which for the present has virtually collapsed in most states.

Mehata (2007) revealed that the agriculture sector in the country has not developed to the desired extent due to many challenges. In many pockets particularly in remote places farmers are still relying on traditional agriculture. They are yet to come out of old methods and systems. Information technology and communication, through developing rapidly has not reached such places. Technical support is the need of the hour in today's fast changing environment. The transport facilities are lacking in same remote places unless there is adequate infrastructure and marketing facilities, the agriculture sector cannot be expected to grow.

Swaminathan (2007) pointed out that there is a need to provide multiple livelihood opportunities in distress from region, like



livestock rearing, as well as nonfarm occupation in areas such as biomass utilization and post-harvest technology. Cotton biomass offers opportunities to produce high value products such as absorbent cotton, cotton seed oil and charcoal. There has to be an integrated on farm and non farm livelihood strategy. Income security depends largely on output prices and the market. Low and uncertain returns are among the important causes for farmers despair. As a single step, assured and remunerative prices for commodities will help end debt death.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

The researcher during the course of investigation has to develop different measurement techniques, tools and procedures for research. The terms and concepts used need to be appropriately defined their measurement techniques are to be developed and accurately measured. Appropriate tools for data collection have to be selected, developed and used. In present study to evaluate the causes of farmer's suicides, standard and detailed methodology was developed and used for studying various aspects concerning farmer's suicide in Akola district. The same have been described in present chapter with relevant details under the following sub sections.

The sub - section of research methodology includes:

- 3.1 Locale of study
- 3.2 Research design
- 3.3 Sample and sampling plan
- 3.4 Development of interview schedule and data collection
- 3.5 Variables, their measurement and categorization
 - 3.5.1 Personal characteristics
 - 3.5.2 Socio-economic characteristics
 - 3.5.3 Socio-psychological characteristics
 - 3.5.4 Situational characteristics
 - 3.5.5 Socio-psycho risk factors of suicide
- 3.6 Suggestions for avoiding suicides
- 3.7 Consequences of suicide

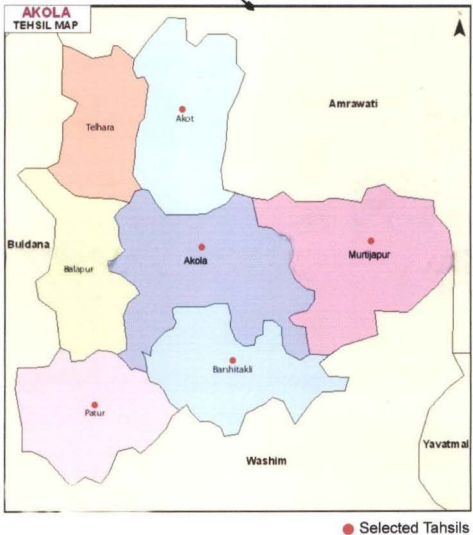
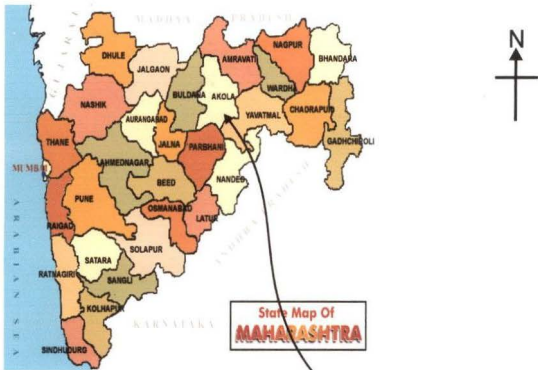


Fig. 1 Map of Akola district

3.1 Locale of Study

Present research investigation was carried out in Akola district of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra state.

3.2 Research Design

Selection of the research design was an important part and hence due consideration was needed for selection of the research design. The present study was based on case study design of social Research. Here little knowledge relevant to the research topic was available to the researcher and consequently, research was not able to formulate clearly expressed hypothesis regarding the causes of suicides of farmers in Akola district. Out of curiosity the researcher conducted research and tried to find the relevant causes, which are likely to influence the suicide of farmers.

Case Study Method

Case study method may be defined as "all inclusive and intensive study of an individual in which the investigator brings to bear all his skill and methods or as systematic gathering of enough information about a person to pursue one to understand how he/she/its functions as a unit of society".

The case study uses the sources and techniques of historical study but also uses several other techniques and data for examining the correct aspects of the phenomena under study.

3.3 Sample and Sampling Plan

The present investigation was carried out in Akola district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state.

Selection of respondents

In this study, respondents were the households of the selected victim who committed suicide, during 1, January 2008 to 31,

December 2012 and had declared as a legal victim by district level committee headed by collector of Akola district, for allotting compensation of Rs. 1 lakh and had got Rs. 1 Lakh compensation. The time period 2008-2012 was selected purposively so as to match the similar farming condition with all victims.

Before sampling, researchers had contacted personally to the collector office of Akola district on dated 15/01/2015 and obtained the complete list of farmers who committed suicide during 1, January 2008 to 31, December 2012. In all there were 870 total suicide cases in Akola district, out of which 432 cases were declared as illegal and 438 cases were declared as legal victims. (Table 5) From the list of 438 legal suicide cases, researcher had selected 10 victims by random sampling. It covers 10 villages from 5 tahsils of Akola district. (Table 6)

Table 4. Tahsilwise suicide cases and selected cases for case study

Sr. No.	Name of tahsil	Total suicide cases	Legal suicide cases	No. of cases selected
1	Akola	202	91	2
2	Barshitakli	105	96	2
3	Murtizapur	141	88	2
4	Akot	106	48	2
5	Patur	104	34	2
6	Telhara	80	34	0
7	Balapur	72	47	0
	Total	870	438	10

3.4 Development of Interview Schedule and Data Collection

Construction of interview schedule and collection of data were the important aspects and the basis for the social research. The procedure followed for development of interview schedule and

collection of data has been presented here under separate heads followed by editing of schedule and procedure followed for tabulation and analysis of data.

Development of interview schedule

Interview schedule was prepared with a great caution so that it becomes perfect as per the objectives set for the investigation. Every case regarding construction of statement, purpose, content and sequence was considered while preparing the interview schedule. Available literature was collected and studied and experts in the field of Extension Education in the Department of Extension Education of the Post Graduate Institute were consulted before finalization of the interview schedule. In first part, of the interview, schedule questions related to primary information i.e. personal, socio-economic, psychological and situational variables were included and in second part, questions related to risk factors of suicide, consequences and suggestion for avoiding the suicide were included.

Pre testing of interview schedule

Considering all aspect of working objectives, interview schedule was prepared and pre tested with 2 household, who lost their family head and who were belonging to other than selected sample. The data were analyzed on the basis of these 2 schedules.

Collection of data

As a suicide is a sensitive social issue and thus the investigation has to be made with very careful manner and without hurting the sentiments of the family.

Data were collected by personal interview method with the help of structural interview schedule. Interview was conducted at residence of respondent so as to review overall situation of the family by researcher. In addition to personal interview, RRA (Rapid Rural

Appraisal) technique, time line study for historical perspectives, observations, discussion with family members and discussion with key informants (Police Patil, Sarpanch, Local Leaders, Other Farmers of the village), were some important methods used for data collection.

The data collection from those households who lost their family head or member was a very difficult and challenging task. It was performed by the researcher during the Jan 2015. In every house there was a sad environment and mostly they were looking to the researcher through a hope of ray. But after making a rapport with household, researcher probed the happenings and collected all required information. While collecting information/data, researcher first collected all general information and lastly turned towards some specific responses. Total 10 victim's households were interviewed from 10 villages and 5 tahsils of Akola district. For personal visit to these villages, researcher had used her friends motorcycle for travelling. As per the actual calculations, the overall average distance of villages from respective tahsil places was 10 kilometers and maximum distance was 30 kilometers.

Editing of interview schedule

Information obtained through the interview, observations, discussions, and actual records of institutional debts was filled in the schedule. Entries were checked for completeness, consistency, uniformity and legibility immediately after the work of the day was over.

3.5. Variables, their operational definitions, measurement and categorization of variables.

The variables selected for the study and their measurement is as given below.

3.5.1 Personal characteristics

1) Age

The 'age' was conceptually defined as the chronological age of an individual in completed years. In current study, age was operationally defined as chronological age of the suicide farmer in completed years at the time when he/she committed suicide.

Sr. No	Age	Years
1	Young	Up to 35
2	Middle	36-50
3	Old	Above 50

2) Education

Education is defined as formal schooling passed by an individual. Operationally, education is defined as formal schooling standard passed by the victim from primary school to University degree. Number of classes passed by the suicide farmer was considering as his/her educational score it was used for relational analysis. Categorization on the basis of educational level of the selected victims was done as follows.

Sr. No	Educational level	Standard passed
1	Illiterate	No schooling
2	Primary school	1-4
3	Middle school	5-7
4	High school	8-10
5	Higher secondary school	11-12
6	College	Above - 12

3) Caste

Caste is the hereditary ascribed class of the suicide farmer. The victims were grouped into following caste categories as per their caste mentioned in the Maharashtra Government Resolution No.-CBC-10/2006/P.K.94/MA and K 5 Dated 25th May 2006. For relational analysis one to nine score was assigned as given below, as per the chronological sequence of each cast category reservation in the state, as mentioned in government resolution.

Sr. No.	Caste category
1	Schedule Caste (SC)
2	Schedule Tribe (ST)
3	Vimukta Jati (VJ-A)
4	Nomadic Tribe (NT-B)
5	Nomadic Tribe (NT-C)
6	Nomadic Tribe (NT-D)
7	Other Backward Classes (OBC)
8	Special Backward Classes (SBC)
9	Open

4) Family Size

It refers to the actual number of members living in a family. In the present study, family size has been decided according to the number of family members in the family including the victim. For relational analysis, total number of family members was considered as score of the family size of the victim and categorization was done as follows.

Sr. No.	Family size	Family member
1	Small	Up to 3
2	Medium	4-6
3	Large	7-9
4	Very large	Above 9

5) Family type

In the present study, it refers to whether the victims was a member of individual/nuclear family or joint family. The scoring procedure developed by Thakare (2004) in his Socio-economic status scale was used as follows.

Sr. No.	Family Type
1	Nuclear
2	Joint

6) Farming experience

The farming experience refers the number of years, the victims was engaged in farming. The distribution of victims according to their farming experience was done in following four categories by equal interval method.

Sr. No.	Farming experience in year
1	Up to 10
2	11 to 20
3	21 to 30
4	Above 30

3.5.2 Socio-economic characteristics

7) Land holding

Conceptually, land holding is the actual hectare of land possessed by the individual. Total hectare of land possessed by the victim's household was considered. Categorization has been done as per Government norms as follows.

Sr. No.	Land holding	Area in ha.
1	Marginal	Up to 1.00 ha
2	Small	1.01 -2.00 ha
3	Semi-medium	2.01 -4.00 ha
4	Medium	4.01 -10.00 ha
5	Large	Above 10.00 ha.

8) Subsidiary occupations

It refers to the supporting occupation undertaken by the victim and his household in addition to agriculture for getting additional source of income, which is indicative of employment structure of victim.

Sr. No.	Subsidiary Occupation
1.	Agriculture + labour
2.	Agriculture(Farming)
3.	Agriculture + Allied Occupation
4.	Agriculture + Business
5.	Agriculture + Service

The scale is developed by Thakare (2004).

9) Annual income

Conceptually, it refers to the gross annual earning of the respondents from all available sources. Operationally, in present study gross income in rupees received by the victim and his family member during 2011 was considered. For relational analysis, the actual income of victim and his family member from all sources was considered as score. The categorization done of the selected victim on the basis of their annual income was done by equal interval method.

Sr. No.	Annual income (Rs /-)
1	Up to Rs. 25000/-
2	Rs. 25001-50000/-
3	Rs. 50001-75000/-
4	Rs. 75001-100000/-
5	Rs. Above 100000

10) Social participation

It is operationally defined as extent of participation of respondents in various formal and informal organizations as a member of that organization.

The measurement of the social participation level was done on teacher made scale base on the selective items of social participation.

Sr. No.	Category
1	Low
2	Medium
3	High

3.5.3 Socio-psychological characteristics

11) Victims health

Conceptually, health is defined as a state of complete, physical, mental, and social well being of an individual and not a mere absence of disease or infirmity.

Operationally, victim's health indicates the health status of suicide farmer during last two years before incidence. Here any obvious existence of chronic disease with victim was noted, due to which victim was not functioning normally. The responses about victim's health were collected from family members. Distribution of selected victim was done according to the presence or absence of health problem with them.

Sr. No.	Victims Health
1	Suffered from disease
2	Free from disease

12) Family health

Operationally, family health indicates the health status of victim's households during last two years. Here any obvious existences of chronic disease/ handicap like handicap by birth/ accidents, cancer, leprosy, HIV infection, asthma, genetic disorder, liver/kidney problem, tuberculosis, diabetes, mentally ill, etc. with victim's households has been noted. For existing of every disease one score was allotted for each sick family member. According to number of sick family member and number of diseases with them, total score was calculated and used as a family health score of the respective victim. Distribution of selected victims was done according to presence or absence of health problem with their family members.

Sr. No	Family Health
1	Having Health problem
2	Free from Health problem

13) Family disputes

Conceptually, family disputes define the unfamiliar relation of an individual with the members of household.

Operationally family disputes indicate the presence of any dispute between victim and their family members due to which family relations were broken down. The responses regarding any presence of dispute of victim, with their member of households from last 2 year has been listed and for existence of every dispute with every member one score has been given. Thus, according to presence of dispute/ quarrel between victim and their family members, total score was calculated and used as family dispute score of the respective victim. Distribution of selected victims was done according to the presence or absence of dispute/quarrel with family members.

Sr. No.	Family Disputes
1	Having disputes with family members
2	Free from family disputes

14) Victims Habits

It denotes the any bad habit of the selected victims.

Sr. No.	Categories
1.	No bad habits
2.	Smoking
3.	Drinking
4.	Chewing tobacco
5.	Gambling

3.5.4 Situational characteristics

15) Type of land

Operationally, type of land was defined as soil status of an individual victim's farm as mentioned in land use classification as very deep, deep, moderately deep, shallow, and very shallow. Categorization was given below.

Sr. No.	Land use classes	Status of soil
1.	Class-1	Very deep
2.	Class-2	Deep
3.	Class-3	Moderately deep
4.	Class-4	Shallow
5.	Class-5	Very shallow

Categorization will be done on the basis of high

16) Irrigation facilities

It refers to the sources available such as, well, tube well, canal etc. for irrigation with suicide farmers.

Sr. No.	Sources of irrigation
1	No source
2	River
3	Well / tube well
4	Canal

17) Productivity

Productivity is defined as per hectare yield of major crop taken by victim and his household during last two preceding years. For measurement of productivity, the actual area of land put by house hold under different *kharif*, *rabi* and summer crops (including irrigated and rainfed) and their obtained yield qts. /ha was considered.

18) Indebtedness

Conceptually, indebtedness defined as obligation to pay money to another party.

Operationally indebtedness is defined as the total outstanding debt amount of institutional and non-institutional credit source towards the victim and his household at the time when he/she had committed suicide. Categorization was done by equal interval method.

Sr. No.	Indebtedness
1	Up to 25000
2	25001-50000
3	50001-100000
4	Above 100000

19) Agriculture infrastructure

It is operationally defined as the various input, information and transport and post harvest amenities available to victim and his household for his farming operation with them and in his village or nearby vicinity. It was categorized as low, medium and high.

20) Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

It is defined as extent to which the respondent victim has fulfilled various responsibilities of his family members since from last five years. For measuring extent of family responsibility fulfilled by an individual victims, the six major type of family responsibility namely, children education/ brother education, daughter/sister marriage, health treatment of family members, rituals after death in family were selected.

21) Cropping pattern

It refers to the crop grown by victim in various season.

Sr. No.	Category
1	Kharif crops
2	Kharif + Rabi crops
3	Kharif + Rabi +Summer
4	Perennial crop

22) Cropping intensity

It is a proportion of the area under different crops including double, and triple cropping to the net cultivated area.

The cropping intensity in this study, was calculated by using following formula,

$$\text{Cropping Intensity (\%)} = \frac{\text{Gross cropped area}}{\text{Net cultivated area}} \times 100$$

23) Crop failure

It denotes the number of times crop fails on the farm of victim during the last two succeeding years.

One score was given for each crop failure then total score of crop failure was calculated on the basis of total crop failures during two succeeding years.

Sr. No.	Crop failure
1	No failure
2	1 time
3	2 time
4	3 time

3.5.5 Socio-psycho risk factors of suicide

Operationally, Risk factor of suicide refers to the aggregation of different risk factors co-existed with an individual victim externally during last two years of suicide incidence.

3.6 Suggestions for avoiding suicides

Suggestions refer to the opinion of family members about what action should be taken for avoiding suicides were considered. The responses of the households have been noted and their frequencies and percentage were worked out.

3.7 Post suicide Consequences

Conceptually, a consequence is defined as the result or effect of an action. Operationally, in present study of farmers' suicide consequences refers to the changes that occurred within the family

after suicidal death of family head or victim farmer in due course of time.

The changes occurred within family and that also recognizes by the family members have been ascertained. While discussing the issue, with victim's households, the different consequences that are presented by family members and also probed by researcher are collected and noted in interview schedule time to time before forgetting the things or leaving the place.

The noted consequences have been presented under different heads as per their occurrence in family.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained in the present investigation have been presented in this chapter and are elaborately discussed by taking into account the study objectives. The data was collected from ten victims' household from ten villages of Akola, Barshitakali, Patur, Akot, and Murtizapur tahsils of Akola district. The data, observations and the facts obtained about each individual victim has been presented through various angles and placed in story form, under following subheads.

4.1 Finding of the selected cases

4.1.1 Case study of Late Shrikrushan Laxmanrao Kalamb

4.1.2 Case study of Late Vinod Arjun Punde

4.1.3 Case study of Late Keshav Tukaram Kene

4.1.4 Case study of Late Pralhad Pundlik Wairale

4.1.5 Case study of Late Gopal Shamrao Dhone

4.1.6 Case study of Late Sukhadev Baban Uparvat

4.1.7 Case study of Late Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande

4.1.8 Case study of Late Nandkishor Bapurao Raut

4.1.9 Case study of Late Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe

4.1.10 Case study of Late Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode

4.2. Distribution of victim according to their characteristics

4.3 Suggestion perceived by the victim family member to prevent suicide

4.4 Post suicide consequences

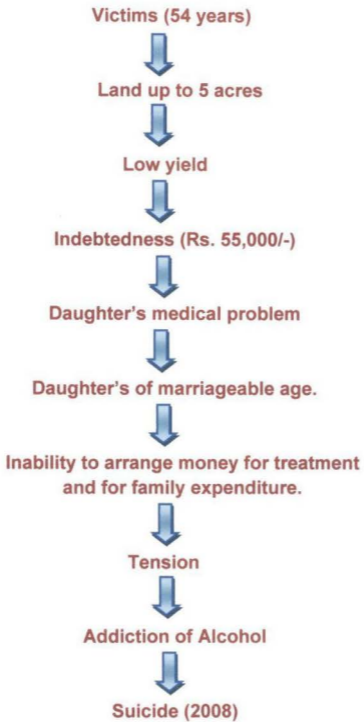


Fig.2 Suicide path of Late Shrikrushan Laxmanrao Kalamb

4.2.2 Case study of Late Vinod Arjun Punde

Age	:	22 years
Village	:	Chandur
Tahsil	:	Akola
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	April 17, 2009

A 22 year young farmer Vinod from 'Chandur', Akola was living in nuclear family with three members, which included his mother (Manakarna) and his younger brother (Vijay). They belonged to "Dhangar" caste. Vinod belonged to illiterate family. So there were no educational background in his family, but he had taken the education up to 9th standard and wanted to take education further but due to economic problem it was not possible for getting further education.

When he was ten years old his father left his family. So all responsibility came on Vinod shoulder, due to this he could not complete his education, and started working in his farm. He had 1 acre of land in which he had cultivated sorghum crop but due to unseasonable crop failure was occurred. Vinod's mother was old and sick and his brother was mentally retarded he could not understand what was going around him and was unable to manage himself properly.

Vinod's mother was suffering from back pain and brother was mentally retarded there were around Rs. 30,000/- medical expenses on them. There were more expenditure and less income in his family. Due to this he used to remain in tense about his family. Vinod had an affair with his neighbor's daughter so there was dispute between his neighbour and his family. This incident made the victims unsteady. He was something different in nature some time did not follow the instruction of the elder and did whatever he wanted" said victim's mother. Before one year his father's death was occurred due to

AIDS, become one the reason of frustration. Before the incident the victims had taken loan up to Rs. 20,000 with 8 per cent rate of interest from Allahabad bank, but due to high rate of interest the loan increased up to Rs. 35,000/-. He also borrowed Rs. 10,000/- for cultivation and for his family expenses. But due to natural calamities crop failure was occurred.

Annual income of his family from farming was Rs. 20,000/- it was very low and expenditure on medical was higher, so it was very difficult for Vinod to carry out necessary requirement of his family.

Mankarna, his mother said that he was already burdened by debts incurred in previous year, taken from relatives for the purpose of home construction. Vinod could not manage all these frustration and he started consuming alcohol, due to which there were disputes in his family. Because of these reasons on 17th April morning he committed suicide by Insecticide consumption in his home.

CONCLUSION

Vinod was frustrated by his family issues, crop failures and no sources of income, so consumed insecticide on April 17th 2009.



Plate 1. Family members of deceased farmer Late Vinod Arjun Punde.

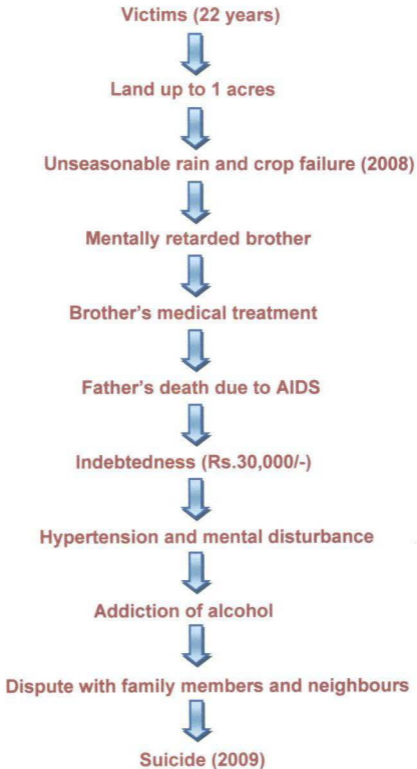


Fig.3. Suicide path of Late Vinod Arjun Punde

4.2.3 Case study of Late Keshav Tukaram Kene

Age	:	27 years
Village	:	Sukali
Tahsil	:	Barshitakli
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	April 29, 2009

A young medium farmer Keshav belong to 'Kunbi' caste. He was newly married before two month prior to suicide, living in joint family with 8 members. He was looking after all the agrarian operation and managing a land holding of 3 acres for last 11 years. He was small farmer who owned 3 acres of farm land depended on rain water only, as there was no irrigation source. He got 6 quintals *Bt. Cotton* from 1.20 ha, and 2 quintals of Jowar from 0.40 ha. of farm land in that year and also cultivated Green gram on 1.60 ha. of land, it was ready for harvest but due to heavy rainfall whole crop was lost. Crop failure led him to distress.

There was some educational background in his family and he had taken education up to 10th standard and his wife was illiterate. His wife was not with him from last one month, due to some dispute between them; victim had good contacts with others in the society and cannot sustain himself due to the ignominy from his wife event. "So he was under stress and could not communicate properly with his family because of his feeling of ignominy, decreased in social status as his wife(Deepali) gone back to his natal home" informed victim's mother.

Victim family was totally dependent on agriculture. His brother Mahadev and his mother undertook agricultural wages work apart from it. Victims along with his wife lived in one room house unplastered brick-walls of tin roof adjacent to his brother's home and his house need much repairing. Victim was married before two month.

For marriage purpose he had borrowed a loan of Rs. 20,000/- from relatives and Rs.12,000/- from Nishant co-operative bank , as a crop loan but failed to repay the loan, because of low productivity and not offered a handsome price of its product. He was also aware of his parent's health, but he was unable to fulfill his family responsibility towards them due to poor economic condition. In *kharif* season, there was insufficient yield that's why he paid little amount of bank loan, hence, he was worried about rising amount of loan. According to family members "suddenly there was change in his behavior after his marriage as if he was mentally disturbed."

The financial condition at home was grim which forced him to commit suicide by drinking pesticide at his home on morning of September 24, 2009. After his death, Deepali, the wife of Keshav had gone back to her natal house permanently. His brother Rajesh took all the responsibilities. Repaid the debt. of Rs. 15,000/- and he was decided tried to repay the remaining by working hard. The members of the family demanded that, there is an urgent need to declare immediately remunerative price for all the crops of farmers in consonance with the cost of cultivation.

CONCLUSION

Keshav made all efforts to manage rising expenses, but he failed, which lead to increase the pressure of money lender on him. He felt ignominy of his decreased social status as his wife gone back to his natal home led him to frustration and finally he committed suicide on April 24, 2009.



Plate 2. Family members of deceased farmer Late Keshav Tukaram Kene

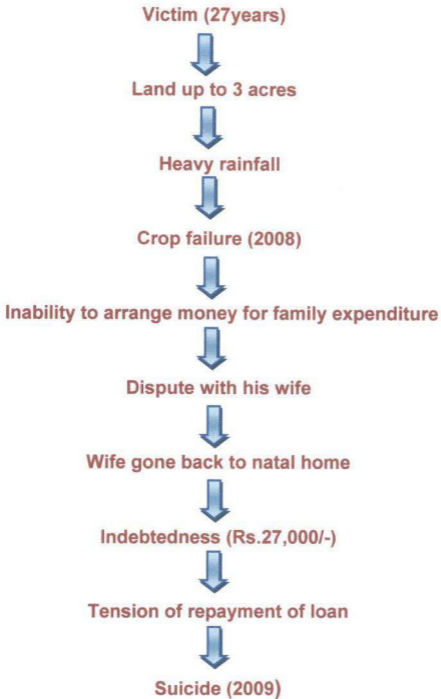


Fig. 4 Suicide path of Late Keshav Tukaram Kene

4.2.4 Case study of Late Pralhad Pundlik Wairale

Age	:	50 years
Village	:	Sukali
Tahsil	:	Barshitakli
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	December 10, 2006

A marginal farmer Pralhad Pundlik Wairale, age 50 years old belong to "Kunbi" caste, having half acre of land near Sukali village. The land was irrigated seasonally by river water. He was facing the problem of insufficient water since last 3 to 4 years. He cultivated *Bt* Cotton in *kharif* on half acres of land. Due to vagaries of nature particularly due to deficit rain at germination stage cause the poor germination. From *kharif* season of 2005, he got only 4.5 quintals cotton from half acres, due to whimsical behavior of nature. Victim's family was totally dependent on agriculture although his wife was engaged in agricultural work.

Pralhad had two sons and a daughter; his daughter had married three years ago and shifted to her husband's home. Victim's eldest son Siddeshwar was married with Sunita on May 5, 2005. His father noticed that Siddeshwar was in tension after his marriage. After twenty days of his marriage he committed suicide on May 24, 2005, due to heavy economic losses by digging two bore wells, but both bore well found to be dry. He was newly married and he had invested near about one and half lakhs for making the bore wells. He had sold all gold ornaments of his newly wife. But failure of bore well led him to distress. After his death the wife of Siddeshwar had gone back to her natal house. After few days, victim's young son (21 year) Rameshwar had decided to marry with his brother wife Sunita. The incident made the victim unsteady.

After death of his eldest son he was living with younger son as a joint family and both the victims and his son were engaged himself in various agrarian operations on own farm, but victims was worried as water level in bore-well was decreased day by day, which was dry from three month on which his crop was depended. He borrowed a loan Rs.7,000/- from district co-operative bank for crop cultivation purpose. He had gone through double sowing of Nashik onion in *kharif* season of 2006 as the first sowing operation was failed. However, he could get only 30 quintals of onion from half acre of land and sold in private market for Rs. 27,000/-. Expenditure was more and amount returned in hand by selling onion was too less. So, he was frustrated, He took Rs.30,000/- (Not known exact amount) from some money lender. To repay the loan was a big question, which increase pressure on him. The interest on debt increased day by day. At the same time his daughter in law undergone an operation of appendix and she was unable to work on field. This is the reason for frustration, and then he was irritated quickly. After the event the victims was in despair as he did not had enough money to invest in agriculture and stunted growth of crop, because of decrease water level in bore-well. Although the financial condition at home was grim this forced him to committed suicide by insecticide consumption in his own house of December 10, 2006. The son of victim tried to repay the loan by working hard. His mother helped in various agrarian operations by managing his job. "Easy procedure for obtaining institutional loan is required," suggested the family member of victims.

CONCLUSION

Pralhad was disturbed by the incidence of his son. He was under stress due to low productivity, unavailability of water for crop and his behavior of self conceit led him to choose the way of suicide by consuming insecticide.



Plate 3. Family members of deceased farmer Late Pralhad Pundlik Wairale

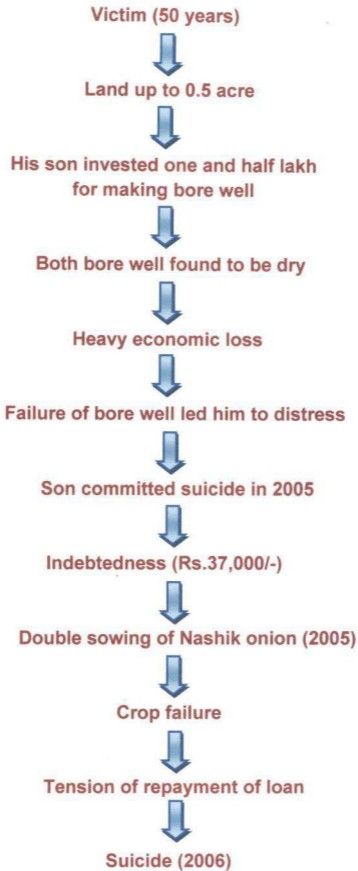


Fig.5 Suicide path of Late Pralhad Pundlik Wairale

4.2.5 Case study of Late Gopal Shamrao Dhone

Age	:	24 years
Village	:	Patur
Tahsil	:	Patur
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	February 17, 2012

Gopal Shamrao Dhone, 24 years old young farmer belong to 'Mali' caste. He was unmarried. He was small farmer who owned two and half acres of farm land. He worked with his family members as a agricultural labourer also from which activity the victim managed the expenditure of his family. Victims had a family of five members, father, mother and two brothers. This was well known nuclear family in Patur village. He had taken the education up to B.A final year, elder brother, Nilesh is studying in B.A. 2nd year and younger, Jivan is studying in 12th standard.

Victim had total two and half acres of irrigated land in which he cultivated Soybean in *khari* season and wheat in *Rabi* season. He got only 5 quintals of wheat from two and half acres of farm land. Yield was very low because of natural calamities, so, it was very difficult to manage expenditure. Victim had invested some money on re construction of his own house. He had concrete house well kept with courtyard. Victim's mother was suffering from blood pressure. Since last three years her expenditure on medicine were more, so it was difficult to manage all these things. Before the incidence he had borrowed the loan up to Rs. 15,000/- from co-operative bank for cultivation purpose and took Rs.30,000/- from his friends for medical treatment. There was no sufficient or low crop production but debt was increasing day by day. So, victim became tensed. He was thinking how to repay the loan. He couldn't repay the loan because there was no benefit received only there were financial losses. This was the reason

for frustration. Then his father was engaged in 'Dairy' enterprise they generate some income from this dairy enterprise.

Gopal was very kind person, he always trusted his friends, he participated in village programs. His friend circle was very nice. But one of his friends cheated to Gopal for money by offering a scheme. But his friend could not return his money, due to this situation, family dispute occurred, and he was frustrated. Finally on the day February 17, 2012, he committed suicide by consuming insecticide. After his suicide, all responsibility came to his younger brother shoulder, due to this he had not completed his education and started working in his farm.

CONCLUSION

Gopal was kind in nature and disturbed by the incidence of cheating by friend, he was under the stress due to low productivity, low income and increasing debt, etc. were the things responsible for committing his suicide.



Father with victim portrait



Plate 4. Family members of deceased farmer Late Gopal Shamrao Dhone

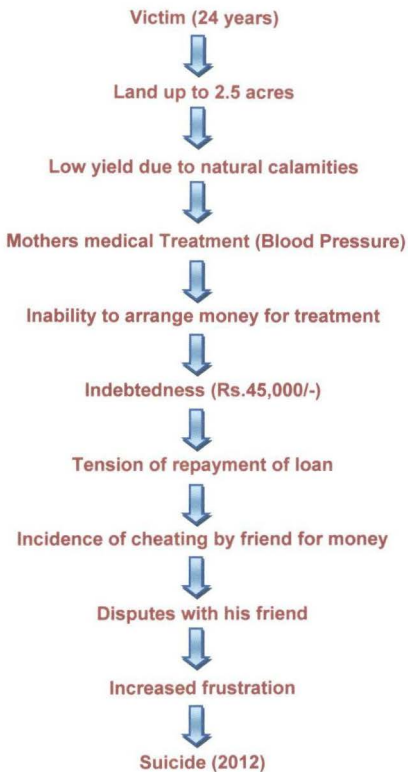


Fig.6.Suicide path of Late Gopal Shamrao Dhone

4.2.6 Case study of Late Sukhadev Baban Uparvat.

Age	:	60 years
Village	:	Deulgaon
Tahsil	:	Patur
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	April 18, 2011

Sukhadev Baban Uparvat a 60 years old farmer belong to Nav-Buddha. He had education up to 4th standard. He was married and there were 6 members in his family before the incident. Victim had a son (Sahdev), who is married with Rekha'. The victims owned 6 acres of irrigated land. In year 2009, He cultivated soybean in 6 acres of land but due to deficit rain the crop was failed. His family expenditure was more as compared to income. His wife had been suffering from Diabetes, for last two to three years.

Victim's wife said, "Victims had taken loan of Rs. 25,000/- from Gramin Bank and Rs. 17,000/- from his friends for the treatment of his wife. He was very theist by nature. He was moody in nature. He never used to share his problems with his friends and family members. He was trying a lot to increase standard of living of his family, he was trying to build his own house but without taking loan it was not possible to build a house. He borrowed loan Rs. 20,000/- from self help group. As well as Saving some money from his income. Finally he constructed his own house. He used to say in his family, "It is my dream to live in my own house." His dream was completed, but in that year, he had to face total crop failure. There is well in his farm but, Lacks of water, so there was a problem of irrigation. Yield was decreased as the climatic condition was adverse for standing of crop. Annual income of his family was very low and expenditure on that was higher, due to which victim was unable to repay the loan, loan was increased day by day and people came to their door to demand money. The situation made to



victims unsteady. Unable to repay the loan is the reason for his frustration.

Secondly, he invested some money on education of his grand sons of 16 and 13 years respectively victim was worried about illness and education of his grandson's rising expenses. It also added to his mental trauma due to which he had lost his mental stability, and led him to take extreme action of suicide on April 18, 2011 by insecticide consumption. Some of neighbors' came to home and told about his suicide. The family was shocked because it was unexpected to them. His son's said "sudden news about suicide was very shocking and we were unable to hear this news from the people."

After the incidence family had faced many problems. There was drop in economic status of victim's family after death so, his son, 'Sahdev' took all the responsibilities of his family. By doing some work in village helped him economically to some extent and tried to repay the loan. Along with this there was the responsibility of wife and two children. Victim's wife was shocked, due to which she was not in proper situation to do any work. Easy procedure for obtaining institutional loan is required, suggested the family members of the victims.

CONCLUSION

Due to huge expenditure on home construction. He failed to repay the loan as early as possible. but, due to deficit rain, his all hopes to repay the loan was collapsed and he was under pressure which made led him mentally unstable, diverting towards the action of suicide by consuming insecticide on his own farm on April 18, 2011.



Plate 5. Family members of deceased farmer Late Sukhadev Baban Uparvat

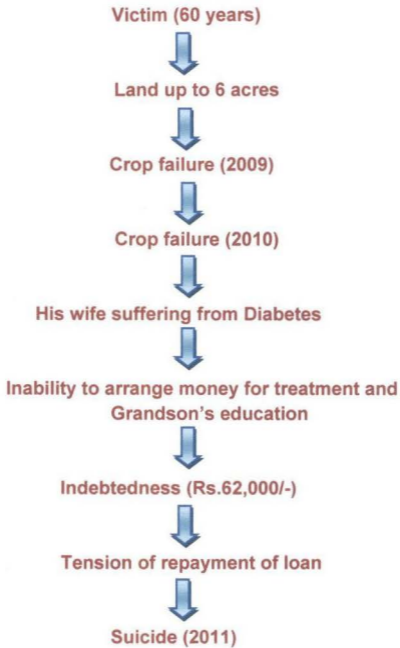


Fig.7 Suicide path of Late Sukhadev Baban Uparvat

4.2.7 Case study of Late Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande

Age	:	28 years
Village	:	Keliveli
Tahsil	:	Akot
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	December 7, 2010

A young medium farmer Nilesh, belong to "Kunbi" caste, He was unmarried, he had taken the education up to 10th standard. There were five members in his family. Which include two brothers and a sister. His eldest brother Pravin was government employee in Maharashtra state transport corporation at. Akot Depo. So he was not living in a village. Pravin had taken education up to 12th Std. and Nilesh had taken the education up to 10th Std. The victim owned two and half acres of land having no source of irrigation on his farm land and it was totally dependent on rain water. The soil was shallow type. He had cultivated *Bt. Cotton* on two and half acres of land but due to the attack of fungal infection of reddening disease, victim beared heavy loss.

He had purchased the Thresher in March, 2009, by investing 1.5 Lakhs, with the intention to provide the service to farmers on rental basis. As his annual income were Rs. 30,000/- including subsidiary occupation. He borrowed the loan of Rs. 40,000/- from Dena Bank and took the Rs. 35,000/- from relatives in last two years. His debt had touched to the tune of Rs. 1.5 lakh. This increased the burden on Nilesh enormously. He had taken the loan from bank (2008) with the intension that the yield might be good and he could clear all the debt. But his intension was wrong, and the crop failed, afterwards. The thresher purchased for subsidiary occupation also failed to turn into unprofitable business. Nilesh was in deep thought to manage the amount of Rs. 1.5 Lakhs. He had such discussion with his neighbor. And his own relatives consoled him about this matter.

Prabhakar, victim's father said that he was already burdened by debts increased. Since he purchased thresher. Prabhakar was suffering from 'Cataract' disease from last two years, so he was under medical treatment. At the same time his father undergone an operation of 'Cataract' disease and he was unable to work on field. This was the reason for depression. Then he was diverted towards addiction of alcohol and irritated quickly.

Regular crop failure for two years, increased price of seed and fertilizers, increasing cultivation cost, because of all these reasons Nilesh felt worried and continuously remain under pressure for repaying the loans. The financial condition at home was grim and forced him to commit suicide by hanging himself on his own farm in the evening of December 7, 2010.

After the death of Nilesh, his brother Pravin settled in village and took all the responsibilities. Now Pravin was tried to repay the loan by working hard on his farm. The member of the family demanded that, there is an urgent need to declare immediately remunerative price for all crops of farmers in consonance with the cost of cultivation.

CONCLUSION

Nilesh was tensed due to unprofitable business on Thresher from last five month, as he had purchased Thresher on loan 1.5 lakh in March 2009. Because of poor yield in kharif, he was in continuous distress and unable to pay the bank loan. In this condition Nilesh hanged himself and ended his life on December 7, 2010.

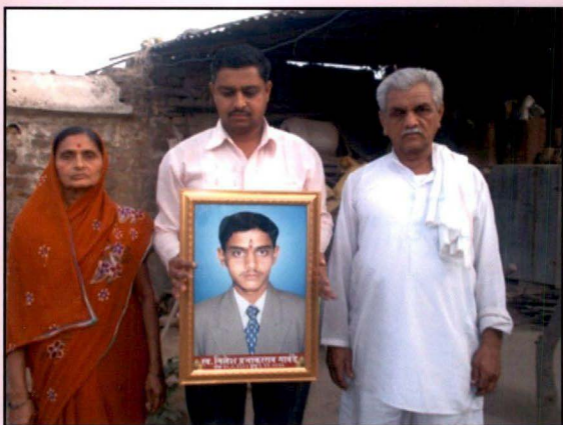


Plate 6. Family members of deceased farmer Late Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande

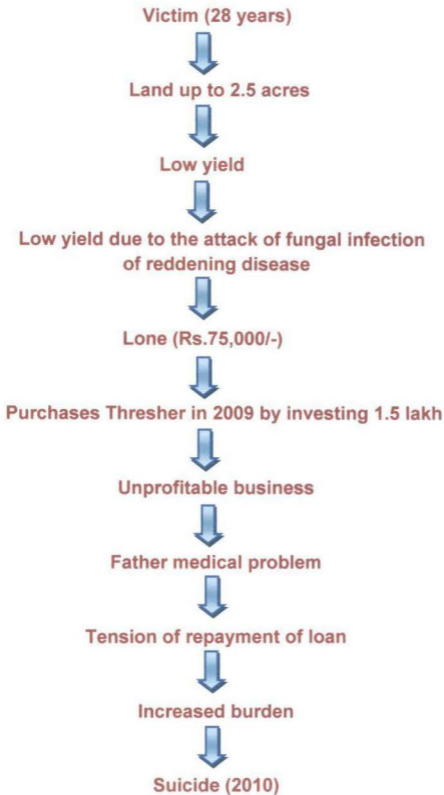


Fig.8 Suicide path of Late Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande

4.1.8 Case study of Late Nandkishor Bapurao Raut

Age	:	28 years
Village	:	Sawara
Tahsil	:	Akot
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	April 17, 2008

Nandkishor Bapurao Raut, 28 years young farmer belonged to Nav- Buddha caste. He was head person in his family with 5 members. He was small farmer who owned one and half acre of land. He started working from last 10 years. He also worked along with his family member as an Agriculture labour. From this various activity victim managed the expenditure of his family.

There was no educational background in his family and he had completed education up to 7th standard and his wife was illiterate. He was hard worker, he was working on his own field and others fields to get the additional income. Victim's mother 'Shantabai' was supporting him in all the decision making.

Rahul, victim's son of three years old, was suffering from continuous fever. He was under the medical treatment at Akot, but there were no sign of any improvement in his condition so far. He invested near about Rs.10, 000/- for his medical treatment, but did not get the positive result. Doctor said that, he was Malnourished. Victim was worried about his son's illness. In year 2011, victims had taken of Rs. 15,000/- from relatives for medical treatment. Increased debt was the reason for frustration.

Sunita, victim's wife was of weirded nature. She quarreled with his parents, so there was dispute between his wife and his parents. The dispute increased day by day and he became frustrated. Then, he decided to give divorce to his wife. The wife of Nandkishor had gone back to her natal house. He borrowed the loan of

Rs. 20,000/- from Gramin Bank. Nandkishor cultivated cotton in one and half acres of land, but got the fewer yields due to deficit rain. The production was less and amount in hand by selling cotton was too less. This gave rise to a number of questions in victim's mind. Pressure from relatives to return money was unbearable. He was frustrated from relatives and neighbours. Victim was unable to get release from all these problems. So, he ended his life by hanging himself on April 17, 2008 on his own home.

CONCLUSION

Nandkishor Raut 28 year young farmer was mentally disturbed by his wife's weird behavior with his parent. He was worried about his son's illness. He was frustrated by relatives taunt and comments. Also increasing indebtedness, made him depressed and finally he committed suicide on April 17, 2008.

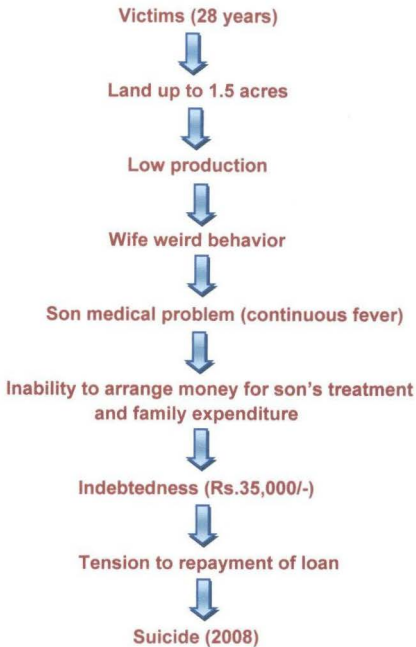


Fig.9. Suicide path of Late Nandkishor Bapurao Raut

4.1.9 Case study of Late Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe

Age	:	45 years
Village	:	Sirso
Tahsil	:	Murtizapur
District	:	Akola
Date of death	:	December 11, 2010

Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe, a semi medium farmer of 45 years old, belongs to Mali caste (OBC). He was the head person in his family with 5 members. Victim had 6 acres of land, which was irrigated in which he cultivated Soybean and Cotton. Source of irrigation for the crop was well but now a day the well was dry. Annual income of his family was Rs. 30,000/- which was very low and expenditure on cultivation was very higher, due to this victim was unable to perform daughter's marriage.

Promod had two daughters and a son, his eldest daughter "Nikita" had pass B.A 2nd year and younger daughter Trupti was studying in 12th standard, and Shubham, a victims' son had left B.A 1st year because of financial problem. Victim was unable to fulfill their children's education. This was the reason for frustration. The victim was suffering from blood pressure from last two years, so he was under the medical treatment and his son was suffering from 'calculus' for last year. "However, he managed the expenses incurred on medical treatment in every condition" said his wife. Victim faced difficulties in managing the rising expenses on medical treatment of the both. He invested near about Rs. 30,000/- for medical treatment. So, he borrowed the loan up to Rs.24, 000/- at the rate of interest 8 per cent for the cultivation purpose from bank of Maharashtra, and also taken Rs. 20,000/- from relatives. There was low yield of soybean counted to 17 quintals from 4 acres. In this circumstance he was despaired and had lost his mental stability completely due to increased burden of debt. He was in critical economic condition and did not

understand what to do, and how to repay the loan, he could not repay the loan because there was no benefit, only a loss. This was also the reason for frustration. He was moody in nature, so he never tried to share his problem with other family members.

Then I met victim neighbour who said that he was much tensed about his family. He was very kind person. Because of his kindness and sensitive nature he was unable to bear frustration so, he was addicted to drinking without telling his family members. These changing behaviors of victims created dispute in his family, and pressure increased day by day. In such circumstances, in the morning of December 11, Promod was found lying near his door steps, barely conscious; He told his wife that he had consumed insecticide. His son and neighbor took him quickly to Government Hospital at Akola, during treatment he died. "Doctor told that he drank alcohol and had not taken any food from the morning, so he (Doctor) failed to save him" informed villagers. The people in village were shocked by his suicide. "He was the most hard worker and helpful in nature" said villagers. After his death his wife and son, Shubham took all the responsibility. Now his wife is trying to repay the loan by working hard on Pramod farm. They got compensation of 1 Lakh out of which the amount Rs. 70,000/- was fixed in bank and remaining Rs. 30,000/- was given to his wife.

CONCLUSION

Promod made all effort to manage the rising expenses, to cure his son's ailment but, he failed. Deceitful behavior of nature resulted in low yield of crop and did not give handsome price of its produce. It led to increase farming related anxiety and emotional hazard towards family members. This increased frustration in him, and he diverted toward suicide by consuming insecticide in his own home in the morning on December 11, 2010.



Plate 7. Family members of deceased farmer Late Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe along with researcher

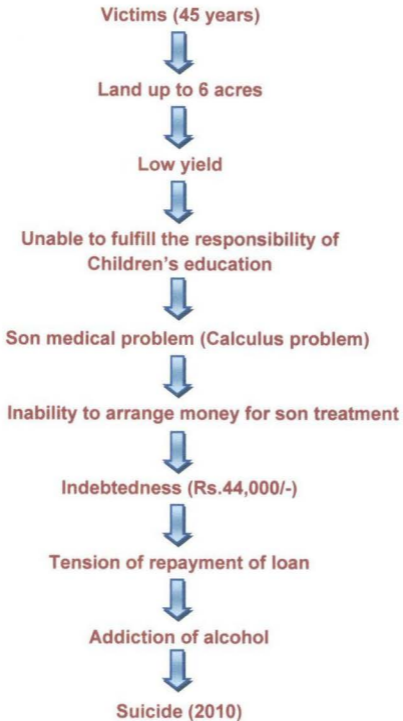


Fig. 10 Suicide path of Late Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe

4.1.10 Case study of Late Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode

Age	: 50 years
Village	: Jambha
Tahsil	: Murtizapur
District	: Akola
Date of death	: April 1, 2008.

Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode, fifty years old farmer belong to "Dhanagar" caste from village Jambha, having a farming experience near about 31 years. Shrikrushan had studied up to 4th Std. He married with Sushila, she was illiterate. He had three daughters and a son, among them Nanda and Rajshri was married and younger daughter Rajani was mentally retarded, she could not understand what was happening with her and failed to manage her properly. Devanand, victim's son had taken education up to 10th standard. Shrikrushan wanted to educated his son further but it was not possible due to poor economic condition, then Devanand married with 'Sonali' and helping economically to his family.

Shrikrushan had three acres of land. Due to bad economic condition, he had to sell two acres of land. Now, he owned one acre of land. There was no source of water in his land and it was totally dependent on rainwater and the soil was shallow type. He cultivated *Bt. Cotton* on one acre of land with the help of his wife and son. But due to heavy rainfall in that year whole crop was collapsed, and could not get satisfactory yield. He got 2 quintals *Bt. Cotton* from acre of farm land. These are some of the reason for frustration. The expenditure was high and income was low. This led him to distress.

The annual income of family from farming was only Rs. 25,000/- The family members were also involved in supplementary occupation like wages from which they earned Rs. 10,000 seasonally. Only one acre of land was not sufficient to fulfill the requirements of

family. Shrikrushan's younger daughter "Rajani" was mentally retarded, and she was under medical treatment at Murtizapur but there were no sign of any improvement in her condition so far. Victim was suffering from heart problem. He had gone through one heart attack. He was worried about rising expenses on him. "said his neighbors".

In *kharif* season of 2007, he borrowed Rs.20,000/- loan from Gramin Bank for cultivation purpose and also took a Rs. 60,000/- from his relatives before two years of suicide to manage the expenses on daughter's marriage and her illness. He met various expert doctors, but did not get positive result in his hand due to which he was frustrated. "He was unable to return his relative's money due to low productivity, so there was disputes between his relatives, and his family. Which stressed him to think again and again to repay the loan" said his son. In previous year the cost of cultivation was high and income was less. They cultivated the crop like *Bt. Cotton* in their farm as the yield decreased, and cost of cultivation increased from last two year. This led to raise huge problem in arranging money for next cultivation which made him to think regularly. The condition of victim was also gone critical. He started losing his mental balance due to rising debt. The whole family was suffering through a great depression. He was unable to share his problem with family members. He was totally disturbed due to poor family condition. Thus entire situation forced him to commit suicide by hanging himself on his farm of April1, 2008. After his death his son 'Devanand' and his wife Sushila took all responsibility of farming. Because there was no other responsible member in his family

CONCLUSION

Shrikrushan a 50 years old farmer was suffering from heart disease, who was in tension on crop failure. He was also tensed on his daughter medical expenditure. He was small farmer so unable to fulfill children education and increasing indebtedness led him to commit suicide.



Plate 8. Family members of deceased farmer Late Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode along with researcher

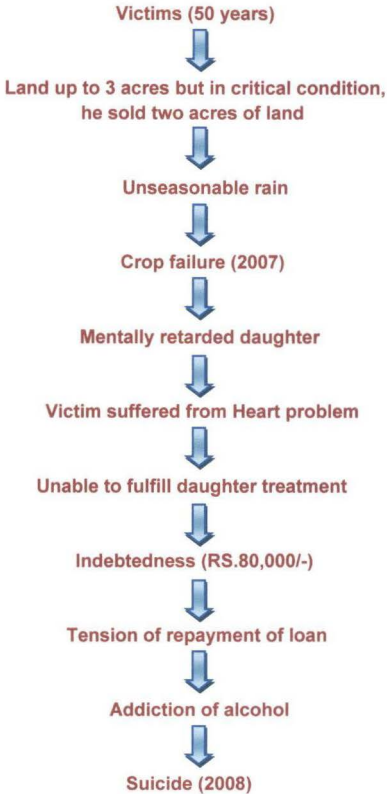


Fig 11. Suicide path of late Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode

4.2 Distribution of victims according to their characteristics

4.2.1 Personal characteristics

1) Age

Information regarding the age of selected victims was collected with a view to study their distribution in different age group and presented in Table 5.

Table 5. Distribution of victims according to their age

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Young (Up to 35)	5	50.00
2.	Middle (36-50)	3	30.00
3.	Old (Above 50)	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 5 it was observed that fifty per cent victims were under young, (30%) middle age and (20%) old age. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale and Mankar (2012), and Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

2) Education

The factual assessment of educational status of victims has been studied and presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Distribution of victims according to their education

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	-	-
2.	Primary school	3	30.00
3.	Middle school	1	10.00
4.	High school	5	50.00
5.	Higher secondary school	-	-
6.	College	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the Table 6 that fifty per cent victims were educated up to High school level followed by (30%) victims were having education up to Primary school level, Equal percentage of victims was middle school and college level. Hence none of the victims were found in illiterate and higher secondary school level education. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Tejashree Kachwah (2013), Kale (2014).

3) Caste

Caste of an individual denotes the occupational status in the society. The distribution of the selected victims according to their respective caste were studied and presented in table 7.

Table 7. Distribution of victims according to their cast

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Schedule Caste (SC)	2	20.00
2.	Schedule Tribe (ST)	-	-
3.	Vimukta Jati (VJ-A)	-	-
4.	Nomadic Tribe (NT-B)	-	-
5.	nomadic Tribe (NT-C)	3	30.00
6.	nomadic Tribe (NT-D)	-	-
7.	Other Backward Classes (OBC)	5	50.00
8.	Special Backward Classes (SBC)	-	-
9.	Open	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from Table 7 that most of the cases fifty per cent belonged to Other Backward classes (OBC), (30%) Nomadic Tribe (NT-C) and Remaining (20%) belonged to Scheduled caste (SC). Hence none of the victims was observed in Schedule Tribe (ST), Vimukta Jati (VJ-A), Nomadic Tribe (NT-B), nomadic Tribe (NT-C), and Special Backward Classes (SBC).The findings are similar with the finding observed by Kale (2008), Kale and Mankar (2012), Mishra (2006).

4) Family Size

The distribution of the selected victims as per the family size has been depicted under in Table 8.

Table 8. Distribution of victims according to their family size

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Small	1	10.00
2.	Medium	7	70.00
3.	Large	2	20.00
4.	Very large	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

From the Table 8 it was observed that majority of victims were concentrated in medium (4 to 6 members) size family followed by (20%) and (10%) victims were concentrated in large and small family size respectively, and none of the victims were found in very large categories. The findings are similar with the finding noted by Kale (2008), Gavhane (2012)

5) Family type

The distribution of the selected victims as per the family type has been presented under in Table 9.

Table 9. Distribution of victims according to their Family type

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Nuclear	7	70.00
2.	Joint	3	30.00
	Total	10	100.00

From the data observed in Table 9 it was observed that two third of victims were concentrated in Nuclear family followed by (30%) victims were concentrated in Joint family. The findings are

similar with the finding reported by Kale (2008), Gavhane (2012), and Kacchwah (2013).

6) Farming Experience

The result pertaining to farming experience of the victims has been presented in Table 10.

Table 10. Distribution of victims according to their Farming Experience

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Up to 10	5	50.00
2	11-20	4	40.00
3	21-30	-	-
4	Above 30	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was found from Table 10 that exactly half (50%) of victims had about 10 years, (40%) had about 11- 20 years and remaining (10%) had above 30 years of farming experience, Where none of the victim was found in categories of 21-20 years of farming experience. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Mishra (2006)

4.2.2 Socio-economic characteristics

1) Land holding

The distribution of the victims according to land holding is depicted in Table 11 as follows.

Table 11. Distribution of victims according to their land Holding

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Marginal (Up to 1 ha)	6	60.00
2.	Small (1.01-2.00 ha)	2	20.00
3.	Semi-medium (2.01- 4.00 ha)	2	20.00
4.	Medium (4.01- 10.00 ha)	-	-
5.	Large (Above 10.00 ha)	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

The findings in Table 11 revealed that majority (60%) of victims were marginal farmers having land holding up to 1.00 ha. One fifth were small land holder (2.01- 4.00 ha), while remaining one fifth of them were semi-medium having land holding up to 2.01-4.00 ha. Whereas none of the victims was observed in medium and large size of land holding. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale and Mankar (2012)

2) Subsidiary occupation

Information of subsidiary occupation of selected victims was collected and has been presented in Table 7.

Table 12. Distribution of victims according to their Subsidiary occupation

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Agriculture + Labour	6	60.00
2	Agriculture (Farming)	2	20.00
3	Agriculture + allied occupation (Goat farming / Poultry /Apiculture/ Sericulture)	1	10.00
4	Agriculture + Business (Professional/ Non Professional)	1	1.00
5	Agriculture + Service (Job with monthly salary/pension)	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 12 it was observed that 60.00 per cent of victims were engaged in farm labour followed by 20.00 per cent victims were engaged in farming. Equal percentages of victims were engaged in non-professional business and Dairy as allied occupation. However none of the victim was observed in Agriculture + service. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale (2008),

3) Annual income

The distribution of deceased farmers according to their annual income is studied and reported in Table 13.

Table 13. Distribution of victims according to their annual income

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Up to Rs. 25000/-	3	30.00
2	Rs.25001-50000/-	7	70.00
3	Rs.50001-75000/-	-	-
4	Rs.75001-100000	-	-
5	Above Rs.100000	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from Table 13 that two third of victims having annual income Rs. 25001-50000 and 30 per cent of victims were annual income up to Rs. 25000. Where as none of the victim was found in annual income category in the range of Rs.50001 to 1, 00000/- The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale (2015)

4) Social Participation

The result pertaining to social participation of the victims has been presented in Table 14.

Table 14. Distribution of victims according to their Social Participation

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Low	6	60.00
2	Medium	4	40.00
3	High	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the data presented in Table 14 that (60%) of victims were having low level participation followed by (40%) victims were having medium level participation. However none of the victim was found in high categories of social participation. The finding are similar the finding reported by Zunjar (2011), Shetye (2012).

4.2.3 Psychological characteristics

1) Victims health

The information on health status of the victims were collected and the same is presented in Table 15.

Table 15. Distribution of victims according to their Victims health

Sr. No	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Suffered from disease	3	30.00
2.	Free from disease	7	70.00
	Total	10	100.00

The data depicted in Table15 shows that above two third of victims were free from disease and remaining 30.00 per cent victims were suffering from disease. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale (2011), Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

2) Family health

The information on health status of the victims was collected and the same is presented in Table 16

Table 16. Distribution of victims according to their Family health

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Having health problem	8	80.00
2	Free from health problem	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

The findings in Table16 revealed that 80.00 per cent of victim's family was suffering from health problem and 20.00 per cent victim's family was free from health problem. The findings are contradictory with Kale (2008)

3) Family dispute

The results pertaining to family dispute of the victims were studied and data are presented in Table 17.

Table 17. Distribution of victims according to their Family dispute

Sr. No.	Family Disputes	Percentage
1	Having disputes with family members	60.00
2	Free from family disputes	40.00
	Total	100.00

From Table 17 it was observed that 60.00 per cent of victims had low family disputes followed by 40.00 per victims had moderate family disputes. However none of the victim was observed in category of high family dispute. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

4) Victims habit

The data pertaining to victim's habit were obtained and presented in Table 18.

Table 18. Distribution of victims according to their victim's habit

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency n=10	Percentage
1.	No bad habits	5	50.00
2.	Smoking	-	-
3.	Drinking of alcohol	4	40.00
4.	Chewing tobacco	1	10.00
5.	Gambling	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was seen from the table 6 that half of the victims was free from bad habit, 40.00 per cent victim were having alcohol addiction, and (10%) victims had bad habit of chewing of tobacco. However none of the victim was found in bad habit of gambling categories. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale (2011).

4.2.4 Situational characteristics

1) Type of land

The type of land has played a vital role in agriculture. Therefore, the variation in type of land is presented in Table 19.

Table 19. Distribution of victims according to their Type of land

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1	Very deep	-	-
2	Deep	-	-
3	Moderately deep	-	-
4	Shallow	9	90.00
5	Very shallow	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

The data depicted in Table 19 that majority 90.00 per cent of victims had shallow type land, and 10 .00 per cent of victim had very shallow type of land. Whereas none of the victim found in very deep, deep and moderately deep type of land. Similar finding were observed by Kale (2008) and Kale and Mankar (2012).

2) Irrigation facilities

The result pertaining to irrigation facilities available with the selected victims were ascertained and data in this regard are presented in Table 20.

Table 20. Distribution of victims according to their irrigation facility

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency	Per cent
1	No source	6	60.00
2	River	-	-
3	Well / tube well	3	30.00
4	Canal	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the data presented in Table 20 more than fifty per cent of victims had no source of irrigation followed by (30%) and (10%) victims had as source of irrigation as tube well and canal. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2008), and Tejashree Kacchwah (2015).

3) Productivity

The details about productivity has been studied and presented in Table 21

Table 21. Distribution of victims according to their Productivity

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Low	7	70.00
2	Medium	3	30.00
3	High	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

The findings in Table 21 reveal that 70.00 victim had low productivity and only (30%) victim had medium productivity. Hence it was found that there was no production in high categories. Similar finding were noted by Shende (2012)

4) Indebtedness

Details about indebtedness are presented in Table 22

Table 22. Distribution of victims according to their indebtedness

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Up to Rs.25000/-	-	-
2	Rs.25001-50000/-	6	60.00
3	Rs.50001-100000/-	4	40.00
4	Above Rs.100000/-	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the data presented in Table 22 more than half (60%) of victims were found indebted up to Rs.25001-50000/- followed by (40%) victims were indebted up to Rs.50001-100000/-. Where as none of the victim was found in indebtedness category in rang of up to Rs.25000/- and above one lakh. The findings are similar with the finding observed by Kale (2008), Gavhane (2012), Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

5) Agriculture Infrastructure

Distribution of the victim's according to agriculture infrastructure has been presented in Table 23.

Table 23. Distribution of victims according to their agriculture infrastructure

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Low	6	60.00
2	Medium	4	40.00
3	High	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the data presented in Table 23 that (60%) of victims were low agriculture infrastructure and (40%) victims were medium agriculture infrastructure. Hence none was found in high categories of agriculture infrastructure. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kale (2008).

6) Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

The data pertaining to extent of family responsibility fulfilled has been studied and presented in Table 24.

Table 24. Distribution of victims according to their Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Children education	3	30.00
2	Daughter/ sister's marriage	2	20.00
3	Health problem	5	50.00
4	Male child marriage	-	-
5	Responsibility of widow/ divorced/ disputed/daughters/sister's in family	-	-

It was observed from the data presented in Table 24 that half of the victims fulfilled the responsibility of health problem, followed by (30%) and (20%) of victims were fulfilled responsibility of children education and daughter/sister's marriage. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Mishra (2006)

7) Cropping pattern

Distribution of victims according to their cropping pattern is shown in Table 25.

Table 25. Distribution of victims according to their Cropping pattern

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=20)	Percentage
1	Kharif crops	6	60.00
2	Kharif + Rabi crops	4	40.00
3	Kharif + Rabi +Summer crops	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 25 it was observed that majority of victims that above two third of victims were possessed kharif cropping pattern followed by 40.00 per cent of victims were possessed both Kharif and Rabi cropping pattern in their farm. Hence none of the victims were possessed kharif, rabi and summer cropping pattern. The findings are similar with the findings noted by Kale (2008).

7) Cropping intensity

The distribution of victims according to their cropping intensity was studied and presented in Table 26.

Table 26. Distribution of victims according to their Cropping intensity

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage)
1	Up to 100%	6	60.00
2	101-150%	4	40.00
3	Above 150%	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the Table 26 that 60.00 per cent of victims were having cropping intensity up to 100 per cent and 40.00 per cent victim were found which having cropping intensity in the range of 101 to 150 per cent. However none of the victim was observed having cropping intensity above 150 per cent. The findings are similar with the finding reported by Kalbhor (2009), and Tejashree Kachwah (2013).

8) Crop failure

Distribution of victims according to their crop failure is mentioned in Table 27.

Table 27. Distribution of victims according to their crop failure

Sr. No.	Categories	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	No failure	4	40.00
2	1 times	4	40.00
3	2 times	2	20.00
4	3 times	-	-
	Total	10	100.00

The data depicted in Table 27 shows that one fifth of victims had been suffered from two type of crop failure during last two year. There were no failure had be seen in 40.00 per cent of victims. 40.00 per cent of victims were suffered from one times of crop failure. Whereas none of the victim was suffered from three times of crop failure. Similar finding are observed by Kale (2011).

10) Socio-psycho risk factor of suicide

Distribution of selected victims according to their socio-psycho risk factor of suicide is shown in Table 28.

Table 28. Distribution of victims according to their Socio-psycho risk factor of suicide

Sr. No.	Socio-psycho risk factor of suicide	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Increased Indebtedness	10	100.00
2.	Drop in economic status	6	60.00
3.	Hopelessness due to crop failure	6	60.00
4.	Introvertness	1	10.00
5.	Alcohol use disorder	4	40.00
6.	Change in behavior before incident due to stressful life events	2	20.00
7.	Family members chronologically ill/handicapped	1	10.00
8.	Daughter/sisters marriageable age	2	20.00
9.	Deceased having health problem	3	30.00
10.	Disputes/quarrels with family members	6	40.00
11.	Family history of suicide	1	10.00
12.	Death of family member before incident	1	10.00

From Table 28 it was observed that the most common risk factors were indebtedness in 100.00 per cent deceased farmers and consistent crop failure found in 60.00 per cent deceased farmers and were mentioned as a main reason of suicide by the households.

This was followed by drop in economic position were noticed in 60.00 per cent deceased farmers. 40.00 per cent victims were having alcohol addiction. Introvert personality was identified in 10.00 per cent deceased farmers as they did not discuss or share their problems with other family members, that leads to adds more frustration. Daughter/ sister of marriageable age were found as a risk factor in 30.00 per cent victims. It was noted that 60.00 per cent of victims had dispute with family members and neighbor. In 40.00 per cent victims disputes/ quarrel was noticed. It was noted that one of the family member of victims had committed suicide before victim death. The findings are similar with the finding reporter by Deshapande (2002)

Table 29: Distribution of victims according to their personal, socio- economic, psychological and situational characteristics

Sr. No.	Name	A. Personal Characteristics							B. Socio-economic Characteristics				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			9	
		Age	Education	Caste	Family size	Family type	Occupation	Farming experience	Rainfed	Seasonally irrigated	Total	Subsidiary occupation	
1	Shrikrushan Laxmanrao Kalamb	54	10 th Std.	Dhangar	6	Nuclear	Agriculture	20 Years	5		5	Agriculture + Labour	
2	Vinod Arjun Punde	22	9 th Std.	Dhangar	3	Nuclear	Agriculture	5 Years	1		1	-	
3	Keshav Tukaram Kene	27	10 th Std.	Kunbi	8	Joint	Agriculture	11 Years	3		3	Wages	
4	Pralhad Pundlik Wairale	50	10 th Std.	Kunbi	9	Joint	Agriculture	20 Years		0.5	0.5	Agriculture+ Labour	
5	Gopal Shamrao Dhone	24	B.A Final Year	Mali	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	5 Years		2.5	2.5	Dairy	
6	Sukhadev Baban Uparvat	60	4 th Std	Nav-Buddha	6	Joint	Agriculture	20 Years		6	6	Dairy	
7	Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande	28	10 th Std.	Kunbi	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	8 Years	2.5		2.5	Thresher	
8	Nandkishor Bapurao Raut	28	7 th Std.	Nav-Buddha	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	10 Years	1.5		1.5	Wages	
9	Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe	45	2 nd Std.	Mali	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	18 Years		6	6	-	
10	Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode	50	4 th Std.	Dhangar	6	Nuclear	Agriculture	31 Years	1		1	Agriculture +Labour	

10			11	12	C. Psychological Characteristics			D. Situational Characteristics		
Annual income (Rupees)			Social participation	Victim's health	Family health	Family disputes	Victim's habits	Type of land	Irrigation facilities	Productivity
Farming	Supplementary	Total								
20,000	15,000	35,000/-	Medium	Asthma disease	Lucoderma to his daughter	Low dispute	Alcohol	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
20,000	-	20,000/-	Low	Good	Mentally retarded brother	Moderate Disputes	Alcohol	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Medium
17,000	10,000	27,000/-	Medium	Good	Good	Low Disputes	No bad habit	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
15,000	5,000	20,000/-	Low	Good	Appendix to his daughter in low	Low Disputes	No bad habit	Shallow	Bore Well	Low
18,000	14,000	32,000/-	Medium	Good		Moderate Disputes	No bad habit	Shallow	Tube Well	Low
25,000	22,000	47,000/-	Medium	Good	Diabetes to his wife	Low Dispute	No bad habit	Very Shallow	Canal	Medium
20,000	10,000	30,000/-	Medium	Good	Cataract disease to his father	Moderate Dispute	Alcohol	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
22,000	10,000	32,000/-	Low	Good	Continuous fever to his son	Low Disputes	No bad habit	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
25,000	-	20,000	Low	Blood pressure	Calculus problem to his son	Low Disputes	Alcohol	Shallow	Well	Low
18,000	7,000	25,000/-	Low	Heart Problem	Mentally retarded daughter	Moderate Disputes	No bad habit	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Medium

19			20	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Indebtedness			Agriculture Infrastructure	Extend of family responsibility fulfilled	Cropping Pattern	Cropping Intensity (%)	Crop failure	Socio-psycho risk factors	Date of suicide	Method of suicide
Formal Bank	Informal Money lender	Total								
25,000/-	30,000/-	55,000/-	Medium	Daughter marriage and treatment	Kharif	100	No failure	1. Indebtedness 2. Health problem	24/03/2008	Hanging
20,000/-	10,000/-	30,000/-	Medium	Brother treatment	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Alcohol use disorder 3. Family dispute	17/04/2009	Insecticide consumption
12,000/-	20,000/-	32,000/-	Low	No	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Crop failure Introvertness	29/04/2009	Insecticide consumption
7,000/-	30,000/-	37,000/-	Low	Daughter in low treatment	Kharif +Rabi	150	2 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Crop failure	10/12/2006	Insecticide consumption
15,000/-	30,000/-	45,000/-	Low	Brother treatment	Kharif +Rabi	150	No failure	1. Indebtedness 2. Friends dispute	17/02/2012	Insecticide consumption
45,000/-	17,000/-	62,000/-	Medium	Wife treatment	Kharif +Rabi	150	2 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Family member chronologically ill	18/04/2011	Insecticide consumption
40,000/-	35,000/-	75,000/-	Low	Father treatment	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Friend dispute 3. loneliness	07/12/2010	Hanging
20,000/-	15,000/-	35,000/-	Low	No	Kharif	100	No failure	1. Indebtedness 2. change in behaviour	17/04/2008	Hanging
24,000/-	20,000/-	44,000/-	Low	Children's education	Kharif +Rabi	150	No failure	1. Indebtedness 2. Crop failure 3. alcohol use disorder	11/12/2010	Insecticide consumption
20,000/-	60,000/-	80,000/-	Medium	Daughter Treatment	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Health problem	01/04/2008	Hanging

4.3 Suggestions perceived by the family member to prevent suicide

Suggestions for avoiding present spate of suicides were one of the important aspects of this study. It refers to the opinion of the family members about what action should be taken for avoiding recurrence of suicides, which can help to some extent for finding out ground realities of suicides and help to suggest different measures to solve farmer's suicides in Akola districts. The responses received from the family members of the deceased farmers were noted below.

It is clear that majority family members of the deceased farmers suggested for remunerative prices to their farm produce and provision/ creation of irrigation facilities as the important measures to be taken to prevent the recurrence of suicide tragedies.

Table 30: Suggestion obtained from the victim's family

Sr. No	Name of victim	Suggestion given by family member
1.	Late Shrikrushan Laxmanrao Kalamb	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proper remunerative prices to their farm produce 2. To provide the subsidiary occupation
2.	Late Vinod Arjun Punde	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create subsidiary occupation and other income sources. 2. Immediate government help
3.	Late Keshav Tukaram Kene	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Availability of irrigation facility 2. Waiving of loan after natural calamities. 3. Provide electricity supply for farming
4.	Late Pralhad Pundlik Wairale	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of irrigation facilities should be created in their village. 2. Immediate government help
5.	Late Gopal Shamrao Dhone	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide the timely credit to farmer

		2. Family get the employment for their young generation
6.	Late Sukhadev Baban Uparvat	1. Immediate government help for their stability. 2. Family members suggested that provide crop insurance to the farmer.
7.	Late Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande	1. Government should look after farmers and their condition. 2. Suggested for group farming
8	Late Nandkishor Bapurao Raut	1. Provide better pesticide to the farmer 2. Timely and sufficient credit at low interest rate.
9.	Late Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe	1. Family member suggest that there should be ban for alcohol. 2. Suggested for that timely loan and timely input.
10.	Late Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode	1. Proper market availability. 2. Subsidies should reach to each farmer.

4.4 Post Suicide Consequences

Table 31. Post suicide Consequences faced by the victims family

Sr. No	Name of victim	Consequences faced by the victim families
1.	Late Shrikrushan Laxmanrao Kalamb	1. Depression due to sudden arrival of people for repayment of loan. 2. Lower down the income.
2.	Late Vinod Arjun Punde	1. Problem of arranging money for victims brother's treatment 2. Fall in economic condition
3.	Late Keshav Tukaram Kene	1. Wife went to natal house 2. Lower down of income 3. After the death of victim, the total family and farm responsibility falls on victim's brother.
4.	Late Pralhad Pundlik Wairale	1. After the death of victim his son is managing farming operations 2. Lower down the income.
5.	Late Gopal Shamrao Dhone	1. Developed a sense of loneliness 2. Problem of arranging money for victims mother treatment
6.	Late Sukhadev Baban Uparvat	1. Depression to victims wife 2. Lower down income
7.	Late Nilesh Prabhakar Gawande	1. Brother left the job 2. Psychological stress to mother
8	Late Nandkishor Bapurao Raut	1. Depression to victims wife 2. After the death of victim his wife is managing the land holding of 0.5 acre and the family depends on relatives
9.	Late Pramod Sheshrao Mondhe	1. Son's left the school 2. After death of victim his wife is looking after farming operations and family responsibilities.
10.	Late Shrikrushan Sukhadev Sarode	1. Problem of arranging money for daughter treatment 2. Fall in economic condition.

Suicide is a social phenomenon; it creates several personal, social and economic consequences within family (Jacob 2006). In Akola district, the farmers, who committed suicide, were mostly the family head and the main bread earner of the family members. These suicides have happened mostly due to the low income level of the households, crop failure, indebtedness and their deteriorating socio-economic status in the society. Though the family head left the severe agrarian crisis, it is very difficult for his family members to survive in the worst hit zone of Akola district. Every moment of life has been a struggle for them. The present field survey has identified various severe consequences or changes that occurred after death of family head within the family and are recognized and perceived by family members.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Recently, the phenomenon of suicides of the farmers in Akola district and other part of the country is one of the most tragic events in the history of India. In Akola, particularly in low rainfall and low irrigation area, farmer's suicides have been happening in droves and the frightening phenomenon continues to persist and recur year after year, without any sign of abatement, hence this issue has been important among the thinkers, researchers and social workers. Why does it happen? Which are the real causes? For finding the answers of these questions, including the consequences after suicide of family head and by taking suggestions from victims households to avoiding this tragic phenomenon, the current exercise was conducted in Akola district which is medium suicide prone district of Vidarbha. The selected variable for the study were age, education, caste, family size, family type, farming experience, land holding, subsidiary occupation, annual income, social participation, victim health, family health, family dispute, victim habit, type of land, irrigation facilities, productivity, indebtedness, agriculture infrastructure, extent of family responsibility fulfilled, cropping pattern, cropping intensity, and socio-psycho risk factors of suicide. The primary data was collected through the personal interview for the year 2014-2015, for fulfilling the following objectives.

5.1 Specific objectives of the study

1. To study the personal, socio-economic, psychological and situational characteristics of the deceased farmers and their families.
2. To study suicide path of each individual victims.
3. To study credit sources and indebtedness of suicide farmers.
4. To document the suggestions for avoiding suicides of farmers.

5. To study the post suicide consequences faced by the farmers families.

5.2 Methodology

The study was conducted in Akola district by conducting field survey with case study research design of social research. In this study, the respondents were the households of selected victims, who committed suicides during January 2008 to December 2012, and were declared as legal victims. In all 10 legal victims households formed the sample of the study. Victims were selected with the help of random sampling, which covered 10 villages from 5 tahsils of Akola district.

5.3 Result and discussion

5.3.1 Findings of the present investigation are summarized as below.

1. It was observed that half of the victims were under young..
2. It was observed that fifty per cent of victims were educated up to High school.
3. It was reported that 50.00 per cent of victims belonged to Other Backward classes (OBC).
4. It was found that majority (70.00%) of victims were concentrated in medium (4 to 6 members) size family.
5. It was noted that more than two third of victims were concentrated in Nuclear family
6. It was observed that exactly half (50%) of victims had about 10 years, (40%) had about 11- 20 years and remaining (10%) had above 30 years of farming experience.
7. It was observed that majority 60.00 per cent of victims were marginal farmers having land holding up to 1.00 ha.

8. It was observed that above two third of victims were engaged in farm labour
9. It was observed that 70.00 per cent victims having annual income Rs.25001-50000/-
10. It was noted that more than 50.00 per cent of victims had low level social participation
11. It was reported that more than two third of victims were free from disease and remaining 30 per cent of victims were suffering from disease.
12. It was observed that majority (80.00%) of victims family was suffering from health problem
13. It was notice that 60.00 per cent of victims had low family disputes
14. It was reported that 40.00 per cent of victim were having alcohol addiction, and 10.00 per cent victims had bad habit of chewing of tobacco
15. It was reported that majority (90%) of victims had shallow type land
16. It was observed that more than two third of victims had no source of irrigation
17. It was found that 70.00 per cent victim had low productivity and only 30.00 per cent victims had medium productivity.
18. It was observed that 60.00 per cent of victims were found indebted up to Rs. 25001-50000/-
19. It was observed that 60.00 per cent of victims were low agriculture infrastructure.
20. It was reported that 60.00 per cent of victims were engaged in wage earning

21. It was found that fifty per cent of victims fulfilled the responsibility of health problem.
22. It was reported that above two third of victims were growing kharif crops in their farm
23. It was observed that 60.00 per cent of victims were cropping intensity up to 100%
24. It was observed that 40.00 per cent of victims had crop failure 1 times followed by 20.00 per cent victims had crop failure two times,
25. It is that the most common risk factors were indebtedness found in 100.00 per cent deceased farmers and were mentioned as a main reason of suicide by the households.

5.4 Observed Causes of suicide

In continuation to earlier stated profile of the victims it can be inferred that cut throat indebtedness was most dominant cause for suicide. The indebtedness restricts the efficient future credit plans and low downs apparent value of the income. The low income and high debts declares farmers defaulters which in terms make them isolated and loss their identity which disturb them socially or mentally, in some cases loneliness, lack of moral support, self and family health problem, alcohol addiction, inability to fulfill the important family responsibilities were the identified causes which lead to them to turn towards suicide decision.

5.5 Suggestions to overcome suicide

Majority family members of the deceased farmers suggested for remunerative prices to their farm produce and provision/ creation of irrigation facilities as the important measures to be taken to prevent the recurrence of suicide tragedies.

Sizable family members of the deceased farmers suggested for complete ban on alcohol, family counseling for increasing self-confidence through local leaders/ social work, abundant electric supply for farming , complete waiving of old loans, provision of easy, timely and sufficient credit at low interest rate, creation of subsidiary occupations and other income sources, crop insurance, availability of information about agricultural technology, mass marriage system should be encouraged in society, timely employment by creating non-farm employment opportunities, immediate government help in natural calamities and in losses by wild animals, and compensation of rupees one lakh should be stopped. These were the measures suggested by family members of the deceased farmers to solve farmers' distress in Akola district.

5.6 Consequences of suicide

Suicide is a social phenomenon it creates severe personal, social and economic consequences with family. The farmers, who committed suicide, were mostly the family heads and the main bread earners of the family members. Due to the sudden death of family head by committing suicides some dreadful consequences were precipitated in family like social disturbances, unhealthy identity in social system, lower down the income, etc. were the common consequences observed with all family members of the victims.

CHAPTER VI

IMPLICATIONS

The present study entitled "Farmers Suicide in Akola district of Vidarbha: Case Studies" was conducted in Akola district of Vidarbha region. The implications have practical value and observed attention of planners, policy makers, administrator, researchers as well as extension workers. The implications emerged from the findings of the present study have been reported in two parts. The first part is concerned with the implications for action and second with the implications for research.

6.1 Implications for action

It was observed that suicide victims had no subsidiary occupations to support their livelihood and majority of them have medium to large family size. This implies that efforts are needed by respective line departments to involve such farmers in goat farming, dairy, and small poultry unit.

The results of study revealed that overall land holding of selected victim was found rain-fed hence their farming business was non sustainable due to uncertain productivity, hence all these family were found indebted. For improving this situation there is a need to bring the more land under irrigation by completing ongoing irrigation project, increasing network of canals, tanks, wells etc. which will definitely help for increasing crop production, productivity, and change in cropping pattern.

Due to erratic rainfall most of the crops fail. Hence it implies that when crops fail continuous for two seasons (Kharif-Rabi), then Government should give free inputs and complete waiving of interest on old crop loan to farmers in study area.

With one (12.50 %) victim inability to meet expenses on marriage was noted. Hence this finding implies that there is necessity to motivate the farmers for taking benefit of Mass Marriage Scheme of Government. It will definitely help to curtail huge expenses incurred on marriages and other related social functions. NGO's can play important role in this regard.

As some households reported that some time they do not get even the cost of cultivation from farm produce. So there is urgent need to declare immediately remunerative prices for all crops of farmers in consonance with the cost of cultivation.

Implications for future Research

The implications emanated from the observations of the present study suggest some measures for future research as follows:

- 1) In Akola district more multidisciplinary research should be encouraged.
- 2) Case studies may be taken up on each of the deceased farmers.
- 3) Case studies may be taken up on those who attempted suicide but survived (after getting immediate and proper treatment). This will provide better knowledge about the causes of suicide of farmer in Akola district.
- 4) Similar studies may be undertaken in other district of the Maharashtra. It may help to bring out common specific causes and generalization thereupon for wide applications.
- 5) As suicide is a complex socio-psycho phenomenon and includes so many things as stated earlier, it may be possible that some important components might have skipped out which may be considered by other research workers in future.

CHAPTER VII

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VITA

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Sr. No.	Name of Degrees awarded	Year in which obtained	Division/ Class	Name of awarding University	Subjects
1.	B.Sc. (Agri.)	2013	Second Class	Dr. PDKV, Akola	Agriculture and allied subjects

6. Research papers : NIL
published (if any)
7. Field of Interest : Teaching
(in which you desire
to work)

Place : Akola

Date : 15/10/2015



Signature of Student

Appendix I

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Title : Farmers Suicide in Akola District of Vidarbha: Case Studies

Researcher Name : Nikhade Ashvinee Sudhakar (M.Sc. Extension Education II year)

A. Name of the suicide Farmer _____

Village _____ Tahsil _____ District _____

Mobile No.:-

B) Personal Characteristics

1. Age _____ Years, 2. Gender - Male / Female
3. Marital status : Married / Unmarried.
4. Education _____ Standard,
5. Caste _____
6. Family Size : _____
7. Family Type : Nuclear/ Joint _____
8. Occupation :
9. Farming Experience _____ years
10. Date of suicide _____
11. Method of committing suicide :

Sr. No.	Method	√
1.	Insecticide consumption	
2.	Hanging	
3.	Immolation (Burning)	
4.	Drowning (in water)	
5.	Other specify	

C Socio-economic characteristics

1. Land holdings :

Sr. NO.	Type of Land	Total Owned Land (ha)	Own Land (ha.)		Reasons behind giving self land to other	Land taken on lease from others for cultivation (ha)
			Self cultivating	Given on lease to other		
1.	Rainfed					
2.	Irrigated (Seasonal)					
3.	Irrigated (Annual)					
4.						
	Total					

2.Subsidiary occupation

Subsidiary Occupation		
1	Agriculture + Labour	
2	Agriculture (Farming)	
3	Agriculture + allied occupation (Goat farming / Poultry /Apiculture/ Sericulture)	
4	Agriculture + Business (Professional/ Non Professional)	
5	Agriculture + Service (Job with monthly salary/pension)	

3. Annual Income : (Previous year)

Sr. No.	Name of family member	Main Occupation		Subsidiary Occupation		Total Income Rs.
		Name of occupation	Income Rs.	Name of occupation	Income Rs	
					Gross Total Income of family	

4. Social Participation

Sr.No.	Social Participation		
	i. Without any position in social or political organization		
	ii. Membership of one social or political organization		
	iii. Membership of one social and political organization		
	iv. Involved in community work through not having membership or official position in any social and political organization		
	v. financial contribution / Raising common funds		
	vi. Official position in social or political organization		
	vii. Village leader / opinion leader		
	viii. Wide public leader		

D. Psychological characteristics

1. Victims health		
1.	Suffered from disease	
2.	Free from disease	
2. Family health		
1.	Having health problem	
3.	Free from health problem	
3. Family disputes		
1.	No disputes	
2.	Moderate disputes	
3.	High disputes	
4. Victims Habits		
1.	Smoking	
2.	Drinking	
3.	Chewing tobacco	
4.	Gambling	

E. Situational Characteristics

1. **Type of land** : Very deep / Deep / Moderately deep / Shallow /
Very shallow

2. Irrigation Facilities

Sr. No.	Source of Irrigation	√
1.	No source	
2.	River	
3.	Well / Tube well	
4.	Canal	
5.	Other	

3..Productivity

Productivity		
Low		
Medium		
High		

5. Agricultural Infrastructure			
1	Low		
2	Medium		
3	High		
6. Extent of family responsibility fulfilled			
1	Children education		
2	Daughter/ sister's marriage		
3	Health problem		
4	Male child marriage		
5	Responsibility of widow/ divorced/ disputed/daughters/sister's in family		

7. Cropping pattern

Sr. No.	Category
1	Kharif crops
2	Kharif + Rabi crops
3	Kharif + Rabi +Summer
4	Perennial crop

8.Cropping Intensity		
Upto 100%		
101-150%		
Above 150%		
9.Crop failure		
No failure		
1 times		
2 times		
3 times		

F. Socio-psycho risk factors of suicide :

Identified list of different Socio-psycho risk factors coexisted with suicide farmers.

Sr.No	Risk Factors	If identified please mark
13.	Increased Indebtedness	
14.	Drop in economic status	
15.	Hopelessness due to crop failure	
16.	Introvertness	
17.	Alcohol use disorder	

18.	Change in behavior before incident due to stressful life events	
19.	Effect of suicide in adjoining village	
20.	Family members chronologically ill/ handicapped	
21.	Daughter/sisters marriageable age	
22.	Deceased having health problem	
23.	Disputes/quarrels with family members	
24.	Family history of suicide	
25.	Disgraceful event	
26.	Death of family member before incident	
27.	Given verbal clues before suicide	
28.	Depressed due to land/ domestic disputes	
29.	Disputes with neighbours	
30.	No Children	

G. Consequences

What changes occur within family after suicide ?

Sr. No.	Consequences
A.	Economical
1	
2	
3	

B	Social
1	
2	
3	
C.	Psychological
1	
2	
3	
D	Other
1	
2	
3	

