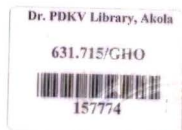


**FARMERS SUICIDE IN BULDANA DISTRICT
OF VIDARBHA: CASE STUDIES**

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 BULDANA 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.



(Ghonge Priti Gajananrao)

Date : 15/06/2015

Enrolment No. HH/1367



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "**FARMERS SUICIDE IN BULDANA DISTRICT OF VIDARBHA:CASE STUDIES**" submitted in partial fulfillment 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 **Ghonge Priti Gajananrao** under my guidance and supervision.


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

Place : Akola

Date : 15/06/2015


Dr. N. M. Kale
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THESIS APPROVED BY THE STUDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
INCLUDING EXTERNAL EXAMINER (AFTER VIVA-VOCE)

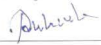
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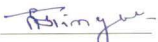
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Place: Akola.

(Ghonge Priti Gajananrao)

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(D) List of Abbreviations

%	-	Per cent
/	-	Per
Dr. PDKV	-	Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth
Et al	-	et alia(and others)
Fig	-	figure
Govt.	-	Government
ha	-	Hectare
J.	-	Journal
Km	-	Kilometer
No.	-	Number
NT	-	Nomadic Tribe
NCRB	-	National Crime Records Bureau
NSSO	-	National Sample Survey Organization
OBC	-	Other Backward Class
PHC	-	Public Health Centre
q	-	quintal
Rs.	-	Rupees
SAS	-	Situation Assessment Survey
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

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.

(F)

Thesis Abstract

- a) Title of the thesis : "FARMERS SUICIDE IN BULDANA DISTRICT OF VIDARBHA: CASE STUDIES"
- b) Full name of student : Ghonge Priti Gajananrao
- c) Name and address of Major Advisor : Dr. N. M. Kale
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- d) Degree to be awarded : M. Sc. (Agriculture)
- e) Year of award of degree : 2015
- f) Major subject : Extension Education
- g) Total number of pages in the thesis : 120
- h) Number of words in the abstract : 274
- i) Signature of the student : 
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ABSTRACT

The study entitled, "Farmers suicide in Buldana district of Vidarbha case studies" was purposively conducted in Buldana 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 families.
2. To study suicide path of each individual victim.
3. To study credit sources and indebtedness of suicide farmers.
4. To study the post suicide consequences faced by the farmers families.
5. To document the suggestions for avoiding suicides of farmers.

The data were collected by personal interview with the help of pretested and structured interview schedule. The findings emerged out of the 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 and crop failure.

The most common risk factor was 'indebtedness' that was found in all deceased farmers (100.00%), followed by drop in economic position and family members chronologically ill which was noticed in each of 80.00 per cent deceased farmers respectively.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Main focus of any development plan of India since beginning after the independence is the farmer. 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

1.1.1 Suicide

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'.

1.1.2 Case study

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).

1.2 Farmers suicide

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 helplessness, 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 Behere, 2008).

According to National Crime Bureau, it is proved 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.

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 10451 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 years 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: Incidence of suicides, growth of population and rate of suicides during 2008 to 2012

Sr.No.	Year	Total No. of Suicides	Estimated mid year 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

One Lakh = 0.1 Million

(Source: The Registrar General of India)

In 1990's, India woke up to a spate of suicide among farmers community. The first state where suicides were reported was Maharashtra with particular reference to vidarbha region. Since long time Indian farmers have been facing the socioeconomic problems, such as harassment of money lenders, inability to repay debt following crop loss, inability to get medical treatment for the family, etc. The

problem is compounded by lack of positive and cooperative support from banks especially in face of inclement weather and market and fluctuations.

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, Wardha were depressed and they have no capability to do farming because of low productivity and change in weather conditions. Total 93 percent farmers were indebted.

Table 3: District wise farmers suicide in six distress district of Vidharba in 2015 (1January to March 2015)

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

(Source: 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 8th near about 61,000 farmers were from Maharashtra. In Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra from 2001 to 2014 more than 10,450 farmers committed suicide. In Vidarbha since 2001 the question of farmers 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 India. India has been widespread occurrence of farmers suicide in different parts of country including not only the drought prone areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and 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% of national GDP. Farmers are the real cultivators of agricultural land. But, recently the farmers have been committing suicide. This is what 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 Buldana district was purposively selected for the present case studies of the deceased farmers. In Buldana district total 1580 farmers committed suicide, out of which 603 number of farmers were legal and 962 number of farmers were illegal since 2001-2014. To understand causes and factors behind all these aspects the present study was thought necessary and hence comprehensive study for identification of real causes will be undertaken with following objectives.

1.3 Objectives of the study

1. To study the personal, socio-economic, psychological and situational characteristic of the deceased farmers and families.

2. To study suicide path of each individual victim.
3. To study credit sources and indebtedness of suicide farmers.
4. To study the post suicide consequences faced by the farmers families.
5. To document the suggestions for avoiding suicides of farmers.

1.4 Scope of study

The present study was conducted in Buldana district of Vidarbha. The research findings of the study will 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.

The findings of personal, socio-economic, psychological and situational characteristic of the deceased farmers and their families. The consequences faced by the farmers families on the basis of this research findings, it will be helped to the researcher, policy maker, administration and extension worker.

To suggest corrective measures to overcome the farmers suicide in Buldana district of Vidarbha.

1.5 Limitations of the study

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 findings 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 be 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.
- 4) The study was conducted in Buldana district and the findings of the study will be applicable wherever similar conditions prevail.
- 5) 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 will be depending on the information given by the households and neighbours.
- 6) 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.

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 short 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 Buldana district of Maharashtra State. Most of the literature was found from other parts of India, where spate 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 Psychological characteristics

2.2.4 Situational characteristics

2.2.5 Socio-psycho risk factors of 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 Buldana district.

2.2 Variables

2.2.1 Personal characteristics

1. Age

Jacob (2006) revealed that suicide rate differ dramatically by age. In addition, age related psychological stressors and family or developmental issues may influence suicide risk. In the United States, death by suicide is more frequent in men than in women with the suicide rate in males approximately four times than in female.

Jodkha (2006) stated that more than 70.00 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%).

Kale (2008) observed that equal per cent of victims (37.50%) were under young age category whereas remaining over (25.00%) victims were found under old age category.

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 (2012) observed that that 42.50 per cent of the selected respondents were under middle age category having age between 36 to 50 years. It was followed by 31.67 per cent respondents were in old age category i.e. above 50 years and over one fourth (25.83) respondents were found in young age group.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that 35.00 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 31.67per 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 (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 (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 were 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 form 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.

Kale (2009) revealed that 7.50 per cent of the respondents were observed illiterate and majority 92.50 per cent were literate. Within literate one fourth (25.00%) had high school level education, followed by equal number of respondents had middle school and higher secondary school level education. Only 2.50 per cent of the respondents possessed college level education.

Mankar (2009) noticed that more than half (52.84%) of the family members had educated up to high school level followed by 23.14 per cent of respondents were illiterate.

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

Jadhaio (2010) revealed that 76.00 per cent of respondents were literate and more than one fourth were illiterate. Within the literates 22.66 per cent respondents were having education up to high school level and 21.36 per cent were having education up to middle school level.

Gavhane (2012) found that out of twelve victims, only two victims 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 & 31.67% found in old age.

Kale (2012) revealed that 28.00 per cent immediate family head of the selected victim were illiterate and overall education level was found low.

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

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.

Tekale (2013) observed that relatively higher proportion of respondents (31.00%) were educated up to high school level. Followed by over one fourth of respondents (29.00%) college level education. Nearly equal proportion of respondents (15.00 per cent and 14 per cent) had primary and middle school level education respectively. The 11 percent respondents were illiterate.

Kale (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 (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 literate. 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 Kunabi's (31.00%) spread across the Wardha, Washim and Yavatmal districts, Banjara's (16.00%) mostly in Yavatmal and Boudha (9.00%) mostly in Washim. Kunabi 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 Kunabi 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 Kunabi from six districts followed by SC (18.33%), ST (8.33%) and 1.67 percent from open category.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that majority (30.00 per cent) suicide cases belonged to OBC category and mostly the Kunabi 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 5.00 per cent found in Nomadic Tribe (NT-D). Only 1.67 per cent victims were found in open class category whereas no one was from SBC category.

Kale *et al.* (2015) revealed that over half (51.66%) of the respondents belonged to other backward classes (OBC) category and mostly the Kunabi'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.

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 (71.70%), 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 35.00 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 large (above 6 members) sized families, respectively.

Kale (2008) observed that majority 61.00 per cent suicide concentrated in medium size family having 4-6 members, 25.00 per cent large family, 10.00 per cent small family.

Jadhao (2010) reported that maximum number of respondents (64.64%) were concentrated in medium size family followed by 14.66 per cent and 14.00 per cent respondents were concentrated in small size and large family size respectively.

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 30.00 per cent under medium size 10.00 per cent large family and 1.67 per cent large family.

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 (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 (2014^a) reported that Majority (70.00%) of the selected respondents were having medium family size having 4 to 6 family members.

Kale (2014^b) noted that majority of the suicides were concentrated between medium (61.00%) 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 belonged to joint family.

Mankar (2009) reported that majority of respondents (59.35%) were having nuclear family whereas 42.22 per cent of respondents had 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 sudarshan 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 10years, 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 were holding marginal land in Bhandara district. Those were 79 farmers who 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.

Kale (2009) reported that majority (35.00%) of the respondents were small farmers having land holding between 1.01 to 2.00 hectares, followed by 32.50 per cent were semi medium farmers possessing land between 2.01 to 4.00 hectare. Whereas over one fourth 27.50 per cent of the respondents had marginal (upto 1.00 ha) land holding and only (5.00%) of respondents came under medium size land holding.

Deshmukh *et al.* (2010) observed that 80.00 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 holders (up to 1.00 ha), while remaining four victims were having semi medium and medium land holding.

Kale (2012) revealed that near about one third (32.50%) per cent of the respondents were having land holding between 1.01 to 2.00 hectares Small), followed by over one fourth (27.50%) per cent farmers were semi medium possessing land 2.01 to 4.00 ha. Whereas 20.00 per cent selected farmers were medium (2.01 to 4.00 ha.) land holders, followed by 11.67 per cent of the respondents had marginal (Up to 1.00 ha.) and 8.33 per cent comes under large (Above 10.00 ha.) land holding group.

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 and 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 was 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 *et al.* (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 families (8.33%) leased out their land to others.

2. Subsidiary occupations

Anonymous (2007^a) 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 two 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 (5.00%) and Agriculture + allied occupation was observed with only 4 farmers (1.67%).

Kale *et al.* (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 upto 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 (49.80%) 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. 75,001/- to 1,00,000/-, followed by 28.33 per cent of victims had annual income between Rs. 50,001/- to 75,000/-, one forth 25.00 per cent victims had annual income in the range of Rs. 25,001/- to 50,000/-. Only 16.67 per cent deceased farmers had annual income above Rs. 1,00,000/-.

Kale (2014^b) observed nearly one third (32.92%) of the selected farmers have annual income upto 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 percent 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 have not participated in social activity.

2.2.3 Psychological characteristics

1. Victims health

Roy *et al.* (2004) stated that economic opportunities are difficult to be used if a person is handicapped by ill health or illiteracy. Education and health are recognized to be two distinct influences, which can promote the freedom and capability of individuals to make use of available opportunities.

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 19.00 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 were nervoused.

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^c) stated that a regular drunker farmer of 30 year old from village Adegaon (Chimur, Vidarbha) committed suicide by hanging. The farmer 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 forth (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 25.90 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 were 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 respondent insufficient intake of food and vegetables.

Kale (2008) observed that 42.00 per cent victims were having alcohol addiction as one of the identified risk factors of suicide, 23.00 per cent smoking, 21.00 per cent bidies, 1.00 per cent cigarettes, 1.00 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 released 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 have possessed (54.50 per cent) shallow type of land, 24.00 per cent moderately deep, 14.00 per cent shallow type, 6.50per cent deep and 1.00 per cent very deep.

Kale and Mankar (2012) observed that 55.00 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 cause behind spate of suicides of farmers.

Talathi (2007) reported that India's 75.00 per cent of net irrigated area were served by groundwater wells.

Kale (2008) observed that 69.00 per cent victims were not having any source to access irrigation, one fourth (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 were always lacks of water for irrigation. Many times there were droughts so it was very difficult to grow crop in the farm. Even if there were small irrigation but it was not properly regulated. Many times farmer has to harvest the crop even it was not matured and feed to the cattle since no other option available. The water problem was serious and it must be resolved properly. Due to irrigation problem much of the land remains unutilized for six to eight months. It was utilized only during rainy season. Thus less or no crops leads to no income for the farmers. Thus, farmers were 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 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 a irrigation source.

3. Productivity

Mehta (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.

Kale (2010) observed that the average productivity of the victims households in all crops during 2007-2008 was very low as

compared to control group. The individual crop wise productivity of the victims' households in terms of yields in q/ha were noted as Cotton: 4.45 q/ha (8.31 q/ha in Control group), Soybean : 6.78 q/ha (10.67 q/ha in Control group), Jowar : 7.15 q/ha (13.77 q/ha in Control group), Tur : 3.39 q/ha (6.94 q/ha in Control group), Mung : 1.18 q/ha (3.16 q/ha in Control group) and in Udid : 1.25 q/ha (3.33 q/ha in Control group). Thus a perusal of the results it was concluded that almost in all crops

Shende (2012) reported the major crops in Vidarbha include cotton, rice, soyabean, pigeon pea, gram, green gram, black gram and Rabi crops include wheat, jowar, linseed and gram. Even seed quality was good but actual yield was very less than expected yield. Only very few exceptions (around 5.00%) all crops are under irrigation. This reduces the yield. Thus farmer were not getting the desired profit. Many times it became difficult to recover total expenditure also. This less yield ultimately had 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 25.00 per cent of the farmers from Bhandara district of Vidarbha, were 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 fourth (76.67%) farmers were indebted and remaining 23.33 per cent were free from debt whereas out of total families sizable group (43.42%) of families were defaulters from last 2-3 years.

Shende (2012) reported that majority of farmers were having debt. They re- new it every year. Since if due to any reason farmers were unable to pay the debt the same was carry forward to next year. This debt was increases and creates heavy debt that the farmer thinks he may 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 per cent of their income on interest of debt. This was 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 was 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 (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^b) 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) observed that two third deceased farmers (71%) have medium input infrastructure, followed by 28.50 per cent high input, 10.50 per cent of them have low input.

6. Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

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

Mishra (2006) reported that 34.20 per cent victims had the responsibility of marriage of their daughter/sister and 3.60 per cent had the responsibility of taking care of sick family members.

7. Cropping Pattern

Kale (2008) observed that 70.00 per cent area were 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 majority of selected farmers, followed by cotton (42.92%), cereals (24.17%), fruits and vegetables (10.83%), flower crops were with 4 (1.67%) farmers and only two (0.83%) farmers have medicinal and aromatic plants. Only 22.08 per cent farmers had enrolled/ availed the facility of crop insurance scheme.

8. Cropping intensity

Kale (2008) stated that the percentage of irrigated area was observed very negligible among the selected households and hence cropping intensity was only 105.00 per cent.

Kalbhor (2009) reported that cropping intensity highly decreases as the land holding decreases (71.11%), where as it was in declining trend in medium farmers (17.78%). It may be due to limited irrigation.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) majority 83.33 per cent of the victims having cropping intensity up to 100 per cent and only 16.67 per cent victims were found which having cropping intensity in the range of 101 to 186.1 per cent.

9. Crop failure

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

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that 46.67 per cent victims had 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 (8.70%), no childrens 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 Kerala is caused basically due to economic distress rather than psychological and social reasons.

Deshmukh *et al.* (2007) identified 25 reasons that were forcing the farmers to commit suicide in Vidarbha region. Out of 25 reasons, 53.00 per cent to 58 per cent farmers committed suicides due to deterioration of economic condition, continuous crop failure, improper and unstable price for their produce were the prime factors

forcing the farmers to commit suicide. It is followed by high cost technology, marriage expenditure and family expenditure.

Kale (2011) observed that amongst two third deceased farmers three common risk factors were co-existed i.e. indebtedness (95.00%), hopelessness due to crop failure (82.50%) and drop in economic status (80.00%) and these risk factors showed the deteriorated economic condition of the farmers that leads to frustration and finally their suicide.

Kale (2011) observed that the most common risk factor was indebtedness found in 94.00 per cent deceased farmers. In more than three fourth of the cases (82.50%) repeated crop failure were mentioned as a reason of suicide by the households. This was followed by drop in economic position were noticed in 80.00 per cent deceased farmers. Introvert personality was identified in 60.00 per cent deceased farmers as they did not discuss or share their problems with other family members, that leads to adds more frustration. Low social support was noticed with 42.50 per cent victims. In one-fourth deceased farmers (25.00%) family member, were suffered from ill health. Family history of suicide was identified in 22.50 per cent of the cases. Daughter/ sister of marriageable age were found as a risk factor in 17.50 per cent victims. In 15.00 per cent victims disputes/ quarrel was noticed. In addition to the above there are some other risk factors were identified with the victims like given verbal clues of suicide due to unbearable stress (12.50%), depressed due to divorced/disputed, daughter/sister in family (10.00%), decreased self esteem events (5.00%), depressed due to no children (2.50%), depressed due to land disputes in court (2.50%) and death of family member before incident (2.50%).

Kale (2012) observed that maximum (61.65%) of the respondents belonged to medium level of the risk preference. Nearly

equal percentages of the respondents were found under low (20.65%) and high (18.00%) level of the risk preference.

Tejashree Kacchwah (2013) observed that more than half 51.67 per cent of the deceased farmers one to four risk factors were associated, while five to seven and eight to ten risk factors were associated with 43.33 and 5.00 per cent of the cases, respectively.

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 which 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 Buldana 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
- 3.5 Collection of data and editing of interview schedule
- 3.6 Variables, their measurement and categorization
 - 3.6.1 Personal characteristics
 - 3.6.2 Socio-economic characteristics
 - 3.6.3 Socio-psychological characteristics
 - 3.6.4 Situational characteristics
 - 3.6.5 Socio-psycho risk factors of suicide
- 3.7 Consequences of suicide
- 3.8 Suggestions for avoiding suicides



● Selected Tehsils

Fig. 1 Map of Buldana district

3.1 Locale of Study

Present research investigation was carried out in Buldana district of Vidarbha.

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. Hence little knowledge relevant to the research topic was available to the researcher and consequently, researcher was not able to formulate clearly expressed hypothesis regarding the causes of suicides of farmers in Buldana 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/it 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 Buldana 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 Buldana 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 Buldana district dated on 29/01/2015 and obtained the complete list of farmers who committed suicide during 1 January, 2008 to 31 December, 2012. In all there were 679 total suicide cases in Buldana district, out of which 381 cases were declared as illegal and 151 cases were declared as legal victims. From the list of 151 legal suicide cases, researcher had selected 10 victims by random sampling. It covers 10 villages and 5 tahsils of Buldana district.

The detail tahsil wise list of the selected victims have been enclosed in Annexure II

Table 4. Taluka wise total suicide cases, during year 2008 to 2012 illegal and legal out of which number of cases selected for the study

Sr. No.	Talukas	Total suicide cases	Legal cases	No. of cases selected for study
1	Shegaon	59	12	2
2	Khamgaon	87	37	2
3	Nandura	35	24	2
4	Sangrampur	35	22	2
5	Jalgaon Jamod	75	15	2
6	Malkapur	18	15	0
7	Buldana	141	31	0
8	Chikhali	71	24	0
9	Deulgaon Raja	20	11	0
10	Sindkhed Raja	24	17	0
11	Motala	49	32	0
12	Mehakar	54	34	0
13	Lonar	11	5	0
	Total	679	151	10

3.4 Development of Interview Schedule

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. 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, situational and psychological 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.

3.5 Data collection and editing of interview schedule

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 critical 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 Bulana district. For personal visit to these villages, researcher had used her own 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 21 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.

3.6 Variables and their measurements and categorization

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

3.6.1 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 category	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. Categorization on the basis of educational level of the selected victims was done as follows.

Sr. No	Educational level	Classes attended
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. One to nine numbers was assigned as given below, as per the chronological sequence of each caste 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. The 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 present study, it refers to whether the victim was a member of individual /nuclear family or joint family.

Sr. No.	Family Type
1	Nuclear
2	Joint

6) Farming experience

It refers to the number of years from which the victim was engaged in farming business.

Sr. No.	Farming experience(years)
1	Up to 10
2	11-20
3	21-30
4	Above 30

3.6.2 Socio-economic characteristics

7) Land holding

Conceptually, land holding is proportionally defined as the actual hectare of land possessed by the individual for cultivation of crop. 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	Land in ha.
1	Marginal	Up to 1 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 occupation

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

Sr. No.	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)

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. The categorization done of the selected victim on the basis of their annual income was done by equal interval method.

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

10) Social participation

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

Sr. No.	Social participation
1	Low
2	Medium
3	High

3.6.3 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	Having health problems
2	Free from health problems

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. 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 problems
3	Free from health problems

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. 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
3	Free from family Disputes

14) Victims habits

It denotes the any bad habits of the selected victims.

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

3.6.4 Situational characteristics

15) Type of land

It refers to the actual type of land possessed by the individual farmer. It include sandy soil, black soil, clay soil, sandy loam soil, loam soil, black cotton soil.

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

16) Irrigation facilities

It refers to the different source of irrigation in the victim family. There is well, tube well, canal etc.

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

17) Productivity

It is operationally defined as the agricultural production per unit area in qtls. / ha. It was categorized as low, medium, high.

18) Indebtedness

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.

19) Agricultural infrastructure:

It is operationally defined as 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. It was categorized as low, medium, high.

20) Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

It is operationally defined as the extent to which the individual has fulfilled the various family responsibilities that he holds.

Sr. No.	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

21) Cropping pattern

It is operationally defined as the different crops grown by the respondent in his/ her field in various season.

Sr. No.	Crop grown
1	Kharif crops
2	Kharif + Rabi crops
3	Kharif + Rabi +Summer crops
4	Perennial crops

22) Cropping intensity

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

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

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

23) Crop failure

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

Categorization has been done as follows:

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

3.6.5 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.

As per the overall frequency of existence of each factor, the distribution of selected victims was done according to their identified risk factors.

3.7 Consequences of Suicide

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 victims 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.

3.8 Suggestion for Avoiding Suicide

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.



CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present chapter deals with the results pertaining to factors responsible for the farmers suicide in Buldana district and discussion there on. The data were collected from 10 victims households spread over 10 villages across the 5 tahsils of Buldana district by conducting field survey.

The survey was conducted by adapting case study design of social research. The set of variables studied under survey includes personal, socio-economic, situational and socio-psychological variables namely age, education, caste, family size, family type, land holding, annual income, socio-economic status, livelihood sources, irrigation facilities, indebtedness, crop grown, cropping intensity, crop failure, victim's health, family health, family disputes, alcoholism and risk factors of suicide with the victim was studied. The data pertaining to specific objectives of the study was collected from the victim's family by personal interviewing them. The fact obtained has been presented through various angles in the present chapter under the following heads.

4.1 Findings of the selected cases

- 4.1.1 Case study of Late Pandurang Shaligram Nayse
- 4.1.2 Case study of Late Ananta Kisan Bhilange
- 4.1.3 Case study of Late Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage
- 4.1.4 Case study of Late Pramod Tularam Sawdekar
- 4.1.5 Case study of Late Govind Sonaji Ghule
- 4.1.6 Case study of Late Govind Bhaskar Khupase

4.1.7 Case study of Late Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe

4.1.8 Case study of Late Dashrath Janu Mokade

4.1.9 Case study of Late Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole

4.1.10 Case study of Late Gajanan Pandurang Jawkar

4.2. Distribution of victim according to their characteristics

4.3 Post suicide consequences

4.4 Suggestions perceived by the family member to prevent suicide

4.1.1 Case study of Late Pandurang Shaligram Nayse

Age	:	30 years
Village	:	Parkhed
Tahsil	:	Khamgaon
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	April 19, 2010

Pandurang Shaligram Nayse, a semi medium farmer of 30 years belongs to 'Teli' caste and lived in nuclear family of 5 members. He had the farming experience of 10 years and had low infrastructure facilities. He had taken education up to 7th standard. Victim owned total 03 acres of land which was moderately deep. The annual income of family was Rs.50,000. He was the head of the family and had been bearing entire burden of decision making in context of agrarian operation. There was no water facility on his land. Farming depended on rain water and the soil was shallow type. Victim's family was dependent on agriculture produce. He and his wife undertook agricultural wages to gain additional income. He was living with his two sons along with his wife and mother. 'Shaligram Nayse' victim's father passed away 3 years earlier to victims death after which both the brother had been living separately because there was regular dispute

regarding land distribution. Victim was addicted to alcohol after the death of his father. The family lived in one room house of unplastered brick-walls of tin roof adjacent to his brother's home and his house needed much repairing. Victim's elder brother was married before one and half year.

Victim was cultivating 3 acres of farm land which was named after the victim and his mother. The cropping intensity was 100%. The land was shallow type and was purely relying on rain water. In year 2007 Pandurang borrowed Rs 20,000 from relatives for crop cultivation. In *Kharif* season of 2007 he sown cotton on 3 acres and got only 9 quintals cotton from 3 acres. Thus productivity counted to 3q/acre, which was low as compared to local productivity of 5q/acre. Due to the whimsical behavior of nature the crop yield was low. Increasing price of seed and fertilizers, increasing cultivation cost are some of these reasons for which Pandurang was worried a lot. He was totally depressed due to low production of cotton. He was unable to arrange money for family health and children's education. In year 2008 he sown gram in 3 acres but the crop was failed due to uncertainty of nature.

According to villagers 'victim's brother was always trying to create obstacles to Victim in many ways and was always looking for an opportunity to quarrel with him, which brought Pandurang under much pressure'. He had already discussed the problem with his mother and wife and they had decided to remain away to avoid any consult with his brother. For last 10 years he had one case under trial in court regarding illegal construction on some portion of his land by the adjacent land owner. Prior to file the case in court victim's father tried to convince the opponent to solve the matter mutually. But they couldn't agree. Hence Shaligram Nayse (Victim's father) had to undertake legal procedure by appealing in court. After the death of his father Pandurang, the victim was handling this case matter.

In 2009 he borrowed Rs. 25,000 from co-operative society i.e. before one and half years of suicide. In *Kharif* season of 2009 he sown soybean in 3 acre but again the crop was failed due uncertainty of nature. Crop failure from last two years led him to distress. He was totally disappointed as he had not enough money to invest in agriculture as well as to pay his debt and finally committed suicide by consuming insecticide on April 19, 2010.

After death of victim, his wife (Deepali) is looking after farming operations and family responsibilities. Due to lack of money she lost the court case.

The family members suggested that farmers should be advised and guide on economical methods of cultivation which would save the money.

Conclusion:

Pandurang was facing financial problems due to poor yield in *Kharif* season in year 2008 and 2009. He had to spend much money on court case. The relations between brothers were much sour as his brother was creating unbearable problems to him. He was in continuous distress and therefore to get relieve from all these problems he committed suicide on April 19, 2010.



Plate 1. Family members of deceased farmer Late Pandurang Shaligram Nayse from village Parkhed Tq. Khamgaon, Dist.Buldana along with researcher

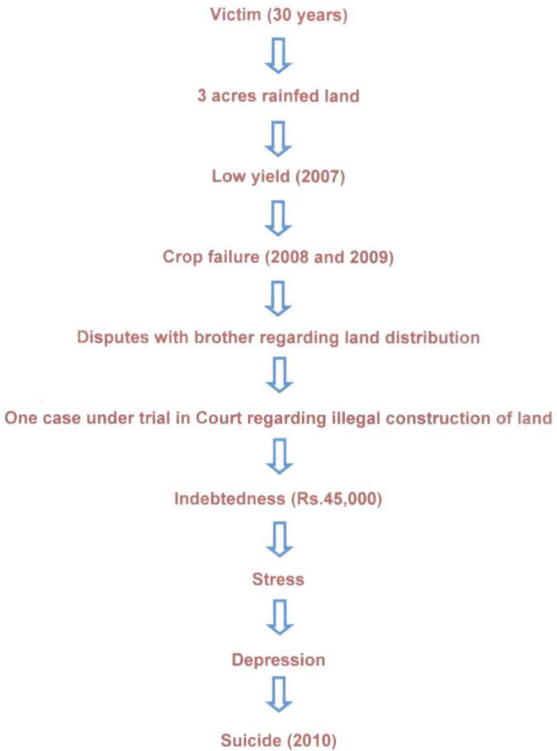


Fig 2. Suicidal path of Late Pandurang Shaligram Nayse

4.1.2. Case study of Late Ananta Kisan Bhilange

Age	:	32 years
Village	:	Nivana
Tahsil	:	Sangrampur
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	October 21, 2011

A small farmer Ananta Kisan Bhilange was '*Nav-Buddha*' from village Niwina Sangrampur. He lived in nuclear family of 5 members. He owned 4 acres of land out of which 2 acres depended on rain water only and remaining 2 acres was not good for cultivation. The type of cultivable land was deep and the cropping intensity was 100%. The annual income of family was Rs.38,000. He had experience of farming near about 12 years. There was no educational background in his family, and he had taken education only up to 3rd standard. Ananta was very hard working and remained involved in the various farm practices and has farming experience of 12 years. The victim was having low infrastructure facilities. He was the only one looking after all the agrarian operations and also undertaking agricultural wages. In year 2009 victim sown cotton in 4 acres but due to fungal disease (reddening) the crop was failed and there was no yield.

The neighbours said that, "in the year 2001, Ananta's father had 6 acres of Rainfed land but was not interested in agrarian operations". His behavior was very rude with his family. He was very irresponsible and was much addicted to alcohol due to which the family members were tensed. Whenever he was drunk and back to home, he would uselessly quarrel with 'Annapurna Bhilange', Ananta's mother. All the family members were irritated by his behaviour. They also told that he had sold 2 acres of land because of his bad habits such as gambling, alcohol addiction etc. and wasted all money. He was

suffering from many health problems which led to his death in 2005. Since then Ananta had been shouldering all household responsibilities.

After marriage of Ananta, his wife (Jyoti) was unable to adjust there with much poor family conditions and there were many disputes between the husband and wife regarding financial condition of family. Finally, Jyoti went to her natal home leaving her seven year old son Shivam and five year old daughter Ashvinee with him. She refuses the responsibility of both the children. The victim's mother had been suffering from heart disease for last five years and also had gone through one heart attack before 8 months of victims' death. However, he managed the expenses to meet the condition.

He faced difficulties in managing the rising expenses on medical treatment of his mother in addition to the expenses on various agrarian operations. So, he took the loan to the tune of Rs. 20,000/- from Buldana District Co-operative Bank as a crop loan in *Kharif* season 2010. "In *Kharif* season 2010 he sown soybean in 2 acres of land and got 3 quintals low quality soybean due to uncertainty of rain. Hence, he failed to get handsome price. Therefore he was unable to repay the loan amount, but bank insisted that he should return whole amount as soon as possible," informed his neighbour. He had discussed the financial problem with his mother. For being a head person in family and his old mother being a heart patient made him depressed as he was not able to manage for all those things, which increased his frustration and farming related anxiety together leading him to commit suicide by consuming insecticide on October 21, 2011.

After the death of victim, his mother sold 2 acres of uncultivable land at very low rate for the education of her grand children's. The family of victim is now depended on his mother and the remaining two acres of land was leased out to other as she was not able to manage various farm practices due to old age.

The family members of the family demanded that, unproductive land should be considered by the Govt. for loan waiving under PM Package.

Conclusion:

Victim did not get any support from his father, as his father was much diverted towards to alcohol and also sold 2 acres of farm land. He was buckled in increased debt and crop failure led him to distress which made him to take decision of suicide by consuming pesticides on October 21, 2011.

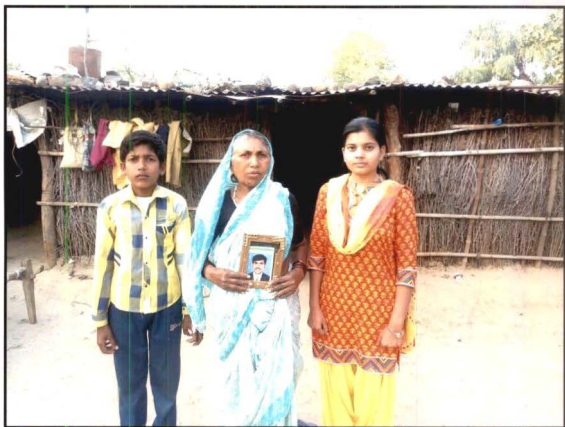


Plate 2. Family members of deceased farmer Late Ananta Kisan Bhilange from village Nivana, Tq. Sangrampur, Dist. Buldana along with researcher

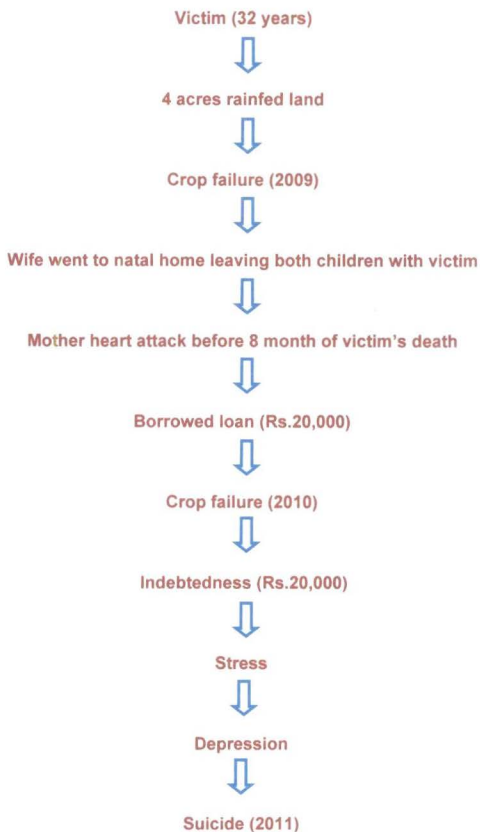


Fig 3. Suicidal path of Late Ananta Kisan Bhilange

4.1.3 Case study of Late Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage

Age	:	39 years
Village	:	Jawla Padaskhed
Tahsil	:	Shegaon
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	November 12, 2008

Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage was the wife of Shri. Vitthal Ganpat Dhage who belongs to 'Maratha' caste. He lived in nuclear family of 5 members. Her husband was looking after the agrarian operations and managing a landholding of 4 acres out of which 2 acres was irrigated seasonally and remaining 2 acres as rainfed. For irrigation they depended on well water and the cropping intensity was 150% and soil was shallow. The annual income of family was Rs.50,000. Pushpabai had taken education up to 3rd standard and her husband was illiterate. They were having three sons, Vikas was elder and he was engaged in farming operations. The family had medium infrastructure facilities. Dhanyaneshwar and Hariom were in 8th and 10th std respectively. In year 2005 victim's husband took Rs. 30,000 as crop loan from cooperative society. In *Kharif* he got four quintals of *Bt.* cotton from four acres so productivity counted to 1q/acre. "The production was low due to the eccentric behavior of nature" said Vikas (Victim's son). Her husband was working hard to get more income but suddenly since year 2006 onward he had been suffering from health related problems and was totally unable to look after farm operations. In such conditions Pushpabai had to take all the responsibilities of farm and family even after having low farming experience of 5 years.

There was continuous low yield for two years but somehow she managed to repay the loan taken by her husband in year 2005. She had decided to sell 2 acre of land as she was unable to

meet with the medical and educational expenses, but her husband was not agreed with this. There were continuous disputes in her family due to her land selling decision. In year 2006 she sown chick pea in 2 acres and got 4 quintal low quality gram. Whose local productivity counted to 8 q/ha. She also had sown wheat in 2 acre of irrigated land in which there was low production and failed to get good price in market. As there was very low production due to which she was stressed. In all such adverse conditions, the elder son Vikas happened into the company of wrong friends. He was diverted towards addiction of alcohol. He was always demanding money to spend with friends and if he did not get money, he would abuse to his father. Many times Pushpabai tried to persuade Vikas but he was no more respecting his parents.

In year 2007 she borrowed Rs. 35,000 from private money lender and cultivated cotton along with pigeon pea as intercrop in 2 acres but due to a strange and unaccountable act of nature the crop failed. In another 2 acres she cultivated millet and sorghum which yielded very low due to the deficit rain. However, the yield was low in consecutive years. As the crop failed, she could not manage money. Low crop production led to increase burden on her. She lost all hope as she hadn't had enough money to invest in agriculture and for treatment of her husband. Crop failure for 3 years led her to distress. She was totally frustrated due to regular quarrelling with her husband and her elder son and was also unable to repay the debts. All these conditions at home were grim which forced her to commit suicide by drinking pesticide at her home in evening of Nov 12, 2008.

Now after the death of victim, her elder son is managing farming operations and other two are taking higher education. Vikas sold 2 acres of land for the treatment of his father. After being well, her husband entered into another marriage in year 2010 and Vikas also got married in year 2014.

The family members suggested that institutional finance should be made easy available to farmers.

Conclusion:

Due to illness of her husband, Pushpabai was all alone handling the agrarian operations, due to ill health of her husband. However she made all effort to manage the rising expenses. Many times she tried to control her son but she always failed. On the other hand deceitful behaviour of nature resulted in low yield and reduced handsome price of produce. It led to increase farming related anxiety. The lack of emotional support from the family members increases her frustration, and she was diverted towards suicide by consuming pesticides at evening on Nov 12, 2008.



Plate 3. Family members of deceased farmer Late Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage from village Jawla Padaskhed, Tq. Shegaon, Dist. Buldana along with researcher



Fig 4. Suicidal path of Late Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage

4.1.4 Case study of Late Pramod Tularam Sawdekar

Age	:	51 years
Village	:	Jawla
Tahsil	:	Shegaon
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	December 13, 2010

Pramod Tularam Sawdekar, was *Nav- Budha* from village Jawla. He was the head person in nuclear family of six members. He was marginal farmer, who owned 2.5 acres of farm land which was depend on rain water only and soil was shallow type. He has low infrastructure facilities and had farming experience of 21 years. The cropping intensity was 100% and the annual income of family was Rs.20,000. He was also working along his family member as agricultural labour and getting the additional income of Rs.30,000. From these various activities victim managed the expenditure of his family. Victim had the habit of smoking from last 7 years. His 18 years old daughter was suffering from kidney stone. His another daughter Chaya was married before two years but had shifted from her husband's home to her natal house along with her son because of the regular disputes with her husband. Victim had good contacts in the society and could not sustain himself the ignominy from his daughter's event.

In *Kharif* season of 2008 he borrowed Rs. 25,000/- from private money lender for crop cultivation. In 2.5 acres he got 7 quintals soybean whose productivity in local area was 25 q/ha. Because of low production he had no money in hand for crop cultivation and family expenditure. In next *Kharif* season of 2009 he borrowed Rs. 20,000 from Central Bank of India before one and half years of victim's death. He sown pigeon pea in 2.5 acre and could get only 8q/ha of yield which

was very low as compared to local productivity of pigeon pea i.e. 22q/ha. Overall the yield was low in consecutive years. As the crop failed, he could not manage money. "So he was in deep pressure and could not communicate properly as the family expenses were raising. The money lender had increased the pressure before few months of suicide. From that time the family was under tremendous pressure to repay the loan. However, the total loan amount of Rs. 45,000 raised a question, how to repay? All these problems created great discomfort to victim. In year 2010, victim sown soybean and pigeon pea in 4 acres and again he faced crop failure due to the whimsical behavior of nature.

Crop failure and low yield from three years led him to distress. Also he was despair as he did not have enough money to invest in agriculture and for his daughter treatment and was stressed due to high debts which led him to suicide by consuming insecticide on December 13, 2010.

Now, the eldest son Santosh and his mother are managing the farming operations. Another son Rajesh stopped his education after 10th standard and migrated to Pune for earning money to help the family economically.

The family suggested that advanced farm technology should be passed down to small farmers.

Conclusion

Victim was worried due to increased debt and poor yield which increased the pressure of money lender on him. He felt ignominy and decreased social status as his married daughter came back to his home. Moreover, he was not able to manage the rising expense on treatment of his daughter and expenditure on farming activities. All these conditions forced him to commit suicide on December 13, 2010.



Plate 4. Family members of deceased farmer Late Pramod Tularam Sawdekar from village Jawla, Tq. Shegaon, Dist. Buldana along with researcher

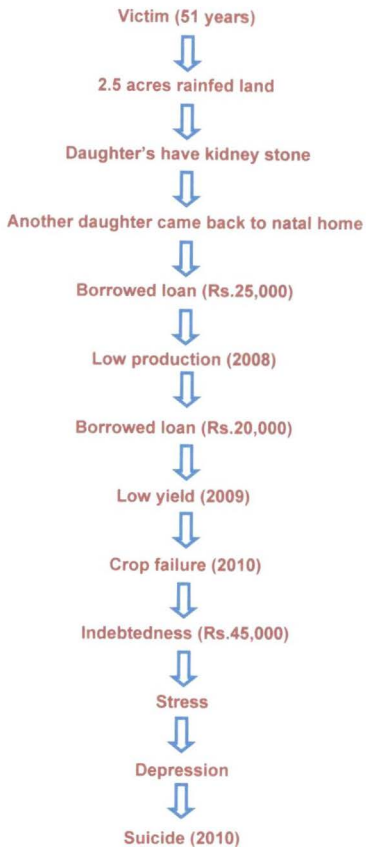


Fig 5. Suicide path of Late Pramod Tularam Sawdekar

4.1.5 Case study of Late Govind Sonaji Ghule

Age	:	24 years
Village	:	Dhanora
Tahsil	:	Jalgoan Jamod
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	May 1, 2011

A young marginal farmer Govind Sonaji Ghule belongs to 'Dhangar' caste. He lived in nuclear family of 6 members. He had taken education up to std. 9th and then he stopped his education and helped economically to his family. His father had taken education up to 3rd standard and mother was illiterate. He had 4 acres of land and soil was shallow type soil and was purely relied on rain. He has medium infrastructure facilities and had farming experience of 5 years. The annual income of family was Rs.25,000 and the cropping intensity was 100%. The family was also involved in agricultural wages from which they got Rs.10,000 seasonally. Victim's father spend Rs.50,000 on Vinita's (victim's sister) marriage in year 2002. In year 2008 he borrow Rs.30,000 from relatives with hope to return from next cropping income but there was very low production due to uncertainty of rain and hence, failed to get handsome price and he was unable to repay the borrowing of Rs.30,000. In year 2009 Vinita had came back to her natal home permanently as her husband was addicted to alcohol and daily quarreling with her. Her parents warned him many times but he was no more listening to them and behaved cruelly. Therefore they got their daughter divorced. She had two sons Prashant and Shrikant living with her at victim's home.

The farming on only 4 acres of land was not sufficient to fulfill the family needs and farm expenses. For the last five years victim was under medical treatment as one of his kidneys was failed. He was

under treatment in private hospital, so he was completely disappointed and remained deep in thought due to lack of money. In *Kharif* season of 2009 victim borrowed Rs. 20,000 from money lender and cultivated cotton along with pigeon pea as an intercrop in 4 acre but due to a unaccountable act of nature and particularly deficit rain at germination forced him to re-sowing as the first sowing operation failed. The yield loss, seeds and fertilizers price raised and hence increased the cost of cultivation. He was enfeebled by spending more money for his medical treatment. Govind could not sustain himself with these losses and his increased spending of money on his medical treatment. Victim's Parents and his sister were working very hard to manage the money for his treatment. The pressure from money lender was increasing.

In Year 2010 Govind borrowed Rs. 40,000 from Buldana District Cooperative Bank. In *Kharif* he had sown cotton in 4 acre with view of getting high production. However one attack of fungal infection of Reddening had swept the total production. Even after the great efforts the family suffered a great loss and poverty and grief stalk Govind's family. Health of Govind was getting worst day by day. He was feeling much embarrassed and guilt as his family was suffering from great depression. He was also unable to discuss this problem with his parents as there was no money to spend on his illness. Victim's mother was unable to see his son in such critical situation and gone through major heart attack in which she died. "After the death of his mother there was no hope for victim to live anymore. He was considering himself responsible for the death of his mother" said victim's sister. All these circumstances forced him to commit suicide by drinking pesticide on his own farm on evening of May 1, 2011.

After the death of victim, his father also passed away due to illness in year 2013 and now victim's sister is living in his house along with her two sons.

The family suggested that government should provide immediate financial assistance to farmers for major health problems through easy procedure.

Conclusion:

Govind was suffering from kidney failure. He was worried about the rising expenses on medical treatment. Also he had the loan of Rs. 60,000 but he was not able to repay the loan due to crop loss. He had no moral support of his mother due to her death. Because of all these conditions he commit suicide by hanging himself in his own farm and ended his life.

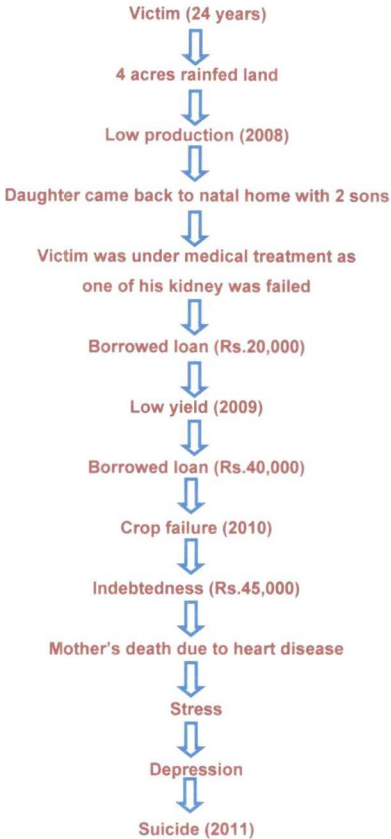


Fig 6. Suicidal path of Late Govind Sonaji Ghule

4.1.6 Case study of Late Govind Bhaskar Khupase

Age	:	35 years
Village	:	Nimbhora
Tahsil	:	Jalgaon Jamod
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	January 6, 2010

Govind Bhaskar Khupase, a semi medium farmer belongs to "Maratha" caste and lived in nuclear family of 7 members. He has been looking after all the agrarian operations of 10 acres and had 14 years farming experience. He had taken education up to 10th standard and his father and mother were illiterate. Out of 10 acres of his land 4 acre was irrigated by well with the help of electric motor and remaining 6 acre was rainfed used to cultivate in only *Kharif* season. The annual income of family was Rs.90,000 and the cropping intensity was 200%. The farm land was located at different location. So, it was difficult to manage all land and the soil was shallow type. Victim's younger brother helped him in the various agrarian operations. Victim's father was the eldest in the family and was taking all decision regarding agrarian operations. The family had high infrastructure facilities and victim's farming experience was 15 years. Victim and his father both were interested in applying new scientific knowledge in their farm. They had one bullock pair and some basic farm implements. Victim had habit of chewing *Gutkha* since last 3 years. He had invested some money on education of his two sons of age 9 years and 12 years and one daughter of age 8 years. He wanted to educate his children as he was unable to complete his own education after std 10th. His social dignity was good as he was respected person in village.

In kharif season 2007 he cultivated pigeon pea in 4 acre and soybean in 6 acre but due to unaccountable act of nature there

was crop failure which incurred huge loss. In order to gain secured earning and to defeat the loss from the farming, he took loan of Rs.4.90 lakhs from State Bank of India in 2007 to purchase a tractor, by investing Rs.5 lakhs with the intention to provide the services on rental basis. The whole family including victim was depended on the farm produce to earn the living. In the next season he tried to raise onion on 4 acre irrigated land but again crop failed because there was cut off of electricity for 14 to 16 hours regularly in village which affected irrigation to crop resulting in drying of onion crop. The tractor purchased for subsidiary occupation failed to turn into profitable business as victim has to spend much money for regular repairing of it. This increased the burden on Govind enormously as his debt was increasing. The loan that he took from the State Bank of India in 2007 with the intension that the yield might be good and he could clear all the debts, but unfortunately the crop failed again in 2008 and the debt was still unpaid.

Asha (35), victim's wife said that he was already burdened by debts incurred in 2008, when he purchased tractor. Regular crop loss for two years, increasing price of seed and fertilizers, the paucity of labours for various farm activities, increasing cultivation cost, because of all these reasons Govind was worried and continuously under pressure for repaying the loans. In 2009 he cultivated pigeon and soybean in 4 acres and 6 acres respectively. But again the crop failed and he was unable to repay loan which increase pressure on him as the interest on debt increased day by day. He was in deep thought because of many losses and the rising expenses also added to depression. In the same depression he committed suicide by hanging himself on his own farm on January 6, 2010.

After the death of victim, his father is unable to work in field and the total family and farm responsibility falls on victim's brother.

The members of the family demanded that, when there is crop failure due to any natural calamity, Government should waive off the total crop loans of farmers, which help to minimize the suicide numbers.

Conclusion:

Govind made all efforts to manage the rising expenses but due to continuous poor yield for 3 years he was distressed as all his hopes to repay the loan collapsed and he was unable to repay the loan. This increased frustration and he was diverted towards suicide by hanging himself on his own farm in the evening of January 6, 2010.



Plate 5. Family members of deceased farmer Late Govind Bhaskar Khupase from village Nimbhora, Tq. Jalgaon Jamod, Dist. Buldana along with researcher

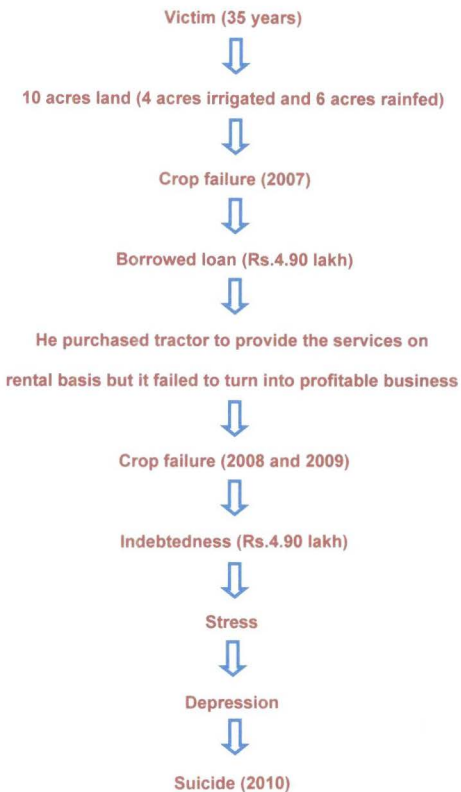


Fig 7. Suicidal path of Late Govind Bhaskar Khupase

4.1.7 Case study of Late Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe

Age	:	40 years
Village	:	Alampur
Tahsil	:	Nandura
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	August 7, 2010

Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe was a small farmer having 5 acre of land who belonged to 'Kunbi' caste. His land was purely relied on rain water and soil was shallow type. The cropping intensity was 100%. He lived in nuclear family of 7 members including him. Victim had the farming experience of 21 years. He completed education only up to 7th standard and his wife was illiterate. The family had low infrastructure facilities. When I visited victim's house for data collection Kalavati (victim's mother) age 60, was seated surrounded by her 4 grand children into a tin roofed one room house of unplastered brick wall. She tried to discipline them with an occasional shout and shuffled their hairs in rough affection. When I asked her about victim tears rolled down her eyes and she told me the detailed about the incident. The neighbors were also gathered around Kalaviti's house. One son of age 12 years and one daughter of age 8 were studying in primary school in village. Victim and his wife participated in various farm activities with the help of bullock with the support of some basic implements. He was involved in supplementary occupation such as doing laborers work. The annual income of family was Rs. 35,000. Rameshwar was head person in his family and he had bearing the entire burden of decision making in context of agrarian operations. "His one daughter was studying in std 3rd who was very talented and appreciate by from the teachers in the school" said one of the neighbour.

The thought that disturbed Rameshwar was of the dumb and deafness of his two daughters. His both the daughters were unable to hear and speak anything since birth. He had spent a lot of money on his daughter's treatment to cure them. He consulted many expert doctors and brought expensive ear machines for them but couldn't get any positive result. He was frustrated due to the thought of their marriage 'who will marry them'? Kalavati had been suffering from heart disease since 8-9 year. Rameshwar was caring for his family members a lot and hence he spent so much money on medical treatment of daughters and mother. In year 2008 Rameshwar had borrowed Rs 25,000 from Buldana District Cooperative Bank as a crop loan and cultivated pigeon pea in 5 acres and got low yield of 20 quintals in 2 ha as compare to local productivity of 22q/ha. The yield was low due to the vagaries of nature in general and particularly due to the deficit rain. He was therefore unable to repay the loan.

In Year 2009 he took Rs. 50,000 from his brother-in-law for one year. In *Kharif* season he cultivated soybean in 5 acres but due to whimsical behavior of nature he could get only 15 quintals soybean whose productivity in local was 25q/ha. As the yield decreased the cost of cultivation increased from the last two years. This led to rise a huge problem of arranging money for next cultivation, this pushed him under pressure. This created many questions in his mind. He was unable to manage money to repay loan. He had no money to invest in agriculture. His brother-in-law was insisting for his money to be returned as his house was under construction. Under this pressure he consumed insecticide and was found lying on floor in his own house when no one was in the house on August 7, 2010. As soon as neighbors noticed this, they took him to the hospital but on way to the hospital he was dead declared by the doctor.

After the death of victim, his wife is managing the land holding of 5 acre and the family depends on relatives.

The members of the family demanded that, there is urgent need to declare immediately remunerative prices for all crops of farmers in consonance with the cost of cultivation. Presently cost of cultivation increases by many folds due to steep rise in the cost of inputs, but the price of farm produce was not raised proportionately.

Conclusion:

Victim's two daughters were disabled i.e. to hear and speak by birth. He consulted many doctors but could not get any positive result. Moreover because of heart disease of his mother he needed money. But he was already under debt and unable to repay the loan due to low productivity. All this circumstances forced him to take the extreme step of suicide by consuming insecticide in his own house on August 7, 2010.

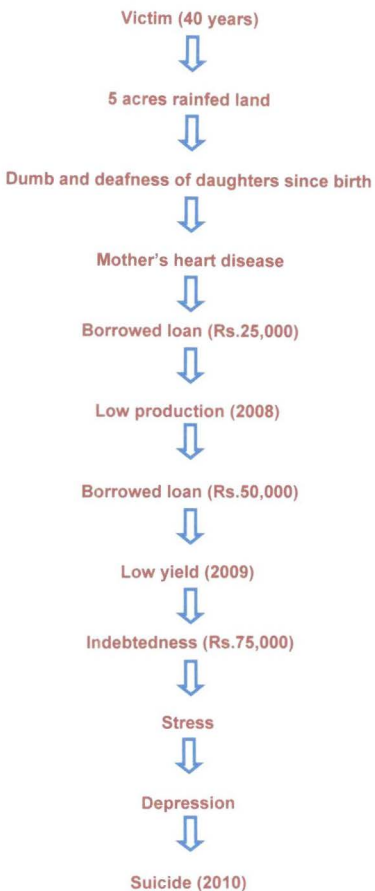


Fig 8. Suicidal path of late Late Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe

4.1.8 Case study of Late Dashrath Janu Mokade

Age	:	52 years
Village	:	Varvat Bakal
Tahsil	:	Sangrampur
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	July 17, 2010

A marginal farmer Dashrath Janu Mokade belongs to 'Kunbhi' caste who was looking after all agrarian operations. He lived in nuclear family of 6 members. He has been looking after the land holding of 8 acres and the soil was deep. Victim had farming experience of 32 years and there were low infrastructure facilities. The total land was rainfed and the cropping intensity was 100%. His wife worked with him in various agrarian operations. He was the head of family and had been bearing the entire burden of decision making in the context of agrarian operations. His annual income was Rs.50,000. He had two sons, Deepak and Ajay and one daughter, Sujata. The elder son Deepak was moody by nature and was not educated. He was helping his father in farming operations. Victim and his son worked as agriculture labour. In year 2004 he got married to Bharti. As they had not a child from 5 years, neighbours had started taunting them. Hence, Vijay felt humiliated. There were many personal disputes between Vijay and his wife (Bharti). Because of which Vijay was diverted toward drinking. Dashrath had spent more than Rs.60,000 on his daughter-in-law's treatment but there was no hope anymore. Another son Ajay was not interested in agriculture as there was no perpetuity of good income. He was studying in B.Com 2nd year. Victim had good social contacts and he was very helping person.

In year 2007 victim's daughter got married. After few days of her marriage her father-in-law demanded Rs. 50,000 as dowry but

she refused to bring money from her natal home. She told this problem with her father and in order to save her married life he borrowed a loan of Rs.50,000 from State Bank of India and fulfilled the demand for dowry. "Actually the attitude of Dashrath was against taking the debt but poor economic condition forced him to take loan" said Parvatibai (Victim's wife). In year 2008 victim cultivated sunflower in 8 acre but the crop was failed due to whimsical behavior of nature.

In year 2009 he took loan of Rs. 30,000 from private money lender for crop cultivation. In *Kharif* season he sown cotton in 8 acres and got only 20 quintals cotton from 8 acres. Thus productivity counted to 3q/acre, which was low as compared to local productivity of 5q/acre. This created a big question of repaying loan as financial state of affairs at home was grim. There was insufficient yield that's why he paid little amount of bank loan. He was always in thought of loan. During the same time Dashrath had undergone an operation of appendix and was unable to work in field.

Again after a year, victim's daughter had come to natal home as the demand for money was increased but this time Dashrath refused to give money to them and didn't allow her daughter to go back to her husband's house. Day by day the disputes among victim's family was increasing and in such condition his daughter-in-law was frustrated and made an attempt of suicide by drinking insecticide but immediately the family members took her to hospital and save her life. Dashrath was disturb by this incident and felt ignominy and decreased social status. He was also under stress due to mounting debt. According to villagers "before the unfortunate event the money lender had said that he wanted the money back with interest soon. The deceased felt humiliated about the manner in which the money lender had spoke in public". All these circumstances led him towards the action of suicide by consuming insecticide on July 17, 2010. While describing this critical condition, victim's wife could not control her tears.

After the death of victim, his daughter shifted to her own home. The elder son sold 2 acres of land to repay the loan and managing farming operations.

Family members suggested that there should be easy procedure in disbursing institutional finance to farmers so that farmers avoid taking loan from money lenders.

Conclusion:

There were many disputes in victims family due to which he was frustrated. The suicide attempt of his daughter-in-law decreased his social status. Moreover, there was crop loss and increasing demand of dowry. The misbehaving nature of money lender and feeling that his own social standing decreased, forced him to take loan to which he was unable to pay back. All this reasons led him towards the action of suicide by consuming insecticide on July 17, 2010.



Plate 6. Family members of deceased farmer Late Dashrath Janu Mokade from village Varvat Bakal, Tq. Sangrapur, Dist. Buldana along with researcher

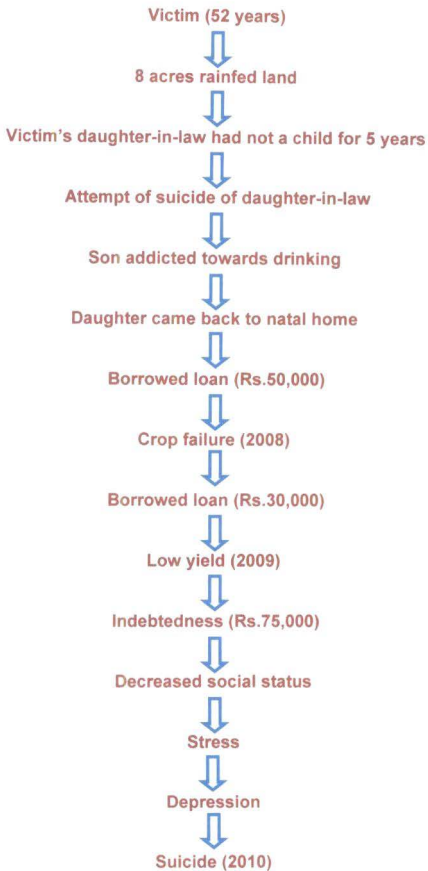


Fig 9. Suicidal path of Late Dashrath Janu Mokade

4.1.9 Case study of Late Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole

Age	:	45 years
Village	:	Ghatpuri
Tahsil	:	Khamgaon
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	May 7, 2008

Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole was a medium farmer belonging to 'Kunbhi' caste. He lived in nuclear family of 7 members. He owned total 10 acres of land and the cropping intensity was 100%. The land depended on rain water only and was a shallow type land. He completed his education up to 10th standard and his wife was illiterate. He had 25 years experience of farming and his wife was helping him in various agrarian operations. He had medium infrastructure facilities. Victim was the head of family therefore entire burden of decision making in the context of agrarian operations was on him and his annual income was Rs.50,000. Vishwanath had 2 sons. He had adopted one daughter from his brother-in-law in year 1989. Victim and his elder son together were managing the land holding of 10 acres. In year 2002 his elder son Narayan got married to Bhagyashree. After the marriage of his elder son, victim set up the dairy business. For which victim had borrowed loan of Rs.80,000 from State Bank of India and invested Rs.1lakh 20 thousand on purchase of 4 buffaloes. But he couldn't manage the business properly, where in turn incurred a huge loss. In year 2004 his elder son Narayan had cultivated soybean in 10 acres. However the result of sowing was failed.

In year 2005 his second son Sachin got married. After his marriage there were many disputes within family regarding dividation of land. "Victim also had many disputes with his elder brother and neighbours from many years" said one of the neighbour. Victim

was not having good social contacts. He was quarreling with people on minor things and get angry very often. He had the habit of consuming alcohol. Victim was the patient of diabetes since 12 years and he was taking regular insulin injections before 5 months of suicide. In previous year he had spent amount of money for his own treatment. For last 9 years he had two cases under trial in court against his elder brother and one with the neighbour. He was frustrated by spending money on court cases. Victim was in deep thought about how to arrange the money for medical treatment of his own and he had no money for next cultivation. The expenditure was very high and income was very low. The elder son Narayan had started the business of loading sand by truck to construction site. He hired two labours for driving the truck. He was not concentrating on work done by labours and remained drunk all the time. Because of such carelessness he did not succeed in this business. Both the sons were diverted towards alcohol because they were not having any restriction of their parents. Also they had the company of bad friends. There were daily quarrels and violent arguments at home among family members made the unhealthy environment.

In year 2007 victim cultivated Bt. cotton and soybean in 10 acres but due to unseasonal rain and whimsical behavior of nature, the crop was failed. In the same year victim borrowed Rs. 50,000 from private money lender for one year for the marriage purpose of his adopted daughter. The demand for dowry was Rs. 2 lakh which was not possible to fulfill. But victim's wife insisted him to sell 2 acres of land. Both the sons were in strong opposition to their father over the sell of land because they thought having no belonging towards their sister. But there was no other option to arrange money. So, victim sold 2 acres of land for daughter's marriage. After her marriage the mental condition of victim was disturbed because there was no one to support him mentally. Both sons were blaming him for adopting the daughter. He was in great thought due to bank notice to repay the loan and he

was not in position to return it. Losing all hopes from peers, victim allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself to the ceiling of his house on May 7, 2008.

After the death of victim, the land was equally distributed between both brothers because of regular disputes. Victim's son had lost the court case against opponent.

The household of the deceased farmer stated that special kind of loan should be issued by the government for the marriage of the daughter/ sister from various banks as suggestion for avoiding suicides.

Conclusion:

Victim and his family were having so many disputes with people in surrounding. Also he had to spend money on court cases. He took huge loan and was unable to repay due to loss in business and low production. His both sons were not respecting him. He was also unable to manage money for medical treatment. Due to all these reasons he was under pressure which led him to become insecure and diverted him towards the extreme action of suicide by hanging himself to the ceiling of his house on May 7, 2008.

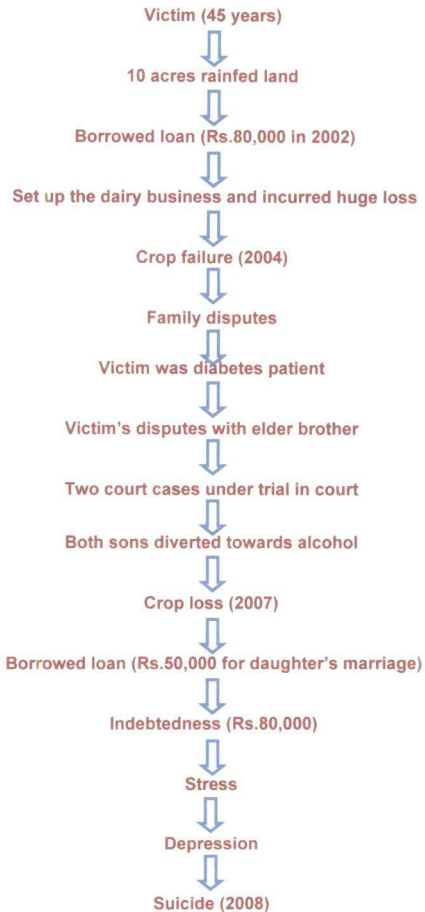


Fig 10. Suicidal path of Late Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole

4.1.10 Case study of Late Gajanan Pandurang Jawkar

Age	:	37 years
Village	:	Hingna Bhota
Tahsil	:	Nandura
District	:	Buldana
Date of death	:	May 5, 2010

Gajanan Pandurang Jawkar, a semi medium farmer of 37 years belongs to Mali caste and lived in joint family of 10 members. He owned total 5 acres of land and the cropping intensity was 100%. Victim and his wife were involved in various agrarian operations supported by one bullock pair and some farm implements. His elder brother had been running electronics shop for 6-7 years and he owned the share of 2 acres of land which was cultivated by victim. Victim was having the farming experience of 20 years and there were low infrastructure facilities. The soil was shallow type. The various agrarian operations had done with equal contribution of money from both the brother and further the yield gained was distributed equally. The total land was rainfed. Victim was working as agriculture labour for getting additional income. The annual income of family was Rs. 40,000.

A family of 10 members depended on farming to earn living. The family lived in three room house of unplastered brick-wall and his house needed much repairing. Victim was very helpful and trusted on any one very easily. Because of his simple and sober nature he was cheated many times by his friends. He had one son and one daughter who were studying in primary school. Victim's mother who was his moral support had passed away one year earlier to victim's death. His father (Pandurang Jawkar) was suffering from Diabetes as well as T.B (Tuberculosis) and was under medical treatment. Because

of medical expenses of his father victim had not money to spend for the next cultivation.

In Year 2008 he borrowed Rs.40,000 from Central Bank. In *Kharif* season he cultivated sunflower in 5 acres but due to insufficient rain he got only 6 quintals yield and the productivity was counted 1.2 q/acre which was very low as compared to local productivity 4.5 q/acre. Because of low production he was worried about the rising expenses over the treatment of his father's ailment. "In this condition he had returned some money and wanted to return some further amount, but bank people insisted that he should return the whole amount," informed his neighbour. In such situation his elder brother helped him by providing him some money to repay the debt.

In year 2009, he borrowed Rs.30,000 from relatives and sown soybean and pigeon pea as intercrop in 5 acre but both the crops failed because of uncertainty of nature. This increased the burden on the victim enormously. Due to rising expenses, victim was unable to spend money to cure his father and in such condition his father had passed away because of T.B. The unfortunate death of his father made him feeling insecure and hanged himself on tree in his own farm on the morning of May 5, 2010.

After the death of victim, his family got compensation of Rs.1,00,000/- from government. From this money, his wife invested Rs.30,000 for the education of her children. The family is now depended on victim's brother.

The family members suggested that effective management of water during season of good monsoon should be the primary aim of government.

Conclusion

Victim had made all efforts to manage the rising expenses of his father ailment but he was failed. First he lost his mother, who was his moral support and then father because of tuberculosis. He became insecure and this added to his mental trauma. On the other hand deceitful behavior of nature resulted in low yield and crop loss. Due to all these reasons he commit suicide by hanging himself in his own farm in the morning of May 5, 2010.



Plate 7. Family members of deceased farmer Late Gajanan Pandurang Javkar from village Hingna Bhota, Tq.Nandura, Dist. Buldana along with researcher

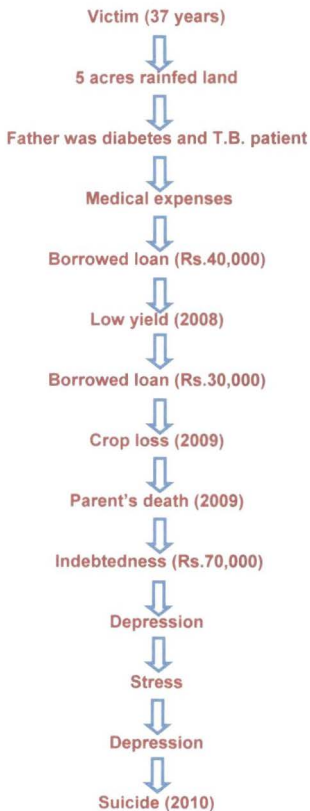


Fig 11. Suicidal path of Late Gajanan Pandurang Javkar

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 the victims according to their age

Sr.No.	Age (years)	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Young (Up to 35)	4	40.00
2.	Middle (36-50)	4	40.00
3	Old (Above 50)	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 5 it was observed that each of 40.00 per cent victims were under young and middle age, followed by 20.00 per cent victims were old age. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2008) and Deshmukh (2010).

2) Education

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

Table 6. Distribution of the victims according to their education

Sr.No.	Educational level	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Primary school	3	30.00
2.	Middle school	3	30.00
3.	High school	4	40.00
	Total	10	100.00

Table 6 shows that each of 30.00 per cent victims were educated up to primary school and middle school, followed by 40.00 per cent victims were having education up to high school. The findings are similar with the findings observed by Jadhao (2010) and Tejashree Kacchawh (2013).

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 denoted in table 7.

Table 7. Distribution of the victims according to their caste

Sr.No.	Caste category	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Schedule Caste (SC)	2	20.00
2.	Nomadic Tribe (NT-C)	1	100.00
3.	Other Backward Classes (OBC)	5	50.00
4.	Open	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 7 it was observed that exactly half (50.00%) of cases belonged to Other Backward Classes followed by each of 20.00 per cent belonged to Scheduled caste (SC) and open class. Remaining 10.00 per cent victim belonged to Nomadic Tribe (NT-C). The findings are similar with the findings noted by Kale and Mankar (2012), Tejashree Kacchwah (2013), and Kale (2015).

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 the victims according to their Family size

Sr.No.	Family Size	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Medium	7	70.00
2.	Large	3	30.00
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 8 it is clear that majority (70.00%) of victims were concentrated in medium (4 to 6 members) size family, followed by 30.00 per cent victims were concentrated in large family size respectively. The findings are similar with the findings observed by Jadhao (2010).

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 the victims according to their Family type

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

From the data depicted in Table 9 it was observed that more than two third (70.00%) of victims were concentrated in Nuclear family, followed by 30.00 per cent victims were concentrated in Joint family. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2008).

6) Farming experience

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

Table 10. Distribution of the victims according to their Farming experience

Sr.No.	Farming experience (years)	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Up to 10	3	30.00
2.	11-20	3	30.00
3.	21-30	3	30.00
4.	Above 30	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was found from Table 10 that each of 30.00 per cent victims were having farming experience up to 10 years, 11 to 20 years and 21 to 30 years and remaining 10.00 per cent victims had farming experience above 30 years. The findings are similar with the findings noted by Kale (2008).

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 the victims according to their land holding

Sr.No.	Land holding	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Marginal (Up to 1 ha)	1	10.00
2.	Small (1.01-2.00 ha)	6	60.00
3.	Semi-medium (2.01- 4.00 ha)	3	30.00
	Total	10	100.00

From the data depicted in Table 11 it was observed that 60.00 per cent of victims were small land holder having land holding up to 1.01 to 2.00 hectares, followed by 30.00 per cent victims were semi-medium farmers having land holding up to 2.01- 4.00 hectares. Remaining 10.00% victims were marginal farmers having land holding up to 1 hectare. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2008), Kale (2009) and Tejashree Kacchawh (2013).

2) Subsidiary occupation

Information of subsidiary occupation of selected victims was collected and has been given in Table 12.

Table 12. Distribution of the victims according to their Subsidiary occupations

Sr.No.	Subsidiary occupation	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Agriculture + Labour	7	70.00
2.	Agriculture (Farming)	1	10.00
3.	Agriculture + Tractor on rental basis	1	10.00
4.	Agriculture + Dairy business	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was found from Table 12 that majority (70.00%) of victims were engaged in agriculture + labour, followed by each of 10.00 per cent victims were engaged in agriculture, agriculture + tractor on rental basis and agriculture + dairy business. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2008) and Kale (2015).

3) Annual income

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

Table 13. Distribution of the victims according to their Annual income

Sr.No.	Annual income (Rs.)	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	25001-50000	9	90.00
2.	75001-100000	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 13 it is clear that majority (90.00%) of victims were having annual income up to Rs.25001-50000, followed by 10.00

per cent victims were having annual income up to Rs. 75001-100000. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Gavhane (2012) and Kale (2015).

4) Social participation

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

Table 14. Distribution of the victims according to their Social participation

Sr.No.	Social participation	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Low	9	90.00
2.	High	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

From the data depicted in Table 14 it was observed that majority (90.00%) of victims were having low social participation followed by 10.00 per cent victims were having high social participation. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Deshmukh (2011) and Zunjar (2011).

4.2.3 Psychological characteristics

1) Victims health

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

Table 15. Distribution of the victims according to their Victims health

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

From Table 15 it is clear that 70.00 per cent of victims were free from disease, followed by 30.00 per cent victims were suffering from disease. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2011) and Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

2) Family health

The result pertaining to the health status of victim's households are depicted in Table 16.

Table 16. Distribution of the victims according to their Family health

Sr.No.	Family health	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Having health problem	7	70.00
2.	Free from health problem	3	30.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was found from Table 16 that majority (70.00%) of victim's family was suffering from health problem followed by 30.00 per cent victim's family was free from health problem. The findings are contradictory with the findings noted by Roy (2004), Jacob (2006), Kale (2008), Kale (2011) and Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

3) Family disputes

The information on family disputes of the victims were collected and the same is denoted in Table 17.

Table 17. Distribution of the victims according to the Family disputes

Sr.No.	Family disputes	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Low disputes	5	50.00
2.	High disputes	5	50.00
	Total	10	100.00

From the data depicted in Table 17 it was observed that exactly half (50.00%) of victims had low family disputes followed by remaining half (50.00%) of victims had high family disputes. The findings are contradictory with the findings reported by Deshpande (2002), Gavhane (2012) and Tejashree Kacchwah (2015).

4) Victims habits

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

Table 18. Distribution of the victims according to the Victims habits

Sr.No.	Victims habits	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	No bad habits	6	60.00
2.	Smoking	1	10.00
3.	Drinking	2	20.00
4.	Chewing tobacco	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the data presented in Table 18 that 60 per cent of victims had no bad habits, followed by 20.00 per cent victims had habit of drinking and remaining each of 10.00 per cent victims had bad habit of chewing tobacco and smoking respectively. Victims were having bad habits due to tension and mental disturbance. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2008) and Reddy (2007).

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 the victims according to the Type of land

Sr.No.	Type of land	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Deep	2	20.00
2.	Shallow	8	80.00
	Total	10	100.00

From Table 19 it is clear that majority (80.00%) of victims were having shallow type land, remaining 20.00 per cent were having deep land. The findings are contradictory with the findings reported by Sharma (2004), Deshmukh (2007), 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 the victims according to the Irrigation facilities

Sr.No.	Irrigation facilities	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	No source	8	80.00
2.	Well	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

From the data depicted in Table 20 it was observed that majority (80.00%) of victims had no source of irrigation followed by 20.00 per cent victims had wells as source of irrigation. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale and Mankar (2012).

3) Productivity

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

Table 21. Distribution of the victims according to the Productivity

Sr.No.	Productivity	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1	Low	100	100.00
	Total	100	100.00

It was found from Table 21 that all victims had low productivity (100.00%). The findings are contradictory with the findings observed by Mehta (2007), Kale (2010) and Shende (2012).

4) Indebtedness

The details about indebtedness are presented in subsequent Table 22.

Table 22. Distribution of the victims according to the indebtedness

Sr.No.	Indebtedness (Rs.)	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Up to 25000	1	10.00
2.	25001-50000	3	30.00
3.	50001-100000	4	40.00
4.	Above 100000	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was observed from the data presented in Table 22 that out of 10 victim, 4 victims (40.00%) had the debt in the range of Rs. 50001 to 100000. This was followed by 30.00 per cent victims had debt in range of Rs. 25001 to 50000. It was also revealed that out of 10 victims, 20.00 per cent victims had debt above Rs.100000 and only 10.00 per cent victims were having debt up to Rs. 25000. The findings are similar with the findings observed by Kale (2008) and Ghavane (2012).

5) Agriculture infrastructure

Distribution of the victims according to the agriculture infrastructure has been presented in Table 23.

Table 23. Distribution of the victims according to the Agriculture infrastructure

Sr.No.	Agriculture infrastructure	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Low	6	60.00
2.	Medium	3	30.00
3	High	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

The findings in Table 23 revealed that 60.00 percent victims were having low agriculture infrastructure, followed by 30.00 per cent victims were found in medium agriculture infrastructure category and remaining 10.00 per cent had high agriculture infrastructure. The findings are contradictory with the findings reported by Anonymous (2007^b), Reddy (2007) and 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 the victims according to the Extent of family responsibility fulfilled

Sr. No.	Extent of family responsibility fulfilled	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Children education	2	20.00
2.	Health problem	7	70.00
3.	Responsibility of divorced/ daughter's/sister's in family	3	30.00

It was found from Table 24 that 70.00 per cent of victims fulfilled the responsibility of health problems of family members, followed by of 30.00 per cent victims fulfilled responsibility of divorced/daughter's/ sister's in family and remaining 20.00 per cent victims fulfilled responsibility of children education. The findings are similar with findings reported by Mishra (2006).

7) Cropping pattern

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

Table 25. Distribution of the victims according to the Cropping pattern

1.	Kharif crops	8	80.00
2.	Kharif + Rabi crops	2	20.00
	Total	10	100.00

It was found from Table 25 that majority (80.00%) of victims were growing kharif crops in their farm and remaining 20.00 per cent victims were growing kharif + Rabi crops in their farm. The findings are similar with the findings noted by Kale (2008).

8) Cropping intensity

Distributions of victims according to their cropping intensity are presented in Table 26.

Table 26. Distribution of the victims according to the Cropping intensity

Sr.No.	Cropping intensity	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	Upto 100%	8	80.00
2.	101-150%	1	10.00
3.	Above 150%	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

It is observed from Table 26 that majority (80.00%) of victims were having cropping intensity up to 100%, followed by each of 10.00 per cent victims were having cropping intensity in the range of 101-150% and above 150% respectively. The findings are similar with findings reported by Kale (2008) and Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

9) Crop failure

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

Table 27. Distribution of the victims according to the Crop failure

Sr.No.	Crop failure	Frequency (n=10)	Percentage
1.	No failure	2	20.00
2.	1 times	4	40.00
3.	2 times	3	30.00
4.	3 times	1	10.00
	Total	10	100.00

The findings in Table 27 revealed that 40.00 per cent of victims had one time crop failure, followed by 30.00 per cent victims had been suffered from two times crop failure. There were no failure had been seen in 20.00 per cent victims and 10.00 per cent victims were suffering from three times crop failure. The findings are similar with the findings reported by Kale (2011) and Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

4.2.5 Socio-psycho risk factor of suicide

Distribution of selected victims according to their identified risk factors of suicide is shown in Table 28.

Table 28. Distribution of the victims according to the Socio-psycho risk factors of suicide

Sr.No.	Socio-psycho risk factor of suicide	Frequency (n=10)	percent
1.	Increased Indebtedness	10	100.00
2.	Drop in economic status	8	80.00
3.	Hopelessness due to crop failure	7	70.00
4.	Introvertness	1	10.00
5.	Alcohol use disorder	2	20.00
6.	Change in behavior before incident due to stressful life events	2	20.00
7.	Family members chronologically ill	7	70.00
8.	Daughter/sisters marriageable age	2	20.00
9.	Deceased having health problem	3	30.00
10.	Disputes/quarrels with family members	5	50.00
11.	Depressed due to land/ domestic disputes	2	20.00

It is observed that the most common risk factors were indebtedness and consistent crop failure found in 100.00 per cent deceased farmers and were mentioned as a main reason of suicide by the households.

This was followed by drop in economic position of victim was noticed in 80.00 per cent deceased farmers. In nearly each of 70.00 per cent cases, family members chronologically ill and hopelessness due to crop failure was mentioned. Disputes/quarrels with family members were found in 50.00 per cent victims.

The personal health problems of the deceased farmers were identified in 30.00 per cent of the cases, followed by each of 20.00 per cent victims were found, having alcohol use disorder, change in behavior before incident due to stressful life events, daughter/sisters marriageable age and depressed due to land/ domestic disputes.

Introvert personality were identified in 10.00 per cent deceased farmers, as they did not discuss or share their problems with other family members, leading to more frustration. The findings are similar with findings reported by kale (2011), Kale (2012) and Tejashree Kacchwah (2013).

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 (years)	Education	Caste	Family size	Family type	Occupation	Farming experience	Land holding (acres)			Subsidiary occupation
								Rainfed	Seasonally irrigated	Total		
1.	Pandurang Shaligram Nayse	30	7th std	Teli	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	10years	3		3	Agriculture+Labour
2	Ananta Kisan Bhilange	32	3 rd std	Nav-Buddha	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	32 years	4	-	4	Agriculture+Labour
3	Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage	39	3 rd std	Maratha	5	Nuclear	Agriculture	39 years	2	2	4	-
4	Pramod Tularam Sawdekar	51	10 th std	Nav-Buddha	6	Nuclear	Agriculture	31 years	2.5	-	2.5	Agriculture +Labour
5	Govind Sonaji Ghule	24	9 th std	Dhangar	6	Nuclear	Agriculture	5 years	4	-	4	Agriculture+Labour
6	Govind Bhaskar Khupase	35	10 th std	Maratha	7	joint	Agriculture	35 years	6	4	10	Tractor(for rent)
7.	Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe	40	7th std	Kunbhi	7	Nuclear	Agriculture	40 years	5	-	5	Agriculture+Labour
8	Dashrath Janu Mokade	52	5th std	Kunbhi	6	Nuclear	Agriculture	52 years	8	-	8	Agriculture+Labour
9	Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole	45	10th std	Kunbhi	7	joint	Agriculture	45 years	10	-	10	Agriculture+Dairy bussiness
10	Gajanan Pandurang Jawkar	37	3 rd std	Kunbhi	10	joint	Agriculture	37 years	5	-	5	Agriculture+Labour

10 Annual income (Rupees)			11 Social participation	12 Victim's health	C. Psychological Characteristics			D. Situational Characteristics		
Farming	Supplementary	Total			13 Family health	14 Family disputes	15 Victim's habits	16 Type of land	17 Irrigation facilities	18 Productivity
30,000	20,000	50,000	Low	Good	Good	High disputes	Drinking	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
20,000	18,000	38,000	Low	Good	Mother had been suffering from heart disease	High disputes	No	Deep	No source of irrigation	Low
50,000	-	50,000	Low	Good	Husband had been suffering from regular illness	High disputes	No	Shallow	Irrigation well	Low
20,000	20,000	40,000	Low	Good	Daughter had the problem of kidney Stone	No disputes	Smoking	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
25,000	10,000	35,000	Low	Kidney failure	Mother had been suffering from heart disease	No disputes	No	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
80,000	10,000	90,000	High	Good	Good	No disputes	Chewing Gutkha	Shallow	Well	Low
25,000	10,000	35,000	Low	Good	1. Mother had been suffering from heart disease 2. Daughters were dumb and deaf	No disputes	No	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
35,000	15,000	50,000	Low	Appendices	Daughter-in-law was not bearing child	High disputes	No	Deep	No source of irrigation	Low
40,000	10,000	50,000	Low	Diabetes	Good	High disputes	Alcohol	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low
20,000	20,000	40,000	Low	Good	Father was patient of diabetes and T B	No disputes	No	Shallow	No source of irrigation	Low

19			20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Indebtedness (Rupees)			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	20,000	45,000	Low	Children Education	Kharif	10	2 times	1. Indebtedness 2. crop failure 3. Family disputes	19/4/2010	Insecticide Consumption
20,000	-	20,000	Low	Mother's treatment	Kharif	50	2 times	1. Indebtedness 2. crop failure 3. Medical expenses	21/10/2011	Insecticide Consumption
-	35,000	35,000	Medium	Husband Medical Treatment	Kharif+Rabi	150	No failure	1. Son addicted to alcohol 2. Crop failure 3. Family disputes 4. Indebtedness	12/11/2008	Insecticide Consumption
-	45,000	45,000	Low	Divorced daughter and Grandson	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Daughter had divorced 2. Crop failure 3. Indebtedness	13/12/2010	Insecticide Consumption
40,000	20,000	60,000	Medium	Divorce sister and her two son	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Mother's death 2. Crop failure 3. Indebtedness	01/05/2011	Insecticide Consumption
4,90,000	-	4,90,000	High	Children education	Kharif+Rabi	200	3 times	1. Loss in tractor business 2. Indebtedness 3. Crop failure	06/01/2010	Hanging
25,000	50,000	75,000	Low	Treatment of daughters	Kharif	100	No failure	1. Indebtedness 2. Crop failure 3. Family disputes	07/08/2010	Insecticide Consumption
50,000	30,000	80,000	Low	Daughter-in-law's treatment	Kharif	100	2 times	1. Decreased social status 2. Indebtness 3. Crop failure	17/07/2008	Insecticide Consumption

80,000	50,000	1,30,000	Medium	Daughter's marriage	Kharif	100	1 times	4. Indebtedness 1. Unprofitable dairy business 2. Family disputes 3. Indebtedness 4. Crop failure	17/05/2008	Insecticide Consumption
40,000	30,000	70,000	Low	Treatment of father	Kharif	100	1 times	1. Indebtedness 2. Crop failure 3. Medical expenses	05/05/2010	Hanging

4.3 Post Suicide Consequences

Table 30. Post suicide consequences faced by the victim families.

Sr.No	Name of victim's	Consequences faced by the victim families
1.	Pandurang Shaligram Nayse	<p>1. After death of victim, his wife (Deepali) is looking after farming operations and family responsibilities.</p> <p>2. Due to lack of money she lost the court case.</p>
2.	Ananta Kisan Bhilange	<p>1. After the death of victim, his mother sold 2 acres of uncultivable land at very low rate for the education of her grand children's.</p> <p>2. The family of victim is now depended on his mother and the remaining two acres of land was leased out to other as she was not able to manage various farm practices due to old age.</p>
3.	Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage	<p>1. After the death of victim, her elder son is managing farming operations and other two are taking higher education.</p> <p>2. Victim's son sold 2 acres of land for the treatment of his father. After being well, victim's husband entered into another marriage in year 2010 and Vikas also got married in year 2014.</p>
4.	Pramod Tularam Sawdekar	<p>1. After the death of victim, the eldest son Santosh and his mother are managing the farming operations.</p> <p>2. Another son Rajesh stopped his education after 10th standard and migrated to Pune for earning money to help the family economically.</p>

5.	Govind Sonaji Ghule	1. After the death of victim, his father also passed away due to illness in year 2013 and now victim's sister is living in victim's house along with her two sons.
6.	Govind Bhaskar Khupase	1. After the death of victim, his father is unable to work in field and the total family and farm responsibility falls on victim's brother.
7.	Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe	1. After the death of victim, his wife is managing the land holding of 5 acres and the family depends on relatives.
8	Dashrath Janu Mokade	1. After the death of victim, his daughter shifted to her own home. The elder son sold 2 acres of land to repay the loan and managing farming operations.
9.	Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole	1. After the death of victim, the land was equally distributed between both brothers because of regular disputes. 2. Victim's son had lost the court case against opponent.
10.	Gajanan Pandurang Jawkar	After the death of victim, his family got compensation of Rs.1,00,000/- from government. From this money, his wife invested Rs.30,000 for the education of her children. The family is now depended on victim's brother.

Suicide is a social phenomenon; it creates several personal, social and economic consequences within family (Jacob 2006). In Buldana 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 Buldana 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.

4.4 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 Buldana 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 31. Suggestion obtained from the victim's family

Sr.No	Name of victim's	Suggestion given by family member
1.	Pandurang Shaligram Nayse	The family members suggested that farmers should be advised and guide on economical methods of cultivation which would save the money.
2.	Ananta Kisan Bhilange	The family members demanded that, unproductive land should be considered by the Govt. for loan waiving under PM Package.
3.	Pushpabai Vitthal Dhage	The family members suggested that institutional finance should made easy available to farmers.
4.	Pramod Tularam Sawdekar	The family suggested that advanced farm technology should be passed down to small farmers.
5.	Govind Sonaji Ghule	The family suggested that government should provide immediate financial assistance to farmers for major health problems through easy procedure.
6.	Govind Bhaskar Khupase	The members of the family demanded that, when there is crop failure due to any natural calamity, Government should waive off the total crop loans of farmers, which help to minimize the suicide numbers.

7.	Rameshwar Pandurang Sabe	The members of the family demanded that, there urgent need to declare immediately remunerative prices for all crops of farmers in consonance with the cost of cultivation. Presently cost of cultivation increases by many folds due to steep rise in the cost of inputs, but the price of farm produce was not raised proportionately.
8	Dashrath Janu Mokade	Family members suggested that there should be easy procedure in disbursing institutional finance to farmers so that farmers avoid taking loan from money lenders.
9.	Vishwanath Ramkrishna Dhole	The household of the deceased farmer suggested that special kind of loan should be issued by the government for the marriage of the daughter/ sister from various banks as suggestion for avoiding suicides.
10.	Gajanan Pandurang Jawkar	The family members suggested that effective management of water during season of good monsoon should be the primary aim of government.

Some family members of the deceased farmers suggested for complete ban on alcohol, family counseling for increasing self-confidence through local leaders/ social workers, 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 were

the measures suggested by family members of the deceased farmers to solve farmer's distress in Buldana district.

Thus, it is concluded that, majority of the victims' family members suggested for remunerative prices to their farm produce and provision/ creation of irrigation facilities for their farming as the important measures to be taken to prevent the recurrence of suicide tragedies. The present findings are in line with the findings reported by Kale (2008) and Kale and Mankar (2012).

Farmer's suicides are the result of the agrarian crisis, which cannot be solved only with firefighting techniques. A well thought concerted strategy for both the short and long term is needed. While planning short and long term measures, the government should focus on above suggestions made by the family members of deceased farmers. Majority of the family members suggested for remunerative prices for their farm produce and creating irrigation facilities. That means in short term measures there is an urgent need to declare immediately the remunerative prices for all crops and secondly, in long term measures, the government should focus more on increasing rural infrastructure particularly irrigation facilities in Buldana district, because irrigation and other infrastructure facilities are very poor in Buldana district.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Recently, the phenomenon of suicides of the farmers in Buldana district and other part of the country is one of the most tragic events in the history of India. In Buldana, 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 Buldana district which is medium suicide prone district of Vidarbha. The variables selected for the study were age, education, caste, family size, family type, farming experience, land holding, subsidiary occupation, annual income, social participation, victims health, family health, family dispute, victim's habits, type of land, irrigation facilities, productivity, indebtedness, agriculture infrastructure, extent of family responsibility fulfilled, cropping pattern, cropping intensity, crop failure and socio-psycho risk factors of suicide. The primary data were collected through the personal interview for the year 2014-2015, for fulfilling the following objectives.

5.1 Specific objectives of the study

The specific objectives of the study are given below.

- 1) To study the personal, socio-economic, situational and socio-psychological characteristic of the farmers and families of the farmers who committed suicide.
- 2) To study the detail about suicide path of individual victim.

- 3) To study the credit sources and Indebtedness of suicide farmer.
- 4) To study the post suicide consequences faced by the farmers families.
- 5) To document the suggestions from deceased farmers families for avoiding suicide.

5.2 Methodology

The study was conducted in Buldana district by conducting field survey with exploratory 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 proportionate method of random sampling, which covered 10 villages and 5 tahsils of Buldana district.

5.3 Result and Discussion

5.3.1 Findings of the present investigation are summarized as below

- 1) It is observed that 40.00 per cent of victims were under young and middle group.
- 2) It is inferred that 30.00 per cent of victims were educated up to primary school.
- 3) It is found that, 50.00 per cent cases were belongs to OBC.
- 4) It is clear that majority (70.00%) of victims were concentrated in medium (4 to 6 members) size family.
- 5) It could be noted that majority 70.00 per cent of victims were concentrated in nuclear family.
- 6) It can be seen that, each of 30.00 per cent victims had farming experience up to 10 years.

- 7) It is found that, 60.00 per cent of victims were small farmers.
- 8) It is observed that majority (70.00%) of victims were engaged in agriculture and wages.
- 9) It could be seen that majority (90.00%) of victims were having annual income up to Rs. 25,000 to Rs.50,000.
- 10) It is found that, 90.00 per cent of victims had low social participation.
- 11) It is observed that 70.00 per cent of victims were free from diseases.
- 12) It is inferred that 70.00 per cent of victim's family was suffering from health problems.
- 13) It is observed that 50.00 per cent of victims had high family disputes.
- 14) It is clear that 40.00 per cent of victims had bad habit.
- 15) It is observed that majority (80.00%) of victims were having shallow type of land.
- 16) It is inferred that majority (80.00%) victims were having no source of irrigation.
- 17) It is observed that 40.00 per cent victims were found indebted up to Rs.50001- Rs.100000.
- 19) It is clear that 20.00 per cent of victims fulfilled the responsibility of children education followed by 70.00 per cent of victims fulfilled the responsibility of health of family members and 30.00 per cent of victims fulfilled the responsibility of daughters/sisters marriage.
- 20) It is inferred that majority (80.00%) of victim were growing kharif crops in their farm.

22) It is observed that the most common risk factor was Indebtedness and consistent crop failure found in all deceased farmers (100.00%) and was mentioned as a main reason of suicide by the household.

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 Consequences of suicides

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 victim.

5.6 Suggestions to prevent suicide

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 farmer's distress in Buldana district.

CHAPTER VI

IMPLICATION

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

Implication for action

It was observed that suicide victims had no subsidiary occupations to support their livelihood and majority of them have 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 rainfed 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.

Victim's inability to expense on medical treatment was noted. Hence it implies that there is necessity to provide required medical treatment at low budget.

Victim's inability to expense on marriage was noted. Hence this study 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 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.

6.2 Implications for future Research

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

- 1) In Buldana 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 Buldana 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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Signature of Student

Annexure - I
INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

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

Researcher Name :Ghonge Priti Gajananrao (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					

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			
1	Kharif crops		
2	Kharif + Rabi crops		
3	Kharif + Rabi +Summer crops		
4	Perennial crops		

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
1.	Increased Indebtedness	
2.	Drop in economic status	
3.	Hopelessness due to crop failure	
4.	Introvert ness	
5.	Alcohol use disorder	
6.	Change in behaviour before incident due to stressful life events	
7.	Effect of suicide in adjoining village	
8.	Family members chronologically ill/ handicapped	
9.	Daughter/sisters marriageable age	
10.	Deceased having health problem	
11.	Disputes/quarrels with family members	
12.	Family history of suicide	
13.	Disgraceful event	
14.	Death of family member before incident	
15.	Given verbal clues before suicide	
16.	Depressed due to land/ domestic disputes	
17.	Disputes with neighbours	
18.	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	

H. Suggestions : (For avoiding suicides)

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

I. Any additional information about the victim.



Annexure - II

Farmers suicide chart of suicide prone six districts of Vidarbha (1-1-2008 to 31-12-2012)

Sr. No	Districts	1/1/2008 to 31/12/2008	1/1/2009 to 31/12/2009	1/1/2010 to 31/12/2010	1/1/2011 to 31/12/2011	1/1/2012 to 31/12/2012	Numbers of Farmers Suicide
1	Amravati	276	198	236	270	157	1137
2	Akola	166	146	230	133	295	970
3	Yavatmal	311	325	320	252	275	1483
4	Buldana	173	87	106	120	133	619
5	Washim	126	121	122	88	82	539
6	Wardha	88	98	126	113	112	537
	Total	1140	975	1140	976	1054	5285

Actual Farmers Suicide Cases considered by Government as Legal suicide (Genuine reason) in six districts of Vidarbha (1-1-2008 to 31-12-2012)

Sr. No	Districts	1/1/2008 to 31/12/2008	1/1/2009 to 31/12/2009	1/1/2010 to 31/12/2010	1/1/2011 to 31/12/2011	1/1/2012 to 31/12/2012	Numbers of Farmers Suicide
1	Amravati	69	42	32	82	39	264
2	Akola	88	91	92	83	84	438
3	Yavatmal	68	36	33	91	137	365
4	Buldana	37	39	64	57	66	263
5	Washim	43	25	28	28	27	151
6	Wardha	15	24	28	32	53	152
	Total	320	257	277	373	406	1633

As per Govt. Record (Anonymous, 2012⁵)