



UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE
CENTRE FOR STUDY OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND
INCLUSIVE POLICY

Humanities Block, Manasagangothri, Mysore - 570006

*On the occasion of Decennial Celebration CSSEIP is
Organizing*

Two Day National Seminar
On

**Agrarian Crisis and Farmers Suicide in India:
Causes, Consequences and Remedies**

7th and 8th February, 2019

Venue:
Manasagangothri, University of Mysore, Mysore - 570006

To.

Organized by
CENTRE FOR STUDY OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND INCLUSIVE POLICY
UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE, MYSORE - 570006

Funding Courtesy:



Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi

BACKGROUND

Twenty first century India has emerged as a major economic power in the world, with the growth rate of the gross domestic product reaching impressive levels and the poverty ratio coming down significantly. In the context of such a scenario, it is indeed very incongruous and difficult to believe that the Indian countryside where the large majority of its people live is in the grip of a severe agrarian crisis. In the opinion of Prabhat Patnaik (2007), this crisis in Indian agriculture is “unparalleled since independence and reminiscent only of the agrarian crisis of pre-war and war days”. According to Sahai, the most tragic face of India’s agrarian crisis is seen in the increasing number of farmer suicides, not just in the hotspot areas of Andhra Pradesh and Vidarbha but in the allegedly prosperous agricultural zones of Punjab and Karnataka as well.

Over the last one and a half decades the issue of farmers’ suicide in different parts of the world, including India has slowly become a major issue in the research and policy debates. The problem of farmer’s suicides, also known as the Agrarian crisis is the rampant phenomenon of suicides among Indian farmers from 1990 to the present. It has been exacerbated by the inability to repay growing debt, often taken from local moneylenders and microcredit banks to pay for high priced high yield seeds marketed by MNCs and the non-implementation of minimum support prices (MSP) by state governments. During the duration from 1998 to 2018, it has resulted in the suicides of 3,00,000 farmers in the country, often by drinking pesticides themselves. India is an agrarian country with around 70% of its people depending directly or indirectly upon agriculture. Farmer suicides account for 11.2% of all suicides in India. Activists and scholars have offered a number of conflicting reasons for farmer suicides, such as monsoon failure, high debt burdens, government policies, public mental health, personal issues and family problems.

The phenomenon of suicide by farmers has in recent years tended to dominate the discourse on rural India. There have been several studies pointing to the significance of the phenomenon as well as the magnitude of the distress that goes with it. Underlying several of these studies is a role for inequality in this phenomenon. The emphasis on farmers’ suicides suggests that there is an inequality in the vulnerability of different groups to suicide, with farmers having a greater vulnerability than others. Again, the presentation of farmers’ suicides as a national crisis suggests that while there may be regional inequality in the vulnerability to suicide, all states face the same crisis. And if we were to go beyond the existing literature, there is the question of whether inequality can be a cause of farmers’ suicides. Much of the literature on farmers’ suicides has tended to focus on capturing the extent and nature of distress caused by the crisis. The intensity of the crisis has drawn researchers to investigate individual cases in great detail.. But these studies do not look at the relative vulnerability of farmers to other groups, nor do they adequately analyse the regional variation in this vulnerability, and they do not provide even a preliminary impression of the possible role of inequality in this process.

Significance of the Seminar

This seminar is to explore each of these roles for inequality and agrarian crises in the patterns of farmers’ suicides. While such an exploration may help us better understand the nature of farmers’ suicides. This seminar begins with an exploration of the relative vulnerability of different groups to suicide; it then explores the nature of regional inequality in farmers’ suicides; before ending with a preliminary exploration of the relationship between inequality, poverty and farmers’ suicides. In addition, the seminar will provide an opportunity for researchers, academic experts, social scientists, corporate people, famers unions etc, to meet and deliberate the current issues and share their experience and research findings on different shades of agrarian crises and farmers suicides in India. Moreover, scientific papers will be presented during various technical sessions of the seminar are mainly will be focused on exclusion of farmers, agrarian crises and reasons for farmers’ suicides in India.

Keeping this in view, the Centre for study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy is organizing a two-day national seminar on “Agrarian Crisis and Farmers Suicide in India: Causes, Consequences and Remedies” which will be held on 7th and 8th February 2019.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR:

1. To examine and analyze the nature and extent of the prevailing agrarian crisis in India;
2. To try to locate the crisis or suicide to the negative growth of economy in recent past, including reaction to multiple factors in the larger context of globalization.
3. To analyse the effects of farmers' suicides on agriculture;
4. To discuss the various causes for agrarian crises;
5. To identify the factors responsible for pushing the farmers to commit suicides;
6. To discuss the future challenges faced by farmers;
7. To identify the suitable measures to control the farmers' suicide and
8. Motivate the faculty and research scholars to engage in research in the study of agrarian crisis and farmers' suicide.

SUB-THEMES FOR PAPER PRESENTATIONS

The following areas will be the Sub themes for this seminar on 'Agrarian Crisis and Farmers Suicide in India: Causes, Consequences and Remedies.

- Social and Economic factors and Farmers suicide
- Government programmes for the development of agriculture sector
- LPG and farmers' Suicide
- Agriculture marketing and Farmers suicide
- Inadequate storage facilities
- Exclusion of farmers
- Climate Change and farmers' suicide
- Debt and Farmers' Suicide
- Farmers loan waiver
- Impact of farm loan waiver on Indian economy
- Role of youths in agriculture development
- Incessant floods and farmers' suicide
- Decline in prices of agricultural produce and increase in the cost of agricultural inputs.
- Crop Insurance, Availability of agricultural Credit facility and Minimum Support Prices
- Suicide and Commercialization of Crop
- State Response to Crisis and Suicide

ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE

The **University of Mysore (Accredited with A++)** spread around 750 acres is among the leading institutions of its type, and is a long-term symbol in the focus on excellence in higher education in India. It was founded by the then Maharaja of Mysore, His Highness Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV on July 27, 1916. The University of Mysore became the first University outside the sphere of the British administration in India, the sixth University in India as a whole, and the first ever University in Karnataka State. And University of Mysore is celebrating centenary year in 2016.

ABOUT CENTRE FOR STUDY OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND INCLUSIVE POLICY

The Tenth Plan recognizes that marginalization, exclusion, persecution of people on account of social, religious, caste and gender adversely affect developmental outcomes. The State is committed to instituting a National Charter to ensure social justice to deprived communities like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward castes and minorities. With this background, the CSSEIP is a University Grants Commission (UGC) sponsored centre functioning in University of Mysore (Karnataka) to conduct research on the issue of social exclusion, which has hypothetical as well as policy importance. The focus of the centre will be social exclusion and inclusion related to Dalits, tribal, and religious minorities etc.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers are invited on any of the sub-themes of the seminar. Contributions may take the form of a paper.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT AND FULL PAPER

- ✦ The abstract (500 words) and full paper (10 to 12 Pages) should be submitted by email to acfscsseip2019@gmail.com. An expert committee will short-list the selected papers. Selected full papers will be double blind refereed by the peer experts for their selection for publication in the edited volume/Referred Journal (with ISBN/ISSN).
- ✦ The papers should be submitted in both hard and soft copy (in MS word, Times New Roman, A-4 size with one-and-a-half line spacing and one-inch margin all around and maximum 10 to 12 pages). Papers without soft copy will not be accepted.
- ✦ The research papers shall be preferably in the standard research format, spelling out the need for the study, objectives of the study, hypothesis if any, methodology, techniques of data analysis, findings/ results, conclusion, references and statistical tables, in that order.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS:

Two days Moderate lodging and boarding facilities will be provided (outstation paper presenter) in the university guesthouse on twin share basis on first come first serve base.

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

Paper Presenters	: Rs. 300/-
Faculty and Academicians	: Rs. 250/-
Research Scholars	: Rs. 200/-
Students	: Rs. 150/-

IMPORTANT DATES:

Last date for submission of abstract	: 31.12.2018
Acceptance to be communicated	: 02.01.2019
Submission of Full Paper	: 15.01.2019
Seminar Dates	: 7 th and 8 th February 2019

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE	
<p>Chief Patron Prof. G. Hemanatha Kumar Hon. Vice Chancellor, University of Mysore, Mysore</p>	<p>Patron Prof. R Rajanna Hon. Registrar, University of Mysore, Mysore</p>
<p>Organizing Secretary/Convener Dr. SIDDARAJU. V.G Associate Professor CSSEIP, University of Mysore, Mysore Cell: 09480771681/0821-2419362, Email: drsiddarajuv@gmail.com</p>	
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