A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON THE NON LINEAR RELATION BETWEEN FARMER'S SUICIDE AND THE INDIA'S WHI

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ABSTRACT

The world is discovering new ideas, inventions and innovations each second. The technologies have gone up to the level of space and deep water travelling touched the end of remote sensing and what not? But on the contrary, it has at least one billion people without enough to eat each day. These contradictions would not come as a shock to the greatest of humanity, including Aristotle and the Buddha. Material life must be harnessed to meet these human needs, most importantly to promote the end of suffering, social justice, and attainment of happiness. The challenge is real for all the part of the world.

The socioeconomic inequalities have widened considerably, the trust of government and society has come down. The relatives of poverty, anxiety, environmental degradation and unhappiness in the midst of great plenty should not be regarded as mere curiosities. The objective of this paper is to manifest the inter-relationship between the World Happiness Index and Farmer suicides. The secondary data have been collected from journals, magazines and the internet. Indian farmers challenged by the serious issues like bankruptcy, drought and other farming works and family problems etc. This paper has made an attempt to examine the non-linear relation between India's ranks on the World Happiness Index with Farmers' suicide.

KEYWORDS: *Farmer's Suicide, World Happiness Index, Non Linear Relation*

INTRODUCTION

"People tend to spend the majority of their lives working, so it is important to understand the role that employment and unemployment play in shaping happiness," said Professor Jan- Emmanueal De Neve of the University Oxford. His research reveals that happiness differs considerably across employment status, job type and industry sectors. The World Happiness Report 2017 looks at trends in the data recording how highly people evaluate their lives on 0 to 10. The ranking survey took place between 155 countries. The survey was conducted by American research based company Gallup. The variables taken for the survey were GDP per capita, healthy life expectancy, social support, freedom to make life choices, perceptions of corruption, and generosity. According to the world happiness report 2017, Norway was ranked as first place and Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland and Finland were respectively ranked next places.India has ranked on the 122nd position and nations like China (79), Pakistan (80), Nepal (99), Bangladesh (110) fared better than India on ranking.

In fact, the report also highlighted that, among the wealthier countries the differences in happiness levels had a lot to do with "differences in mental health, physical health and personal relationships: the biggest single source of misery is mental illness. India ranked four notches below its previous rank, it shows that overall mental illness of the Indians coming down. One of the main reasons of farmer's suicide is mental stress. According to Indian National Crime Records Bureau Ministry of Home Affairs 2015 report the total number of farmer's suicides in India since 1995 crossed 3, 19,665.

70 percent of the people's economic status of suicide victims belongs to less than 1 lakh income. As per the Indian Economic Survey 58 percent of the people belongs to agricultural sector and their share in GDP was 17.4 percent in 2015-2016. It indicates that farmer's livelihood is unhealthy and our society marked irrational picture. The farmer's low income due to crop failure, loss, indebtedness leads to poverty and finally suicide attempted by mental stress. Henceforth, the researcherfinds the gap and to examine the non linear relation between the Indian farmer's suicide and World Happiness Index rank of India.

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the non linear relation between farmer's suicides and World Happiness Index of India.

METHODOLOGY

- The present study undertaken by the researcher based on the secondary data. Data and resources gathered from journals, text books, official reports and web search (Internet). The limitations of the study were restricted to secondary data.

INDIA AND FARMER'S SUICIDES

Economist K. Nagaraj, author of the biggest study on Indian farm suicides, says, "That these numbers are rising even as the farmer population shrinks, confirms the agrarian crisis is still burning." The farmer's suicides rate has been increased than the agricultural labourers from 42 percent to 32 percent.More than 3,00,000 Indian farmers have committed suicide since 1995. As per NCRB report of 2016 the following table 1 represent the picture of Indian farmer's suicides in percentage in different states.

Table 1: Percentage of Farmer's Suicide in Top five States

Year	2013	2014	2015
Maharashtra	12.3	12.4	12.7
Tamil Nadu	12.3	12.2	11.8
Andhra Pradesh	10.8	10.9	10.9
West Bengal	9.7	8.3	8.1
Karnataka	8.4	7.3	7.7

Source: NCRB ADSI ANNUAL REPORT

The table 1 represents the NCRB statistics data of top five states in India. Maharashtra reported the highest number of suicidal deaths in all the three consecutive years, followed by Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh. The West Bengal and Karnataka has shown the decline in 2014 and again it has risen due to changes in the criteria of data. Among the Union territories Delhi has reported the highest number and followed by Puducherry. A total of 19,665 suicides were reported in the 53 mega cities of the country during 2015.

REASONS FOR CAUSES OF FARMERS SUICIDE

Table 2: Percentage of Reasons for Suicide of Farmers

Reasons for Suicide	Percentage
Poverty	2.6
Property Dispute	0.9
Marriage related issues	2.1
Non-settlement of marriage	0.4
Dowry issues	0.7
Extra marital affairs	0.1
Divorce	0.1
Family problems	**20.7**
Farming issues	**17.2**
Failure of crops (Total)	**16.8**
Due to natural calamities	8.7
Due to other reasons	8.2
Inability to sell	0.3
Illness (Total)	13.2
Bankruptcy or indebtedness (Total)	**20.6**
Due to crop loan	**17.1**
Due to farm equipment loan	0.4
Due to non-agricultural loan	3.1
Causes not known	4.1
Other causes	14.7
Total	**100.0**

Source: Ncrb Adsi Annual Report

The table 2 depicts that reasons for suicide of farmers in rural area. The majority of two fifth reasons taken over by family problems and bankruptcy and other major reasons were farming, crop loan, failure of crops. These reasons primarily affect the self-esteem and respect in society which leads them to mental stress and worries. This kind of mind set creates a heavy mental burden and they themselves probably blame and commit suicides.

Literature Review

Macharia (2015) investigated that majority of small and marginal peasants depend on non-institutional credit facilities (i.e. moneylenders, micro financers and traders). He also reported that farmer's suicides take place among the scheduled castes and tribe families who cultivate commercial crops. Low yields, extremely reduced profits and mounting debts make their agricultural life extremely difficult.

Chikkara and Kodan (2014) opined that the informal mechanism of credit delivery played an important role for marginal and small farmers in meeting their credit requirements in the State of Haryana. In addition, maximum indebtedness was found to be on the 615-775 MPCE class farm households in the State and Scheduled Caste and Backward Class farm households.

Kanthi (2014) in his study on economics of agriculture and farmers' suicides in Warangal District in Andhra Pradesh reported that the contributory factors for farmers suicides in Andhra Pradesh as farmers indebtedness, crop loss and failure and risk factor, input (seed, fertilisers, pesticides, irrigation, credit) related problems, inadequate institutional finance, failure of agricultural extension system lack of storage and marketing facilities, lack of remunerative prices and absence of agricultural insurance.

Mohanty (2014) in a study conducted in Amravati and Yavatmal district argued that crop loss and egoistic factors led to suicidal tendency among small farmers. On the contrary, the suicides of large and medium farmers who belong to higher castes were attributed mainly to the anomic forces generated by failure in business, trade and politics. The socio-cultural factors such as old age, illness, family tension, etc, further added their urge to take their own lives. They concluded that the suicides of farmers are neither properly anomic nor egoistic rather they are ego- anomic in nature.

Kumar et al., (2010) examined the performance of agricultural credit flow and has identified the determinants of increased use of institutional credit at the farm household level in India. The result indicated that the quantum of institutional credit availed by the farming households is affected by a number of socio-demographic factors which include education, farm size, family size, caste, gender, occupation of household, etc.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Agriculture is like nerve system of the country. If it is collapsed, then the whole system will be disturbed, which was happening in India. 58 percent of Indians were engaged in agricultural sector and when they are not getting enough basic amenities that too meal per each day lead them to mental stress. World Happiness Index has taken from 2012 and the first report was published since 2013. It defines the happiness level of the country on the basis of critical indicators that is well-being and happiness are of nation's economic and social development. "The report gives evidence on how to achieve societal well-being. It's not only by money alone, but also by fairness, honesty, trust, and good health. These evidence will be useful to all the countries as they pursue the new sustainable development goals. The WHI also encourages the government around the world to set the polices that put well being first. According to United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the happiest people in the world apparently reside in Northern Europe.

As India is a developing country with second highest population in world residing with economic and social crisis. Day-by-day it faces more socio economic and political problems with corruptions and not even allowing the human to feel happy. The following table 3 index the position of India.

Table 3: India's Rank on World Happiness Index

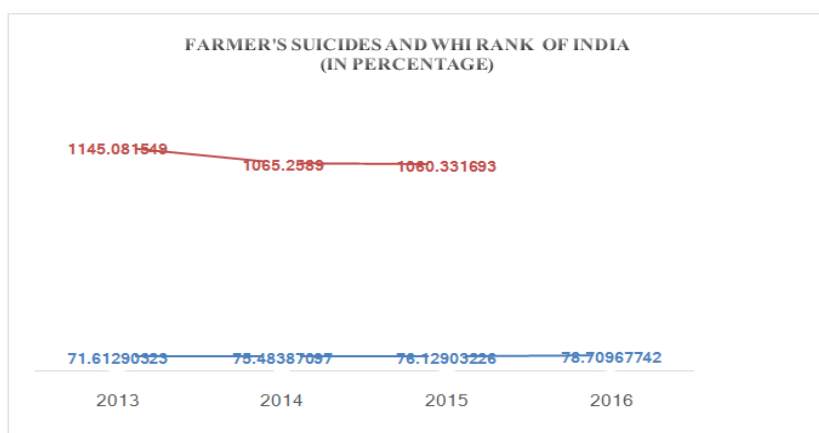| Year	WHI Rank of India
2013	111
2014	117
2015	118
2016	122

Source: Whi Annual Report

It has started his backward direction of the journey from the 111th position in 2013 to 122nd position in 2016. India did not make any improvement in its happiness quotient, ranking 122nd out of 156 courtiers and coming behind China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Among the Indians freedom to make life choices (well-being) and social support were not given by neither by the society nor by the government. Inequalities have increased significantly when comparing to other nations. The following table 4 depicts the non linear relation between farmer's suicide and WHI of India.

Table 4: Non Linear Relation between Farmer's Suicide and WHI of India

Year	WHI Rank of India	No. of Farmers Suicide
2013	111	11,772
2014	117	12,360
2015	118	12,602
2016	122	11,458*

Source: Ncrb Adsi Annual Report

The table 4 manifest the non linear relation and shows due to farmer's suicide world happiness position of India is taking backward movement. The major reason was the well being and social freedom and political pressure not letting themto go ahead.The above figures were converted into percentage and represented as graph. The first line indicates the farmer's suicidal numbers and second line represents the WHI of India.

Figure 1

FINDINGS

- According to NCRB statistics data , Maharashtra reported the highest number of suicidal deaths in all the three consecutive years, followed by Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh.

- The major reasons for suicide of farmers in rural area were family problems and bankruptcy and other reasons were farming, crop loan, failure of crops.

- WHI report says that 111th position in 2013 to 122nd position in 2016 which highlights the India moved to backward position.

- A non linear relation seen between farmer's suicide and world happiness position of India.

SUGGESTIONS

- The farmers can be given orientation and awareness to overcoming their stress.

- The government can reduce the cost of cultivation process and it may also can purchase the agricultural products in high price.

- The new technological tools may be imported to protect the perishable products as well as it can be preserved for the future.

- The government should take in charge of joining all the rivers of India together to protect the natural climatic conditions forever.

- As India is agrarian country with large population, the sever environment protection laws to be implemented by the government.

CONCLUSIONS

Our nation is in extremely hesitant place than other countries. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) suggested our government and the policy makers to implement the laws and policies for the farming sector. Failure of crop not only affects the farmers financially, but also puts them under tremendous stress and mental agony. The government should frame the policies according to the advice of WHI report as well-being as its first goal to the national citizens. We hope our country should reach at least two steps forward-facing in future annual years.

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