

AN EXTRAMURAL SEMINAR
ON
"FARMER DISTRESS AND POLICY PARALYSIS IN INDIA"

Presented by:

Mr. Khirod Kumar Chaudhury

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Kendrapara

On

25th November 2019



Organised by:

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS,

PATTAMUNDAI COLLEGE,

PATTAMUNDAI

KENDRAPARA-754215

REPORT

An Extramural Seminar was organised by the Department of Economics, Pattamundai college, Pattamundai on 25-11-2019 at 11AM in the Auditorium hall. The topic of the seminar was "**Farmer Distress and Policy Paralysis in India**". Mr. Khirod Kumar Chaudhury, Lecturer in Economics, S.N College, Rajkanika was the resource person in the seminar. All the students of the department were present in the seminar and participated in the discussion. Other members of the department were also present in the seminar. Mr. Pradyumna Pradhan, head of the department chaired the meeting and gave key note address. Mr. Subhasis Mishra, Lecturer in Economics Introduce the Resource Person Mr. Khirod Kumar Chaudhury to the seminar. Miss Swarnaprava Das, student of +3 2nd year gave the vote of thanks.

FARMER DISTRESS AND POLICY PARALYSIS IN INDIA

Khirod Kumar Chaudhury,

S. N. College, Rajkanika

Introduction:

Development and better income are pulling larger number of rural Indians including farmers to the cities. Farming is no longer an attractive career option. Dr Shailaja Fennell forms the centre of Development studies and it's becoming difficult to get a reliable income from agriculture in many parts of the Indian subcontinent.

The success of India's agriculture industry has not reduced the distress of its farmers. India needs to equip its farmers with education and technology to help the agriculture industry move forward from the present crisis. The government should invest more in research and development as the Indian agriculture is faced with insurmountable challenges such as soil degradation and climate change. State government's loan waiver schemes for farmers, is not the solution. It is a scratch on the tip of the ice berg.

The agriculture sector is plagued by countless issues, declining incomes, inflation, riots, severe socioeconomic ripple effects, drought, underinvestment and unproductive land. Indian farmers are also troubled by adverse weather, unruly landowners and price surges. Besides, social, market and economic pressures add onto their distress. In March, earlier this year, more than 30,000 farmers marched from different parts of Maharashtra to Mumbai to bring their grievances about land rights to the fore.

Recent developments in Indian agriculture:

- ▶ Acceleration of agricultural growth, but price instability and market risk have become significant
- ▶ Regional convergence in agricultural productivity because of faster growth in the low productivity states
- ▶ Declining relative importance of agriculture in the national income, and farm household income (60%)

- ▶ But agriculture a major source of rural livelihoods
- ▶ Rising share of horticultural and livestock products in AgGDP (>50%)
- ▶ Trade issue still important in oilseeds, pulses and sugar

Farmer Distress: Three Questions:

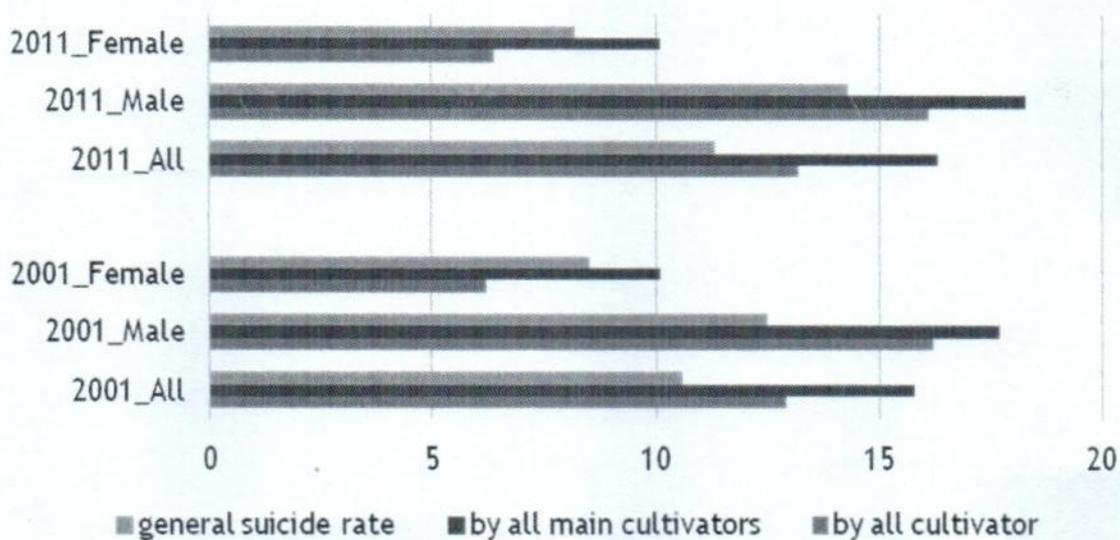
- ▶ Why farmers are at cross road in every dawn irrespective of plethora of risk aversion mechanisms?
- ▶ Why is it that the data for farmers' suicides are available from mid nineties only? Is this relatively new phenomenon indicative of a qualitatively different form of agrarian distress?
- ▶ Why is it that when we look at the spatiality's of farmers' suicides, we find that one or more of the following characteristics are true of the states with high incidence of suicides:
 1. High PCNDP (high per capita income)
 2. High levels of urbanization
 3. High degree of crop diversification with relative dominance of non-food crops

	Total Number of Farmers Suicides	Index number	% of total suicides
1997	13622	100	14.2
1998	16015	118	15.3
1999	16082	118	14.5
2000	16603	122	15.3
2001	16415	121	15.1
2002	17971	132	16.3

2003	17164	126	15.5
2004	18241	134	16
2005	17131	126	15
2006	17060	125	14.4
2007	16632	122	13.6
2008	16196	119	13
2009	17368	127	13.7
2010	15964	117	11.9
2011	15652	115	11.4
2012	16272	119	11.9
Entire Period	264388		14.2

4. Significant and/or area under cotton, a crop that has performed reasonably well in recent years.

Farmers' Suicide Rate (per 100,000) 2011



How should we look at current farmer distress?

- ▶ Not from within agriculture only! Contextualise agriculture in the larger development model.
- ▶ Not only an issue between the landlords or the laboring poor only: upward mobility of peasants practicing capitalistic form of agriculture who were historically not the landlords in the pre-capitalistic period
- ▶ It is an issue between the urban and the rural, the corporate entry in agriculture, but *more than that a distinct departure of the role of the nation state in the way it perceives agriculture.*
- ▶ *Lack of sustainable agricultural development policy*

Distributive Issues: The Natural Resources:

- ▶ Natural capital, particularly land is owned by individuals, groups and corporate interests, and the distribution for this is skewed.
- ▶ Ownership of genetic resources even more skewed and instruments of skewing such resources emerges from and is rooted within the requirements of globalization.
- ▶ Common property resources: coming under increased threat of privatization and satiation.

Agricultural policy domain:

- ▶ Minimum support price (MSP) : to check price floor
- ▶ Contract farming : provides way to input availability
- ▶ Derivative market: controls market risk
- ▶ Agricultural subsidy: fertilizer and pesticide subsidy
- ▶ National Agricultural insurance scheme (NAIS)/ PMKBY: covers all risk from sowing of seed to harvesting
- ▶ Other policies

Conclusion:

- ▶ There is a qualitative difference in the agrarian distress ailing the country in recent years: the poorest states, the foodgrain specialized states are not the ones that, though vulnerable, are surprisingly NOT the worst off ones.

- ▶ The growth-centric neoliberal model of 'development' completely bypasses agriculture, focusing primarily on large cities.
- ▶ The role of the state has historically been crucial for overall progress of rural community; green revolution would not have been a revolution minus the role of the state.
- ▶ The withdrawal of the state from agriculture coupled with increased corporatization of agriculture, particularly of the monopolistic variety is central to the current agrarian distress rather than variability of monsoon.
- ▶ It appears that WDR 2009 'Reshaping Economic Geography' and its prescription gets almost completely invalidated given the experience of urbanized states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

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Date: 25.11.2019

Sl No	Name of the Student	Roll No	Signature of the Student
1	Sangita Sarangi	BA-18-009	934720988. Sangita Sarangi
2	Anpita Priyadarshini Nath	BA-18-006	7608845077 Anpita Priyadarshini
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4	Satabdi Taraya Das	BA-18-195	9040692638 Satabdi Taraya Das
5	Subhashree Rout	BA-18-094	9938718424 Subhashree Rout
6	Madhymita Sutar	BA-18-118	7750982849 Madhymita Sutar
7	Pratishruti Panda	BA-18-093	6371697686 Pratishruti Panda
8	Anjana Samal.	BA-18-249	6370155639 Anjana Samal.
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14	Archana Bai	BA18-038	7751026156 Archana Bai
15	Amiyakumar Das	BA-17-208	9090141362 Amiyakumar Das
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36	Bishwajit Nayak	BA-18-169	9178809368 Bishwajit Nayak
37	Purnima Baccin	BA-19-180	9348125253 Purnima Baccin
38	Sasmita Senapati	BA-19-025	9937438209 Sasmita Senapati
39	Satyaban Rout	BA-18-238	9348530076 Satyaban Rout
40	Subhasmita Sahoo	BA-19-063	9178694162 Subhasmita Sahoo
41	Lipsa Sahoo	BA-19-068	9938175925 Lipsa Sahoo
42	Abhinash Pradhan	BA18-048	9178693270 Abhinash Pradhan
43	Bijaya Laxmi Santhia	BA19-174	8018805542 Bijaya Laxmi Santhia
44	Urbasi Sethi	BA-18-054	8342956721 Urbasi Sethi
45	Anjali Mishra	BA19-008	7327820979 Anjali Mishra
46	Tapaswari Panda	BA-17-252	8114938666 Tapaswari Panda
47	Sasmita Rout	BA-19-055	9178908679 Sasmita Rout
48	Suvasmini Suvasmita Das	BA-19-194	8018823824 Suvasmini Suvasmita Das
49	Manisha Rout	BA-17-154	6370163294 Manisha Rout
50	Bijaya Laxmi Das	BA-17-063	7978731120 Bijaya Laxmi Das
51	Sushree Rajashree Barik	BA-19-246	7008236017 Sushree Rajashree Barik
52	Ambika Das	BA17-143	6371634898 Ambika Das
53	Smita Das	BA-17-192	9853440401 Smita Das
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55	Laxmi Priya Rout	BA-19-30	9556514619 Laxmi Priya Rout
56	Anita Tarai	BA-17-231	8455019762 Anita Tarai
57	Sangita Behera	BA-19-153	8598097343 Sangita Behera
58	Sanghamitra Khandal	BA-17-130	6371394500 Sanghamitra Khandal
59	Lul Chup Dash	BA-19-242	0853140155 Lul Chup Dash
60	Sasmita Rout	BA-17-046	8594819387 Sasmita Rout
61	Smita Parida	BA-17-020	9556317992 S.R. Parida
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65	Satyaranjan Dinda	BA-19-03	9337097009 Satyaranjan Dinda
66	Anita Malik	BA-17-133	9777636331 Anita Malik
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Teachers Present

Sl No	Name of the Teacher	Signature
1	Pradyuman Pradhan	P. Pradhan
2	Subhasis Mishra	S. Mishra
3	Sanjay Kumar Pradhan	S. Pradhan
4	Nibedita Pradhan	N. Pradhan
5	Nimma Kumar Sahoo	N. Sahoo
6	Premalata Patra	P. Patra
7	Dr. Ajay Kumar Dash	A. Dash
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NEWS Clips

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'ଭାରତରେ ଚାଷୀ ଯତ୍ନଶୀଳ ଓ ସରକାରୀ ନୀତି ପକ୍ଷାପାତ' ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ର

ପଟ୍ଟାମୁଣ୍ଡାଇ, ୨୬ / ୧୧ (ଇମିଏ): ପଟ୍ଟାମୁଣ୍ଡାଇ କଲେଜ ଅର୍ଥଶାସ୍ତ୍ର ବିଭାଗ ପକ୍ଷରୁ 'ଭାରତରେ ଚାଷୀ ଯତ୍ନଶୀଳ ଓ ସରକାରୀ ନୀତି ପକ୍ଷାପାତ' ଶୀର୍ଷକ ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ର ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ହୋଇଯାଇଛି । ବିଭାଗୀୟ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଅଧ୍ୟାପକ ପ୍ରଦ୍ୟୁମ୍ନ ପ୍ରଧାନଙ୍କ ସଭାପତିତ୍ୱରେ ଆୟୋଜିତ ଏହି ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ରରେ ଏକ-ଏକ

କଲେଜର ଅଧ୍ୟାପକ
 କ୍ଷୀରଚନ୍ଦ୍ର କୁମାର ବୌଧୁରୀ
 ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଆଲୋଚକ
 ଭାବେ ଯୋଗଦେଇ
 ଭାରତରେ ଚାଷୀ ଯତ୍ନଶୀଳ,
 ଆବୃତ୍ତତା କାରଣ ଓ
 ନିରାକରଣ ସଂପର୍କରେ
 ଆଲୋଚନା କରିଥିଲେ ।
 ସଂଜୟ କୁମାର ପ୍ରଧାନ,
 ରଂଜନ କୁମାର ବେହେରା, ନିବେଦିତା ପ୍ରଧାନ ଆଲୋଚନାରେ ଅଂଶ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଥିଲେ । ଅଧ୍ୟାପକ
 ଶୁଭାଶିଷ ମିଶ୍ର ସ୍ୱାଗତ ଭାଷଣ ଓ ଅତିଥି ପରିଚୟ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରିଥିଲେ । ଅଭିନୁ ପୁରୀ ପାଠୀ,
 ସତ୍ୟବ୍ରତ ପାଠୀ, ବିକ୍ରମ ପ୍ରସାଦ ପ୍ରଧାନ, ବିଳାସ କୁମାର ନାୟକ, ସତ୍ୟବାନ ରାଉତ, ସାଲିଳ
 ପରିଡ଼ା, ବୈଶାଖୀ ଦାସ, ବିଜୟଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ ଦାସ, ମୋନିସା ପ୍ରିୟଦର୍ଶିନୀ ରାଉତ, ରିପ୍ପା ରାଉତ,
 ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣା ସେନାପତି, ସତ୍ୟ ରଂଜନ ପଣ୍ଡା ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଛାତ୍ରଛାତ୍ରୀ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ପରିଚାଳନାରେ ସହଯୋଗ
 କରିଥିଲେ । ଶେଷରେ ଛାତ୍ରୀ ସ୍ୱର୍ଣ୍ଣପ୍ରଭା ଦାସ ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ ଅର୍ପଣ କରିଥିଲେ ।



ଅଧ୍ୟାପକ ପ୍ରଦ୍ୟୁମ୍ନ ପ୍ରଧାନ