**Farmers’ Suicide, and the State and University Interventions in India**

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With liberalisation of Indian economy in 1990s, Indian farming sector, which is dominated by small and marginal farmers, has come under increased international competition. This rising international competition has been accompanied by withdrawal of government support to the farm sector. Progressively, subsidies on inputs are being withdrawn, and the minimum support prices on output are being done away with. The climate change and pest attacks have further aggravated the situation. Because of the heavy losses and economic distress, thousands of farmers in the country over the years have committed suicide. Several regions of the country have been affected by the suicide. The government and research institutions in alliance with farming communities have been searching for the possibilities, though within the neoliberal framework, to mitigate the impact of the distress. They have come with several models and one such model has been to link the farming with business through promotion of producers’ groups and entrepreneurship. Evidence show that this new-approach of state, society and university partnership has potential to create new cooperative movements and also to overcome the distress in the rural sector, preventing suicides. This presentation will discuss the emerging situation in Indian farming sector based on case study of farmers’ situation, causes of suicide and state-society-university partnership in Osmanabad district, one of the highly suicide affected district of India.