

Sowing Hope: Examining Agricultural Indebtedness, Farmer Suicides, and Community Resilience in Marathwada

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Abstract

India, with its agrarian heritage deeply embedded in its socio-economic fabric, has encountered a formidable challenge in recent years—the agrarian crisis. Nowhere is this crisis more pronounced than in the Marathwada region, where the intricate interplay of factors such as agricultural indebtedness, erratic weather patterns, and the resulting farmer suicides has cast a shadow over the once-vibrant agricultural landscape. Marathwada, a region in the heart of India, has historically been an agricultural stronghold, contributing significantly to the nation's food production. However, the persistent challenges faced by farmers in this region have escalated into a multifaceted crisis that demands urgent attention and comprehensive understanding. This research article seeks to unravel the complex dynamics of the agrarian crisis in Marathwada, shedding light on the interconnected issues of agricultural indebtedness and farmer suicides. Furthermore, it aims to explore the commendable resilience and coping mechanisms exhibited by communities grappling with these challenges. By delving into the unique socio-economic and environmental context of Marathwada, this study aspires to contribute nuanced insights that can inform evidence-based policies, fostering sustainable solutions for the region's agricultural future.

Keywords: (Resilience, farmer suicide, policies, accountability, indebtedness, survival)

INTRODUCTION

Rising farmer suicides highlight the severity of India's agrarian crisis, which has reached frightening proportions, especially in the Marathwada region. This problem is closely linked to a complex network of socioeconomic and environmental issues and is not just a result of financial instability. Due to high-interest loans, unstable markets, and rising input costs, agricultural debt has severely stretched farmers' incomes and frequently led them to despair.

These farmers' vulnerability has been made worse by their move to cash crops and greater reliance on volatile international markets. Another element of uncertainty is brought on by climate change, since the region's agricultural productivity is negatively impacted by unpredictable weather patterns, frequent droughts, and extreme weather events.

Beyond the economic aspect, there is a deeper psychological and social weight at the core of this issue. Many farmers now feel powerless and disempowered due to the strains of debt, unpredictable weather, and declining agricultural profits. According to (AGARWAL, 1998) Farmers suffer a great deal psychologically as they struggle with not just financial difficulties but also the social shame of failing, the loss of their self-worth, and the absence of hope for a stable future. In addition to affecting individual

farmers, these difficulties have a cascading effect on their families and communities, which adds to the general social and emotional suffering in rural areas.

The necessity for comprehensive measures that go beyond short-term economic relief is becoming more widely acknowledged as scholars and governments work to address this complex situation. Addressing the financial difficulties caused by debt is vital, but it's also critical to strengthen farming communities' resilience so they can handle the harsh circumstances they encounter. Despite their difficulties, Marathwada local communities have shown remarkable fortitude in the face of hardship, creating support systems and coping strategies to deal with the difficulties brought on by the agrarian crisis.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the complex relationship that exists in Marathwada between farmer suicides, agricultural debt, and community resilience. The goal of the study is to determine the underlying causes of agricultural distress and evaluate the efficacy of current policy measures by looking at the socioeconomic, environmental, and psychological aspects of the problem. Understanding farmers' lived experiences, the structural elements that make them vulnerable, and the tactics used by local communities to cope with the stresses of an increasingly harsh agricultural environment will be the main goals of the study.

LITERATURE REVIEW

An article by Deulgaonkar and Joshi (2016) delves into the critical issue of farmer suicides in India, particularly in the drought-prone Marathwada region of Maharashtra. It attributes the alarming rise in suicides to factors such as crop failures, economic distress, and the inadequacy of government support. The authors highlight instances of despair and desperation, narrating stories of farmers pushed to suicide due to a myriad of challenges, including untimely rains, financial burdens, and the inability to afford education or marriage expenses. The piece emphasizes the intricate relationship between climate change and farmer distress, citing the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's warnings about the immediate and local impacts of global warming. The article contends that Marathwada, experiencing frequent droughts and extreme weather events, reflects the urgent repercussions of climate change on agriculture, water scarcity, and socio-economic stability. Critically, the lack of political will and proactive measures to address agricultural challenges exacerbates the crisis. The author questions the absence of a systematic action plan for agriculture and laments the disregard for climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies. The failure to implement the Swaminathan Commission Report, aimed at ensuring fair prices for agricultural produce, exacerbates the economic hardships faced by farmers. It also warns of the potential socio-economic devastation facing Marathwada unless urgent and comprehensive measures are taken. It underscores the need for innovative approaches to climate change adaptation that can stimulate rural economies and provide employment opportunities, particularly for the disenfranchised youth.

A study by Kulkarni et al. (2016) investigates the intricate relationship between monsoon variability, the impactful 2015 Marathwada drought and rainfed agriculture in India. It underscores the challenges posed by erratic rainfall patterns, attributing the low productivity of agriculture in dry farming regions to various constraints, including climatic, edaphic, technological, and socio-economic factors. Critical climatic constraints such as rainfall, potential evapotranspiration, temperature, sunshine, wind velocity, and relative humidity significantly impact rainfed agriculture, leading to a cumulative effect on crop production. This, in turn, proves detrimental to the overall agricultural sector in Marathwada, affecting different crops. It emphasizes the adverse impact of erratic rainfall and temperature fluctuations on crop cultivation, making it difficult for farmers to maintain consistent yields. Unseasonal rains and dry spells

are identified as primary causes of crop failure, exacerbated by a 0.7 °C increase in the country's annual temperature and erratic climatic patterns. In light of these challenges, they advocate for adaptation strategies such as water conservation, crop diversification, and improved irrigation to bolster the resilience of rainfed agriculture in the face of monsoon variability.

Furthermore, an exploration of the pressing issue of farmer suicides in India is provided by Mohanty (2013), who examines this complex phenomenon through the lens of Emile Durkheim's sociological theory of suicide. Farmer suicides in India constitute a multifaceted problem, influenced by a confluence of factors such as mounting debt, crop failure, and a perceived lack of government support. These challenges have significantly contributed to the distressing trend of farmers taking their own lives, posing a critical concern for the agricultural community and society at large. Emile Durkheim's sociological theory of suicide, as discussed by Mohanty, categorizes suicides into four types: egoistic, altruistic, anomic, and fatalistic. This theoretical framework provides a valuable lens through which to understand the diverse motivations and societal influences that contribute to the high incidence of farmer suicides in India. In the context of Durkheim's theory, the elevated rate of farmer suicides can be interpreted as reflective of anomic suicides, stemming from the breakdown of social norms and the disintegration of cohesive community structures. Additionally, fatalistic suicides may occur due to excessive regulation and control, highlighting the need for a nuanced examination of the broader socio-economic and cultural factors impacting the agricultural landscape. Mohanty's analysis underscores the importance of governmental policies and societal support systems that address the underlying systemic issues contributing to farmer suicides. Rather than solely focusing on individual cases, interventions should aim to rectify the structural deficiencies that perpetuate the cycle of agricultural distress. By adopting a comprehensive approach, policymakers and support networks can work towards fostering a more resilient and sustainable environment for farmers, mitigating the factors that drive them to extreme measures.

Another article by Vaidyanathan (2006) discusses various challenges faced by Indian agriculture, particularly focusing on the issue of farmer suicides. It highlights disparities between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, declining prices of crops, and a marked slowdown in agricultural growth. The article challenges the belief that accelerating the growth of manufacturing and services alone will resolve the agrarian crisis. It dismisses common notions that indebtedness, low investment, and import liberalization are the primary causes. The author argues for a radically different approach to achieve a 4% annual growth in the farm sector. It identifies specific factors contributing to farmer suicides, such as high levels of debt, dependence on traders and moneylenders, and borrowing for non-productive purposes. It emphasizes the importance of addressing underlying systemic issues, including the failure of investments in irrigation, groundwater exploitation, and the impact of trade liberalization on crop prices. The article suggests that the traditional focus on quantitative expansion of cultivated areas and irrigation has reached its limits. Instead, it proposes a shift towards improving productivity per unit of land and water, addressing institutional and governance failures, and reorienting research to enhance technology and practices for sustained agricultural growth. Finally, it argues for a comprehensive and nuanced strategy that goes beyond mere investment figures, focusing on the efficient implementation of projects, restructuring institutional frameworks, and creating an enabling environment for the prudent use of agricultural resources. Without addressing these issues, achieving the targeted growth in agriculture remains a challenging prospect.

The article by Dandekar (2016) discusses the issue of farmer suicides in India, using specific cases to illustrate the challenges faced by agricultural communities. Shree Vijay, a 57-year-old farmer, took his

life due to mounting debts and the failure of crops. Another story narrates the plight of a farmer who, despite seeking a crop loan, ended up as a net defaulter, highlighting the complexities in the agricultural lending system. Emphasizing the widespread crisis in Indian agriculture, with over 250,000 farmer suicides in the last decade-and-a-half, it attributes these tragic events to a three-fold crisis caused by trade liberalization, globalization policies, deregulation of inputs, imports, and prices, and the resulting deepening debt. The impact of these policies has been devastating, leading to malnutrition among children and food scarcity in rural areas. It focuses on the Vidarbha region, similar to the Marathawada region being economically backward than other regions of Maharashtra, where a significant number of farmer suicides have occurred. The root cause of the crisis lies in the inadequate compensation farmers receive for their produce compared to input costs. The article suggests that the crisis is not limited to dryland farming but extends to green revolution states, raising questions about the deeper issues in India's agriculture. The average farm size has shrunk, and around 40% of farmers express a desire to leave the farming sector. The article highlights the multifaceted crisis, including debt, non-viable farm sizes, insufficient water supply for irrigation, and the absence of reasonable prices for produce. It notes a decline in investment in Indian agriculture, with rural development expenditure reduced significantly. The author critiques the economic policies of successive governments, pointing out a decline in agricultural growth and the distressed state of farmers, especially small and marginal ones. Despite recognizing the importance of agriculture, policy frameworks lack sufficient focus on necessary investments, leading to a consistent decline in gross capital formation in the sector.

The article concludes by addressing the need to reevaluate the entire spectrum of dryland agriculture, especially considering emerging global economic trends. The shift from an export-oriented strategy to a focus on internal markets becomes crucial for India's economic survival, with questions raised about credit costs, demand depression, and fair labor practices determining the fate of agriculture in the country.

Following this, a study by Agrawal (2017) presents a comprehensive examination of mobilization in Vidarbha, concentrating on the historical and contemporary dimensions of social, political, and economic movements in the region. The study traces the historical context of mobilization in Vidarbha, from the colonial period to the Green Revolution's repercussions. It analyzes the role of various factors—caste dynamics, agrarian distress, and development policies—in shaping mobilization efforts. Different movements, including farmer protests, labor movements, and political activism, are compared, emphasizing their unique impacts. The document highlights challenges and opportunities for mobilization in Vidarbha, considering socio-economic conditions, governance issues, and globalization. Farmer protests aim to empower farmers and address challenges from recent farm acts. Labor movements significantly impact working conditions, wages, and overall well-being, contributing to social change. Political activism focuses on a separate state, influencing development, irrigation, and industrial projects, and raising awareness about crucial issues. These movements collectively address Vidarbha's challenges—agricultural distress, labor rights, and regional development disparities. They contribute to raising awareness, advocating policy changes, and empowering local communities, playing a pivotal role in socio-economic development. An amalgamation of the heightened political importance of Vidarbha influences policy decisions, particularly in addressing economic backwardness, farmer distress, and regional development. This political significance shapes discussions on governance, development, and resource allocation, fostering socio-economic progress. Overall, Vidarbha's increased political importance plays a pivotal role in driving the region's development, emphasizing the interconnectedness of political dynamics and socio-economic progress.

An article by Teltumbde (2010) critically assesses Maharashtra's 50 years of statehood. Initially conceived as a progressive state favoring the interests of workers, farmers, dalits, and minorities, Maharashtra has deviated from its original vision. The author laments the transformation from a socialist Maharashtra to a state reduced by regressive politicians, notably Shiv Sena and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, promoting a parochial agenda. The united Maharashtra movement, born out of a linguistic struggle, had a radical vision for the future, emphasizing socialism and social justice. However, the author argues that Maharashtra's ruling class betrayed the aspirations of the movement, perpetuating inequality and undermining the welfare of workers and farmers. The article criticizes the state's failure to decentralize development, resulting in the concentration of wealth in the Mumbai-Pune belt. It also highlights the weakening of the Dalit movement in Maharashtra, leading to increased atrocities against Dalits. Despite its progressive history, Maharashtra has witnessed communal riots, with the author noting a lack of introspection regarding its communal pedigree. The author criticizes the state's pursuit of neoliberal policies, resulting in a high number of farmers' suicides and socioeconomic disparities among its districts. The article questions Maharashtra's claim to being a "global state" and emphasizes the need to address the challenges faced by common Maharashtrians within the context of globalization.

A study by Iyer (2008) delves into the intricate relationship between corporate social responsibility (CSR) and the distressing phenomenon of farmer suicides in India. While CSR is often championed as a means for businesses to actively contribute to societal and environmental well-being, the article draws attention to the pressing issue of farmer suicides, emphasizing factors such as indebtedness, crop failure, and mental health challenges as significant contributors. In proposing a solution, the article introduces the concept of "benign paternalism" as a potential approach to tackle the distressing problem of farmer suicides. Unlike traditional paternalism, benign paternalism advocates for supportive and non-coercive interventions. In this context, the interventions are designed to protect individuals from harm and enhance their overall well-being. The core argument posits that businesses can be instrumental in promoting benign paternalism through their CSR initiatives. By addressing the root causes of farmer distress and suicides, CSR programs can contribute meaningfully to the well-being of farming communities. This entails a departure from a purely profit-driven approach to a more compassionate and socially responsible stance. The implementation of benign paternalism in CSR initiatives could involve measures such as debt relief programs, mental health support, and agricultural assistance. By actively engaging with the challenges faced by farmers, businesses can contribute to a more sustainable and supportive environment, fostering the well-being of farming communities. The article advocates for a collaborative effort where businesses go beyond profit motives and actively participate in initiatives that protect farmers from harm and enhance their overall quality of life.

The agrarian landscape in Maharashtra is grappling with a distressing surge in farmer suicides, especially in the Marathwada region, exacerbated by a significant rainfall deficit. In response to this crisis, the Maharashtra government has unveiled a mental health program, allocating a budget of 7.6 crore rupees. Travasso (2015) examines this initiative which aims to identify and support farmers experiencing depression, marking a significant development in addressing the mental health challenges prevalent in the agricultural sector. The Times of India reports a disturbing escalation in farmer suicides, positioning Maharashtra at the forefront of such incidents in India. Notably, the first half of the current year witnessed 1300 farmers taking their own lives, surpassing the figures for both 2014 and 2013. Marathwada, bearing the brunt of crop failures due to a deficient monsoon, accounted for nearly half of these tragic cases. Satish Pawar, representing the Directorate of Health Services in the Maharashtra government, identifies three

primary concerns regarding farmers' mental health: depression, substance abuse, and chronic family illness. To address these concerns, the proposed Prerana Project Farmers' Mental Health Service Programme will enlist accredited social health activists (ASHAs). These ASHAs will be equipped with a specialized questionnaire tool devised by psychiatrists, enabling them to identify farmers dealing with depression. The ultimate goal is to provide counseling and medical treatment for depression, with a focus on early intervention and support. The program, operational in Marathwada's Osmanabad district for six weeks, is poised to extend its reach to Yavatmal with additional ASHA recruits. The success of the initiative in these regions over the next six months will determine its potential expansion to other parts of the state. The program emphasizes early identification, referral to medical professionals, and emergency intervention for severe cases.

While this represents a commendable step towards addressing farmer suicides, a comprehensive analysis reveals nuanced considerations. The identified correlation between rainfall deficit and farmer suicides underscores the intricate interplay of environmental factors in the well-being of agricultural communities. The incorporation of a specialized questionnaire tool for ASHAs reflects an encouraging effort to integrate mental health awareness into grassroots healthcare initiatives. However, the success of the program hinges on its ability to address not only identified cases of depression but also the broader socio-economic factors influencing farmers' mental health challenges. Economic distress, debt burdens, and insufficient government support are underlying issues requiring comprehensive attention. The scalability of the program and its potential impact on reducing suicide rates necessitate careful monitoring and evaluation.

AGRICULTURAL INDEBTEDNESS

Rural indebtedness has always been a problem in Yavatmal district, with records dating back to the early 1900s indicating that a large share of cultivators were in debt. Meeta and Rajivlochan (2006) write about the historical context of rural indebtedness, with a focus on moneylenders and the shifting credit situation. According to historical records, moneylenders, particularly Marwaris, played a vital role in providing credit to farmers. Indian mythology is rich with stories of greedy moneylenders charging exorbitant interest rates and attempting to seize farmers' property. Despite these experiences, the district gazetteer claims that debt was not always a burden because farmers were frequently able to repay their loans during good seasons.

According to a recent poll by (Bomble & Lhungdim, 2020), approximately 48% of farmers in the Yavatmal region took out informal loans from moneylenders, relatives, or a combination of both. Surprisingly, even as the banking system expanded, almost half of the growers remained dependent on moneylenders. This raises questions about the ability of financial institutions to resolve rural debts. Many farmers obtained institutional loans in three forms: short-term crop loans, long-term capital investment loans, and government-subsidized loans through poverty alleviation programs.

However, despite their essential role, financial institutions have been hesitant to give loans in Yavatmal, as evidenced by a failure to meet loan disbursement targets in 2005-06, according to Shah(2016). The analysis of loan disbursement targets for numerous banks in the Yavatmal district in 2005-06 reveals widespread hesitancy among financial institutions. Commercial banks, regional rural banks, and even district central cooperative banks reported significant challenges in reaching loan targets. The district central cooperative bank performed better, but fell short on term loans.

Rural indebtedness in the Yavatmal region is the outcome of a complex interaction of historical legacies and contemporary concerns. Despite the rise of the banking system, moneylenders still have a significant

impact on farmers' livelihoods.

According to (Arya, 2024) a Kunbi farmer from Nandepira village in Yavatmal lost a lot of money in his dairy business due to fraud conducted by his wife's brother on three occasions. The brother-in-law sold stolen buffaloes and illegally purchased the farmer's land, resulting in the farmer's terrible suicide. This case demonstrates how personal circumstances, combined with debt, can lead to disastrous consequences. Since the nineteenth century, Yavatmal has had interest rates as high as 25% (sawai). In the current study, interest rates ranged from 3-5% per month to 25% per season (sawai) or 50% per season (dedhi), indicating the continued challenges farmers face when coping with high loan rates. Identifying and confirming debt for non-formal loans can be difficult, exacerbated by the government's anti-moneylender campaign and concerns regarding destroying existing relationships.

Approximately 14% of instances include the confiscation of land or animals. The paper as per (Iyer, 2018) addresses land values, emphasizing the possibility of overstated loan amounts, and suggests that land alienation may be a sign of creditor harassment. Despite financial advances, half of Yavatmal's farmers continue to rely on informal sources of financing, such as moneylenders or family. Historical documents from a century ago demonstrate that cultivators preferred borrowing from moneylenders, indicating a long-standing tradition.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Understanding how societies deal with obstacles and adversity requires a thorough examination of communal resilience and coping strategies. Community resilience refers to a community's ability to withstand and recover from disruptive events, whereas coping mechanisms are the tactics and resources used by individuals and communities to effectively handle stress and adversity. Investigating these elements provides useful insights into the strengths, adaptive tactics, and collective skills that enable communities to confront and overcome a wide range of issues.

The analysis of community resilience and coping processes looks into how societies overcome adversity via collective efforts. Communal resilience is described as the ability to withstand and adapt, whereas coping techniques refer to individual and communal efforts to deal with stress. This includes examining the social, economic, and cultural elements that influence resilience, as well as discovering the coping mechanisms that individuals and communities employ in the face of stressors and crises.

Agarwal (1998) emphasizes the importance of granting property rights to all women, not just widows, in order to overcome gender inequities in Hindu inheritance laws, particularly those concerning agricultural land. Her study exposes persistent difficulties relating to rural women's economic stability, particularly in northwest India.

The article examines the impact of the Hindu Succession Act of 1956 on women's property rights, highlighting the continuance of gender disparities in agricultural land allocation. Agarwal's research emphasizes the importance of arable land in rural women's economic security, particularly for widows, and calls for a more comprehensive strategy to ensuring economic security for rural women. This includes establishing their claims to both family and public land.

The dissertation goes into Hindu inheritance rules, both historical and modern, with a particular emphasis on widows' and daughters' property rights. It highlights the persistent gender inequities in agricultural land devolution, particularly in northwest India and other regions of the country. The ongoing investigation of these laws is critical to understanding the broader implications of community resilience in tackling gender-based concerns.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Recent farmer demonstrations in India represent a qualitative departure from the 1980s uprisings, often known as new farmers' movements. Unlike their predecessors, the present protests are less focused on specific demands such as subsidies and more on general issues impacting agriculture in multiple states. These movements also provide a platform for farmer organizations to address issues in agriculture and rural development (Suthar, 2021). Protests are about more than just the economic costs and advantages of agriculture. They represent a larger attempt by farmers to establish their rural identity in the face of political ideology, governmental policies, and development models that ignore rural concerns. Dissatisfaction with rural development, state planning, and a perceived lack of prominence in national development politics are major motivators. Identity crises can be expressed in rallies, riots, and social difficulties such as alcoholism and drug addiction. Farmers experience a loss of manly identity and dissatisfaction in achieving family goals. Recent field visits to rural areas in India revealed that, even in the absence of clear cases of farmer suicide, numerous symptoms of anguish were common. The overall situation in rural India proved to be worse than expected, with a significant increase in recorded occurrences of "agrarian riots," rising drug addiction, and a surge in communalization and communal rioting in some regions.

The suffering in rural India appears to have spatial consequences, going beyond the specific issue of farmer suicides to include a variety of anguish-inducing variables. These variables include agrarian variability, capitalism's growth, regional variances in psychological suffering, alienation, and peasant behavioral changes. Suicide, while a significant variable, is not the sole indicator of the alarming levels of distress experienced by rural populations, which are influenced by a complex interplay of socio-economic and psychological factors. A report published by (The Hindu, 2016) highlighted a staggering 327% increase in agrarian riots in 2015, indicating a rise in land-related disputes, water conflicts, and disturbances within villages. During fieldwork, villagers underscored the correlation between personal disputes, anxiety levels, and conflicts over land. Land-related conflicts often escalate into community conflicts, as exemplified by disputes over paths leading to agricultural land. The flawed strategies for village lanes during land reforms, especially affecting Scheduled Castes, have led to ongoing disputes and conflicts. Political mobilization among marginalized communities to assert their land rights has erupted in states such as Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar, fueled by powerful factions that dominate bureaucracy. Since 1991, Punjab has seen a huge increase in land rates, which has exacerbated family land disputes. The economic value linked to even little areas of land has resulted in violent clashes, and disagreements have become more complicated due to a refusal to compromise. According to the research (Chauhan, 2017) around 57 cases of riots related to agrarian distress are from Maharashtra in the year 2015. Essentially, the suffering in rural India goes beyond suicide rates; it takes many forms, including tensions between communities and agrarian disturbances. Land-related issues are critical, generating social and economic disruption and, ultimately, adding to affected families' psychological misery. The complex interconnections of these unpleasant elements show the critical need for extensive and nuanced approaches to address the various issues confronting rural communities.

CONCLUSION

Unpredictable weather patterns, an alarming rise in farmer suicides, and interconnected problems with agricultural indebtedness make up the complex and multifaceted agrarian crisis in the Marathwada region of India. The important conclusions of this study highlight the severe psychological toll that is exacted by

financial strains, unpredictability in the environment, and little government assistance, and they throw light on the complex dynamics of the crisis. Once a thriving agricultural bastion, the Marathwada region is seeing alarming trends like a marked rise in agrarian disturbances, communalization, and communal rioting.

A thorough analysis of Marathwada farmer suicides shows a connection between mental health problems and financial hardships, highlighting the critical need for all-encompassing solutions. The interconnection of socioeconomic variables, environmental conditions, and psychological anguish necessitates sophisticated policies that address the core causes of the crisis. The study also emphasizes local communities' resilience and coping methods, offering glimmers of optimism in the face of hardship.

To address the complexity of the agricultural crisis in Marathwada, more emphasis is needed on future research focusing on comprehensive policy interventions. Further research is essential to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of comprehensive policy instruments that not only alleviate farmers' immediate economic burden, but also address the underlying structural deficiencies that lead to their hardship. In parallel, the literature on socio-economic resilience also addresses the factors that promote resilience within local communities in Marathwada. Understanding coping processes and community support systems can help influence methods for increasing resilience and well-being. In order to effectively address the agrarian problem in Marathwada, a detailed examination of the complex issues that include environmental, economic, and psychological aspects must be conducted. One important factor that needs to be carefully considered is how agricultural distress is affected by both water scarcity and climate change. To guarantee that farming communities are resilient against environmental uncertainties, it is critical to assess the efficacy of adaptive strategies and sustainable agricultural methods. Simultaneously, consideration must be given to how government support programs and agricultural policy might lessen farmers' financial burdens. A thorough examination of existing programs is required to find areas for improvement and improve the implementation of initiatives aimed at boosting agriculture. The evaluation of mental health programs, such as the Prerana Project Farmers' Mental Health Service Programme in Maharashtra, is critical for determining scalability, impact, and efficacy in addressing farmers' mental health issues. A historical analysis of rural indebtedness, with an emphasis on changing dynamics with moneylenders and the impact of financial institutions, is also necessary. Identifying legal and policy solutions to effectively reduce rural indebtedness is critical for sustainable agricultural growth. It is critical to investigate the shifting character of Indian farmer movements, taking into account political, social, and economic causes. Such research should examine how these migrations affect policy decisions and the general well-being of farming communities. Furthermore, investigating the potential of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs in reducing farmer suicides and promoting benign paternalism can yield significant insights. In conclusion, a thorough grasp of these complex issues is required for developing evidence-based policies and fostering long-term solutions. Future research should prioritize educating initiatives that improve the overall well-being of farmers and communities in Marathwada, resulting in a more sustainable and hopeful future for the region's agrarian landscape.

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