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A Study on Legal Implications of Agricultural Policies and Its Impact on Farmer's Welfare

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Abstract

This research undertakes a doctrinal and empirical analysis of agricultural laws in India with a specific focus on their impact on farmers' welfare. It examines the legal meaning of farm and farming, the role of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and APMC mandis, and the evolution of agricultural regulation in India, culminating in a critical study of the Farm Laws, 2020 and their subsequent repeal. The study highlights the tension between market-oriented reforms and traditional state-supported mechanisms, revealing how concerns over MSP, corporate control, food security, and federalism shaped farmer resistance. By analysing relevant case laws, government perspectives, and the farmers' protest movement, the research identifies gaps in the existing legal framework that hinder the realization of a farmer-centric and sustainable agricultural system. The study concludes that while reforms are necessary for modernization, they must be grounded in constitutional principles, social justice, and meaningful stakeholder participation to truly enhance farmers' welfare.

Keywords: Agricultural Laws, Farmers' Welfare, Minimum Support Price, APMC Mandis, Farm Laws 2020.

1. Introduction

India is predominantly an agrarian country, with agriculture employing nearly half of the population. Farms form the basic unit of agricultural production, where land, labour, capital, and technology interact to produce food and raw materials. The importance of agriculture extends beyond economic dimensions and touches social, cultural, and political spheres. Farm laws refer to the legal framework governing agricultural production, marketing, pricing, land use, credit, insurance, and farmer welfare. Over the years, India has enacted several laws to regulate farms and protect farmers from exploitation, market volatility, and environmental risks. However, agricultural laws have often been contentious due to issues of federalism, farmer autonomy, market control, and corporate influence. This paper aims to doctrinally analyse farm laws in India, tracing their evolution, constitutional foundations, and contemporary challenges.

2. Statement of the problem

Agriculture remains central to India's economy and food security, yet it continues to suffer from persistent issues such as unstable farm incomes, fragmented landholdings, market inefficiencies. Although several Agricultural laws and policies have been enacted to address these challenges, their effectiveness has remained contested, particularly after the

introduction and subsequent repeal of the Farm Laws, 2020. The strong resistance from farmers reflected fears over the erosion of key support mechanisms like MSP, APMC mandis. The increasing reliance on market-driven reforms and corporate participation, along with the absence of statutory MSP protection, has further deepened mistrust among farmers. Consequently, the central issue lies in the lack of a coherent and constitutionally balanced legal framework that adequately reconciles market efficiency with farmer welfare, necessitating a doctrinal examination of farm laws in India to identify legal gaps and assess their role in promoting sustainable and farmer-centric agricultural development.

3. Review of Literature

3.1. The Farm Bill: A citizen's Guide: Daniel Imhoff (2019) states the clear explanation of the agricultural laws. It shows how a citizen should know about their country's agricultural laws. They have deeply explained about the agricultural laws as the citizen's guide. It identifies the connection between the major legislation and the people's life. It also explains the struggle faced by the farmers with these agricultural laws.

3.2. Farmer Power: The State and Agricultural Reforms in India: Sudhir Kumar Suthar (2020) examines the historic farmers' protest against the three farm laws and

situates it within India's broader political, economic, and agrarian context. The book highlights how long-standing rural distress, lack of meaningful consultation, and rapid neoliberal reforms triggered a massive and sustained mobilisation of farmers across regions and social groups. Suthar analyses the nature of the movement as peaceful, democratic, and inclusive, showing how it challenged both state authority and corporate influence in agriculture. He also explores the implications of the protests for federalism, participatory governance, and future agricultural reforms, presenting the movement as not merely a reaction to specific laws but as a larger struggle over control of food systems, farmer rights, and the role of the state in safeguarding rural livelihoods.

3.3. Interrogating MSP and Farm Laws: Singh (2021) In this study focuses on the relationship between MSP and the new farm laws. It argues that MSP plays a central role in farmers' income security. He finds that farmers fear MSP dilution under deregulated markets. The study highlights regional dependence on procurement systems. States like Punjab and Haryana are particularly affected. Market freedom without price protection may increase income instability. The paper stresses the importance of statutory MSP backing. Farmers' welfare is linked to predictable prices. Lack of trust in reforms negatively affects welfare perceptions. The study concludes that MSP clarity is vital for farmer well-being.

3.4. Decoding Indian Farm Laws: Jagath Jayaprakash (2020) provides a critical and accessible analysis of the three farm laws introduced by the Indian government in 2020, explaining their objectives, legal structure, and the policy logic behind them. It closely examines how the laws sought to liberalize agricultural markets by promoting private trade, contract farming, and reduced state control, while also highlighting the major concerns raised by farmers and experts regarding the weakening of MSP, public procurement, and price security. He discusses the political and social controversies surrounding the laws, showing how inadequate consultation and lack of trust between the state and farmers intensified opposition. Overall, the book presents a balanced account of the intended reforms and their perceived risks, helping readers understand why the laws became one of the most contested policy issues in recent Indian history.

3.5. Debt, Suicides and the Agrarian Crisis in India: R. Nagaraj (2013) is a significant scholarly work that examines farmers' suicides through a rigorous empirical and statistical lens. The author systematically links rising suicide rates with increasing indebtedness, high input costs, and the weakening of institutional support systems in rural India. Nagaraj demonstrates how economic vulnerability, rather than individual failure, lies at the core of the agrarian crisis, emphasizing that farmers are trapped in cycles of debt aggravated by market instability and inadequate access to formal credit. The study is especially valuable for highlighting structural and policy-related causes of suicides, making it an essential reference for understanding the economic foundations of agrarian distress in India.

4. Research Gap of the Study

This study emphasis on the major research gap on how agricultural laws impact in the welfare of the farmers. There is limited comparative examination of traditional regulatory

mechanisms like APMC and MSP with recent market-oriented reforms, and their differential impact on farmers, particularly small and marginal cultivators. Furthermore, the effectiveness of legal safeguards, dispute resolution mechanisms, and judicial interpretation in protecting farmers' rights has not been adequately explored. This lack of integrated legal analysis highlights the need for a focused study that critically evaluates agricultural laws in relation to farmers' welfare, social justice, and sustainable rural development.

5. Objectives of the study

- i). To find out the reason for implementation of the agricultural Laws
- ii). To examine the consequences of the implementation of the agricultural Laws
- iii). To evaluate the importance of the Minimum support price system and APMC mandis
- iv). To understand the sufferings undergone by the farmers
- v). To suggest ways to improve farmers welfare.

6. Methodology

This research is based on both doctrinal and non-doctrinal research. The sources of data are collected from different newspaper, journals, magazines, All India Reports and E-Resources. This Research is used in some of the statistical tools such as percentage method and average method. This research is used in stratified random sampling. The sample size of the Respondents is hundred and twenty. The duration of this research is Three months.

7. Significance of the Study

This study is significant for the government as it provides a critical evaluation of existing agricultural laws and policies in terms of their actual impact on farmers' welfare rather than merely their economic or administrative objectives. By identifying legal gaps, implementation challenges, and constitutional concerns, the study can assist policymakers in designing more effective, inclusive, and farmer-centric agricultural reforms. Moreover, the government can aid in balancing market efficiency with social justice, enabling the state to fulfil its constitutional responsibility to protect farmers' livelihoods, ensure food security, and promote sustainable agricultural development.

This study contributes to the relatively underexplored field of agricultural law by bridging the gap between legal analysis and agrarian welfare. It provides a doctrinal framework to examine agricultural legislation in light of constitutional principles, judicial interpretation, and socio-economic realities. The research enhances understanding of how law functions as a tool of social and economic transformation in rural India and opens avenues for further interdisciplinary studies combining law, economics, and public policy.

8. Hypothesis of the Study

This is study is based on following Hypothesis are,

- i). Farmers protest against the existing agricultural Laws.
- ii). Every few days there is a farmer's suicide news.

9. Limitations of the Study

The duration of the study is limited. The analysis is limited to major agricultural laws and policies and may not cover all state-specific legislations in detail. The impact of agricultural laws on farmers' welfare is influenced by multiple social, economic, and environmental factors, some of which lie

beyond the scope of this legal study. The respondents may not feel encouraged to provide accurate and might even answer randomly out of boredom. Every respondents would not have a clear awareness about this topic. The data covers only a small group of people and so it might be unreliable.

10. Result and Discussion

Part-I: Doctrinal Research

Farming is the systematic and continuous process of cultivating land and rearing animals for the purpose of producing agricultural goods. It involves scientific, technical, and traditional methods aimed at maximizing productivity while sustaining natural resources. Farming is both an economic activity and a way of life, particularly in agrarian societies. Farming includes Preparation of land, Sowing and planting, Irrigation and fertilization, Crop protection, Harvesting and storage, Marketing of produce.

Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC)

Mandis: Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandis are legally constituted market yards created by state governments to oversee and regulate the sale of agricultural commodities. They were introduced to ensure that farmers are not subjected to unfair trade practices and receive reasonable prices for their produce in a controlled and transparent environment. Within these mandis, farmers bring their crops to a designated market area where sales take place through regulated auction or bidding processes under the supervision of market authorities. Only registered traders and commission agents are permitted to participate, which helps maintain order and accountability in transactions. The mandi system also provides supporting facilities such as weighing, grading, storage, and payment mechanisms, contributing to orderly marketing. Revenue collected in the form of market fees is intended to be reinvested in improving infrastructure and services for farmers. Additionally, APMC mandis have served as a crucial platform for government procurement at Minimum Support Price, enabling the implementation of food security and welfare programs. Despite these advantages, the system has faced criticism for inefficiencies, high transaction costs, limited competition, and the concentration of power among intermediaries, which has led to ongoing discussions about reforming agricultural marketing while safeguarding farmers' interests.

Agricultural Laws 2020: The first law, the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, sought to liberalize agricultural marketing by allowing farmers to sell their produce outside the regulated Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandis. It expanded trading options by permitting electronic platforms and e-commerce, while simultaneously restricting state governments from imposing market fees on transactions conducted outside APMC yards. Proponents argued that this would enhance competition and provide farmers with better price realization, whereas critics feared it would weaken the mandi system that had traditionally offered price assurance and dispute resolution.

The second law, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, aimed to create a national framework for contract farming. The stated objective was to reduce marketing risks for farmers by enabling pre-agreed contracts with buyers, thereby stabilizing incomes. The law simplified existing state-level regulations by removing complex licensing, registration requirements, and compliance burdens. It mandated that farming agreements clearly specify prices, including

guaranteed minimum prices and mechanisms for additional payments linked to market trends. Despite these safeguards, many farmers expressed concern over unequal bargaining power between small cultivators and large agribusiness corporations.

The third law, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020, modified the existing regulatory framework by removing several agricultural commodities—such as cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onions, and potatoes—from the list of essential commodities. This amendment reduced government control over stock limits and movement restrictions, except under extraordinary circumstances like war or severe price rises. Supporters viewed this change as necessary to encourage private investment in storage and supply chains, while opponents warned that it could enable hoarding, price manipulation, and increased food insecurity.

The Government's Perspective on the Farm Laws: From the government's standpoint, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime represents a politically unavoidable yet economically strenuous component of India's agricultural policy. While MSP has played a critical role in ensuring price stability and income security for farmers, policymakers have increasingly viewed it as fiscally unsustainable in its existing form. Several economists have characterized India's food procurement and subsidy framework as one of the costliest in the world, given the scale at which crops are procured and subsidized. The political sensitivity surrounding MSP makes it difficult for any government to undertake direct reforms, even as procurement costs continue to rise steadily.

India's agricultural marketing system is structured around approximately 7,000 Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandis, where government agencies, most notably the Food Corporation of India (FCI), procure crops. However, due to financial and logistical constraints, FCI procurement is largely concentrated on two staples—paddy and wheat. These grains form the backbone of the Public Distribution System (PDS), through which foodgrains are supplied at highly subsidized prices to Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. As a welfare measure, this system inevitably generates financial losses for the FCI, which are borne by the central government.

The problem, from the government's perspective, has intensified with the continuous upward revision of MSP rates. As MSP increases, procurement costs rise correspondingly, while the prices at which grains are distributed through the PDS remain largely unchanged. This mismatch leads to expanding financial deficits for the FCI. Moreover, large-scale procurement has resulted in excessive stockpiling, with FCI warehouses frequently operating beyond optimal storage capacity. High MSPs also reduce the competitiveness of Indian foodgrains in global markets, making it difficult for the FCI to dispose of surplus stocks through exports without incurring losses.

To manage these losses, the government regularly compensates the FCI through budgetary allocations, thereby increasing the overall food subsidy bill. Another dimension of the government's argument relates to the fiscal interests of state governments. Several states derive substantial revenue from fees and levies imposed on agricultural trade conducted within APMC mandis. These charges can vary widely, ranging from modest percentages to nearly ten percent of the transaction value. The introduction of laws permitting trade outside APMC mandis threatens this revenue stream. States with limited independent sources of income have historically relied heavily on central transfers, making them particularly

sensitive to any policy that erodes their fiscal base. According to the central government's interpretation, this fiscal concern partly explains why certain states, especially those governed by opposition parties, strongly supported the farmers' protests against the new farm laws.

From a policy perspective, the government claimed that the Farm Laws would alleviate agrarian distress by increasing farmers' income opportunities and reducing marketing inefficiencies. By enabling greater private sector participation, the reforms were expected to generate employment opportunities for rural youth, enhance value chains, and integrate Indian agriculture more effectively into global markets. The government further argued that such reforms would stimulate investment in storage, processing, logistics, and agri infrastructure, thereby transforming the rural economy and reducing dependence on state-led procurement mechanisms.

Among the three legislations, the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 emerged as the most contentious. Government officials and economists supportive of the reforms contended that the Act expanded farmers' autonomy by allowing them to sell their produce both within and outside the APMC framework. This broader market access was presented as a means to break the monopoly of intermediaries who often extracted high commissions in regulated mandis. The law was also portrayed as empowering farmers to sell directly from their farms or through digital platforms, thereby reducing transaction costs and logistical constraints.

According to this view, the Farm Laws were intended to provide additional marketing options rather than replace existing mechanisms. However, despite these assurances, the lack of statutory guarantees for MSP fueled widespread skepticism among farmers, ultimately contributing to the scale and intensity of the protests.

Farmer's Protest: Farmers in India have been facing growing economic distress as agriculture has become increasingly unprofitable over the years. In Punjab, a region that once stood at the forefront of the Green Revolution, farm incomes have steadily declined since the mid-1980s. This trend is not confined to one state but reflects a nationwide agrarian crisis marked by rising indebtedness, farmer suicides, and a gradual withdrawal of people from farming as a livelihood. These conditions have heightened rural vulnerability and deepened socioeconomic insecurity among cultivators.

Against this backdrop, the farm laws introduced in 2020 were widely perceived by farmers and many scholars as a serious threat to the stability of rural India. Critics argued that the reforms were rooted in neoliberal economic thinking, aimed at reducing the state's role in agricultural marketing. There was widespread concern that long-standing support mechanisms such as the Minimum Support Price (MSP), public procurement systems, and APMC-regulated markets would be weakened or rendered ineffective. This fear was closely tied to apprehensions about increased corporate control over agricultural trade and the potential exploitation of small and marginal farmers by large agribusiness entities.

A central demand of the protesting farmers was the provision of a legal guarantee for MSP. Farmers feared that in the absence of such protection, private buyers could offer prices below the MSP, particularly if government procurement agencies delayed or reduced purchases. Many cultivators believed that the primary objective of the farm laws was to attract corporate investment into agriculture, which could

further intensify existing power imbalances between large corporations and individual farmers.

The protests against the farm laws also revealed important shifts in the nature of agricultural politics and resistance in India. One significant change was the movement of regulatory authority over agriculture from state governments to the central government, which altered traditional forms of resistance. Another notable development was the emergence of farmers themselves—rather than traders or intermediaries—as the main actors opposing market-oriented reforms and defending locally regulated, state-controlled markets.

The movement drew unusually broad support and demonstrated remarkable unity across different categories of farmers. This cohesion was driven by a shared perception of threat posed by the farm laws and the policies of the central government. At the same time, deeper structural changes in agriculture and the wider economy, which have adversely affected diverse rural groups, enabled the formation of a wide-ranging alliance. Ultimately, critics argued that the farm laws undermined India's federal structure by centralizing control over agriculture, thereby weakening the constitutional and fiscal autonomy of states.

The Repeal of the Farm Laws: The repeal of the Farm Laws in India marked a significant moment in the country's agricultural and democratic history. After more than a year of sustained protests by farmers across several states, particularly from Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh, the central government decided to withdraw the three farm laws enacted in 2020. These protests reflected widespread fear and dissatisfaction among farmers, who believed that the laws would weaken existing support systems such as the Minimum Support Price, public procurement mechanisms, and APMC mandis, while exposing them to the dominance of large corporate players. The scale, duration, and resilience of the movement drew national and international attention, highlighting deep-rooted agrarian distress and mistrust toward market-oriented reforms introduced without adequate consultation.

The repeal was announced by the Prime Minister in November 2021 and formally completed through parliamentary legislation shortly thereafter. The government stated that the decision was taken in the spirit of democratic dialogue and in recognition of the concerns expressed by farmers. The withdrawal underscored the political sensitivity of agricultural reforms in a country where farming supports a large segment of the population and remains closely tied to issues of livelihood security, federalism, and social justice. It also reflected the limitations of a top-down reform approach in a federal democracy, particularly in sectors traditionally regulated by state governments.

Reasons for the Repeal of Farm Laws: The three farm laws were repealed by the Government of India on 1 December 2021 after more than a year of sustained farmer protests and widespread public debate. A major reason for the repeal was the growing fear that the laws threatened farmers' livelihoods, particularly those of small and marginal cultivators. Many farmers believed that the weakening of the traditional mandi system and the introduction of new market structures would reduce their ability to secure fair prices. Concerns were amplified by accounts highlighting the absence of strong legal protections for farmers, which raised apprehensions about exploitation and financial insecurity.

Another significant factor was the fear of increasing corporate dominance in agriculture. Farmers and civil society groups

argued that the new laws favored large agribusiness corporations, allowing them to exert greater control over agricultural markets, pricing mechanisms, and supply chains. This raised concerns that small farmers would lose bargaining power and autonomy, becoming dependent on powerful corporate buyers and unfair contractual arrangements.

Food security also emerged as a critical issue in the debate. Critics argued that economic pressures created by the new laws could push farmers away from food crop cultivation toward commercial or income-oriented crops, potentially reducing overall food production. Such shifts were viewed as posing risks to long-term food availability and affordability, affecting both rural and urban populations.

Finally, the absence of a legal guarantee for the Minimum Support Price (MSP) played a central role in fueling opposition. Farmers feared that private traders would eventually dominate markets, undermine APMC mandis, and offer prices below MSP once public procurement weakened. This created apprehension that farmers would be compelled to sell their produce at unfavourable rates, leading to long-term dependency on private traders. Collectively, these concerns contributed to the government’s decision to repeal the farm laws.

Relevant Case Laws:

1. **In ITC Ltd. v. Agricultural Produce Market Committee (2002):** The issue before the Supreme Court was whether Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) could levy market fees on agricultural produce purchased by private companies like ITC outside the physical premises of the mandi. ITC argued that since it was buying directly from farmers, the APMC had no authority to impose such fees. The Court held that the APMC Act was applicable to all transactions taking place within the notified market area, irrespective of whether the sale occurred inside the mandi yard or elsewhere. The judgment upheld the power of APMCs to levy fees and reaffirmed the validity of regulated markets as a mechanism to prevent exploitation of farmers and ensure orderly agricultural trade.
2. **In Shree Meenakshi Mills Ltd. v. Union of India (1974):** The issue before the Supreme Court concerned the constitutional validity of price control orders imposed by the government under the Essential Commodities Act,

which regulated the prices of agricultural commodities to prevent hoarding and ensure equitable distribution. The petitioners challenged the controls as arbitrary and violative of their freedom of trade under Article 19(1)(g). The Court upheld the validity of the price control measures, holding that such restrictions were reasonable and in the interest of the general public, thereby affirming the government’s authority to regulate prices of essential agricultural commodities to protect consumers and producers and to maintain economic stability.

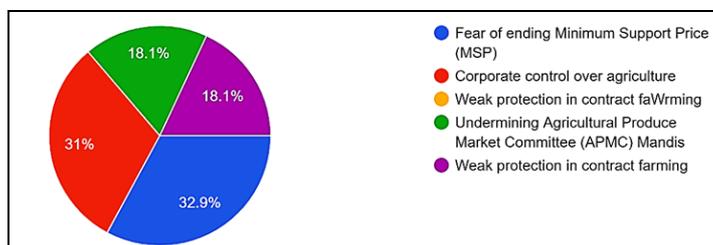
3. **In Rakesh Vaishnav & Ors. v. Union of India & Ors.:** Multiple writ petitions were filed in the Supreme Court challenging the constitutional validity of the three Farm Laws, 2020—the Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020, and the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020. Petitioners sought judicial scrutiny of the enactments and raised issues about their impact on farmers’ rights, market regulation, and federal balance. While the final substantive validity of the laws remained pending, the Supreme Court stayed the implementation of the Farm Laws and constituted a committee to deliberate between the government and farmer groups, noting ongoing peaceful protests and the need for confidence-building measures. The Court also recognized the protests as lawful and affirmed that negotiations should continue.
4. **In Krishi Utpadan Mandi Samiti v. Pilibhit Pantnagar Beej Ltd. (2004):** The Supreme Court examined whether the sale and purchase of certified seeds could be subject to market fee under the Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi Samiti Adhiniyam. The Mandi Samiti claimed that seeds purchased for processing should attract market fees because they originated from agricultural produce like wheat. The Court held, however, that certified seeds are distinct from agricultural produce within the meaning of the statute—they are not fit for human consumption and are governed by the Seeds Act, 1966, not the mandi law; consequently, the Samiti could not levy market fees on such transactions. This judgment clarified the scope of regulated markets and protected certain agricultural inputs from undue regulatory burden.

Part-II: Non-doctrinal Research

Table 1: Reason for Farmer’s protest against Agricultural Laws

Particulars	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
Fear of ending Minimum Support Price (MSP)	15(12.49)	25(20.83)	0(0.00)	40(33.33)
Corporate control over agriculture	19(15.83)	18(14.99)	0(0.00)	37(30.83)
Weak protection in contract farming	12(10.00)	9(7.50)	0(0.00)	21(17.50)
Undermining Agricultural Produce Market Committee(APMC) Mandis	10(8.33)	12(10.00)	0(0.00)	22(18.34)
Total	56(46.66)	64(53.34)	0(0.00)	120(100.00)

Source: Primary data



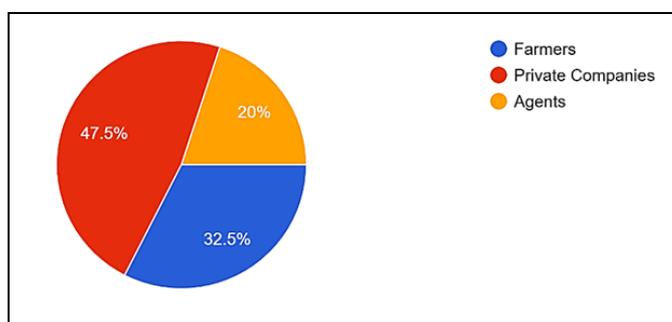
The above table states the major reasons for farmers’ protest against agricultural laws, classified according to gender in percentage terms. Out of the total 120 respondents, 33.33 percentage of the respondents are identified the fear of ending the Minimum Support Price (MSP) as the main reason for protest. This is the highest percentage, indicating that concern over the continuation of MSP is the most significant issue among farmers. The second major reason is corporate control over agriculture, which was reported by 30.83 percentage of the respondents. Further, percentage of respondents stated that

weak protection in contract farming is a reason for protest. This suggests that the respondents are worried about inadequate legal safeguards in farming agreements. Additionally, 18.34 percentage of the respondents pointed out undermining of Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandis as a reason for protest. Overall, the table reveals that the fear of ending MSP and corporate control over agriculture are the most dominant reasons for farmers’ protest, together accounting for more than 64 percentage of responses.

Table 2: Person who benefits the more out of the Agricultural Laws

Particulars	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
Farmers	21(17.5)	18(15.0)	0(0.00)	39(32.5)
Private companies	29(24.16)	28(23.33)	0(0.00)	57(47.5)
Agents	8(6.66)	16(13.33)	0(0.00)	24(20.0)
Total	58(48.33)	62(51.67)	0(0.00)	120(100.0)

Source: Primary data



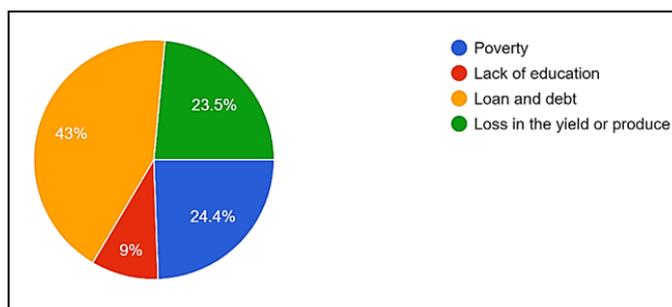
This table highlights the respondents’ opinions regarding who benefits the most from the agricultural laws. Out of the total 120 respondents, 47.5 percentage believed that private companies are the main beneficiaries of the agricultural laws. This represents the highest proportion, indicating a widespread perception that corporate entities gain more advantages from these laws. Meanwhile, 32.5 percentage of respondents felt that farmers benefit the most from the

agricultural laws. Further, 20.0 percentage of respondents stated that agents benefit the most. This shows that the participants perceive middlemen or intermediaries as major beneficiaries under the new legal framework. Overall, the table shows that nearly half of the respondents view private companies as the major beneficiaries of agricultural laws, reflecting concerns about corporate dominance.

Table 3: The cause or reason for Farmer’s Suicide

Particulars	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
Poverty	12(10.0)	18(15.0)	0(0.00)	30(25.0)
Lack of education	6(4.99)	4(3.34)	0(0.00)	10(8.33)
Loan and debt	24(19.99)	28(23.34)	0(0.00)	52(43.33)
Loss in the yield or produce	19(15.83)	9(7.50)	0(0.00)	28(23.34)
Total	61(50.83)	59(49.17)	0(0.00)	120(100.0)

Source: Primary data



The above table presents the major causes of farmers’ suicide as perceived by respondents. Out of the total 120 respondents, the most significant cause identified is loan and debt, reported

by 43.33 percentage of respondents. This indicates that financial burden and indebtedness are considered the primary factors contributing to farmers’ distress and suicides. The

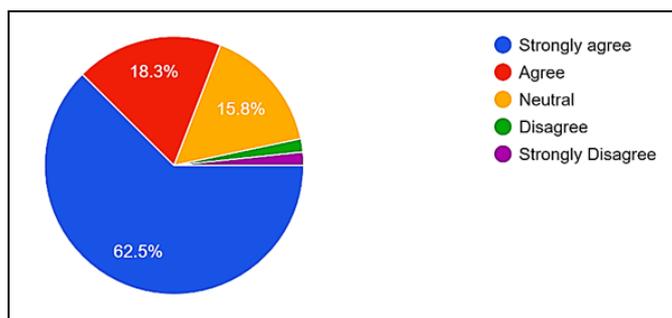
second major cause is poverty, which was mentioned by 25.0 percentage of respondents. The second major cause is poverty, which was mentioned by 25.0 percentage of respondents. In contrast, 8.33 percentage of respondents

pointed to lack of education as a cause. Overall, the table reveals that financial factors especially loan and debt are perceived as the most critical causes of farmers' suicide, followed by poverty and crop loss.

Table 4: The Government must have created awareness among the citizens about the Agricultural Laws.

Particulars	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
Strongly agree	33(27.5)	42(35.0)	0(0.00)	75(62.5)
Agree	10(8.34)	12(9.99)	0(0.00)	22(18.33)
Neutral	12(9.99)	7(5.84)	0(0.00)	19(15.83)
Disagree	1(0.83)	1(0.84)	0(0.00)	2(1.67)
Strongly Disagree	2(1.67)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	2(1.67)
Total	58(48.33)	62(51.67)	0(0.00)	120(100.0)

Source: Primary data



The data reflects the respondents' opinions, on whether the Government should have created awareness among citizens regarding the agricultural laws. Out of the total 120 respondents, a majority of 62.5 percentage of the respondents strongly agreed that the Government should have created awareness about the agricultural laws, while an additional 18.33 percentage agreed with the statement. On the other hand, 15.83 percentage of respondents maintained a neutral stance, suggesting uncertainty or lack of sufficient information to form a clear opinion. A small proportion of respondents disagreed with the statement. 1.67 percentage disagreed and another 1.67 percentage strongly disagreed, together accounting for just 3.34 percentage of the total responses. Overall, the table clearly demonstrates that an overwhelming majority of respondents believe that the Government should have taken greater steps to create awareness about the agricultural laws.

Testing of Hypothesis:

Hypothesis 1: Reason for Farmer's protest against Agricultural Laws.

In Table No 2: 33.33 percentage of the respondent believe that fear of ending Minimum Support Price (MSP) is seen as the major cause for farmer's protesting against the Agricultural Laws as it tends to provide more profit to the farmers. Further 30.83 percentage of respondents accepts that the corporate control over agriculture is the cause for the farmer's protest. 18.34 percentage of respondent views undermining Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Mandis as the reason for farmer's protest and finally 17.50 percentage of the respondents view that weak protection in contract farming as the cause for farmer's protest against Agricultural Laws. Both the hypothesis and the responses are similar Therefore, this hypothesis is accepted and it is a null Hypothesis (Ho).

Hypothesis 2: Major Reason for Farmer's suicide.

In table no:4 the most significant cause identified is loan and

debt, reported by 43.33 percentage of respondents. This indicates that financial burden and indebtedness are considered the primary factors contributing to farmers' distress and suicides. Then 25 percentage of respondents believe that farmers tend to take such extreme decision due to poverty. Further 23.34 percentage of respondents view loss in the yield or produce as the cause for farmers' suicide. Remaining 8.33 percentage of the respondents view that the lack of education make farmers to involve in such extreme decision of suicide. Both the hypothesis and the responses are similar Therefore, this hypothesis is accepted and it is a null Hypothesis (Ho)

11. Conclusion

The research determines the struggle undergone by the farmers to enhance their agricultural productivity among the constraints that were present. The farm laws were enacted with the aim of bringing reforms to the agricultural sector. However, they faced widespread opposition because many farmers were worried about the possible removal of Minimum Support Price, growing influence of private companies, and lack of strong legal safeguards in contract farming. The corporate entities gain more benefits than farmers. At the same time, ongoing problems such as heavy debt, low income, and financial insecurity continue to affect the farming community. Therefore, any future agricultural reforms should focus on protecting farmers' rights, providing economic stability, strengthening institutional support, and encouraging active participation of farmers through transparent and inclusive policy-making.

12. Suggestions

This research further provides few suggestions that can be followed:

- i). To emphasize and enhance the working of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) system.
- ii). To provide the platform for Digital marketing produce

- and help farmers to reduce the risk.
- iii). The Government should improve access to affordable loans and simplify debt relief measures to reduce the burden of indebtedness.
 - iv). Effective awareness programs must be conducted in rural areas to clearly explain new agricultural policies, their benefits, and possible impacts, so that farmers can make informed decisions.
 - v). The Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Mandis has to be further strengthened.
 - vi). The government should enact Agricultural laws that suits the contemporary situation or scenario of the Agricultural system such as laws regarding digital agricultural produce or marketing etc.

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