

Farmer's Bill: are they Bane or Boon

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ARTICLE ID: 071

Ordinance: An ordinance is an executive order issued by the President of India that holds the same force and effect as an Act passed by the Parliament. After the ordinance is passed, it lapses after a period of six weeks from the date, the parliament reassembles.

Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC)

APMC is a marketing board established by a state government in India to ensure farmers are safe guarded from exploitation by large retailers, as well as ensuring the farm to retail price spread does not reach excessively high levels.

Minimum Support Price (MSP)

The minimum support price is an agricultural product price set by the government of India to purchase directly from the farmer. This rate is to safeguard the farmer to a minimum profit for the harvest, if the open market has lesser price than the cost incurred, It is also known as price.

Here are the three agriculture ordinances passed by the government:

The farmers are demanding a roll back of the:

1. Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020.
2. Farmer's (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Service Ordinance, 2020.
3. Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.

Why farmers are protesting against three agriculture ordinances?

Thousands of farmers in Punjab, Haryana and several states are on the roads to protest against three farm ordinances which were presented in Lok Sabha. The opposition and many farmers unions have threatened to protest till the controversial ordinances are withdrawn. A statement by the leader of Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) is "The protest will be indefinite, if the

ordinances are not withdrawn. We will go to New Delhi and compelled to take extreme steps. The farmers are already stressed and committing suicide everyday. If the ordinances become law, they will destroy agriculture".



Some of the main reasons given by the farmers to oppose these ordinances are:-

- Farmers claim that the ordinances will not only phase out the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the traditional grain market but also crush the small and marginal farmers.
- The biggest reason is that they avail finances from the commission agents to raw the crop and return it when the product reaches the market. As the banks are hesitant to lend money to the poor farmers, they solely depend on the private money lenders and the commission agents.
- The another main reason which is haunting the farmers is losing the MSP. They say farming is no more a profitable avocation and if MSP is withdrawn they will not be able to survive.
- The farmers are also afraid that once the private grain markets are established, the traditional grain markets will become history. The farmers will have to depend on corporations and private firms.
- Farmers scared of that these ordinances will end the Mandi System of selling of agricultural products and lead to sell their products below the MSP.

What is the government defence ?

The government says that these ordinances are pro-farmer and will provide barrier free trade for farmers produce outside notified grain market and empower farmers to enter into the farming agreements with private players to prior to the production,for the sale of agri-products. These provisions will be beneficial to all farmers,consumers and traders.It will lead to helping the farmers to having a better price.By enacting on these ordinances, the small farmers will go to the big cities for other more occupations.Because mostly the farmers are only emerged in crop production .They don't show their interest in marketing,food processing and industries related to the agriculture etc. As a result , the governmental godowns becomes fully filled with different several types of grains.

Police reaction towards the protestors:-

Police uses Lathicharge on the Haryana Farmers protesting against 3 Farm ordinances-

Hundreds of farmers protesting against three farm ordinances given by the central government ,were lathicharged by the police in Haryana's Kurukshetra. A day after,they ignore the state and district administrations warnings and marched towards the rally ground.

Will these Ordinances encourage the farmers to commit suicide?

Now, at this time farmers are only protesting against these three ordinances but if it will not withdrawn this will cause the numbers of farmers suicides.



Farmer died by suicide at Punjab Muktsar:-



Pritam Singh, resident of Akkanwali village of Mansa district, consumed the poison, on Friday morning and later died at the hospital. He had participated in the protest since September 15, which is being held by the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan) at Badal village, the native of former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal.

Support of politicians to the farmers-

The politicians are saying that these ordinances are the 'anti-farmers'.

Farmers are the backbone of the country.

- Harsimrat Kaur Badal said that "She quits Modi Govt., while making the announcement in parliament, her husband and party chief Sukhbir Singh Badal said that the Akalis will continue to support the government and BJP but will oppose the "anti-farmers" policies.
- Haryana Chief Minister Bhupendra Singh said that "These ordinances are against the interests of farmers. If the government wants to implement them, then it should ensure that no purchase is made below MSP.

What should be the "Solution"?

The farmers unions are saying that they will continue the protests against 3 Farm Ordinances until they are not withdrawn by the government, because it will lead them to big loss. But the central government is saying that these ordinances will be beneficial for the farmers and

traders. So to make the farmers fear out of the loss, which they think they will have after the implementation of these ordinances. Government has to also implement that the purchase will be done on the basis of MSP despite purchase done by govt. stores or by private stores-industries, no purchase done below the MSP.

