



FEDERATION OF FARMERS ASSOCIATIONS

Flat No. 209, Vijaya Towers, Shanthi Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 028. India.

Phone : 91-4023319643, 23378046 Fax : 91-40-23319643.

E-mail : indian_farmers_federation@yahoo.com

Website : www.indianfarmers.org

REDRESSAL OF FARMERS PLIGHT – INDIAN CONSTITUTION

AKKINENI BHAVANI PRASAD
Vice President

We were under colonial Rule for more than 200 years. It was under the leadership of MAHATMA GANDHIJI, MOTILAL NEHRU, BALA GANGADHAR TILAK and NETAJI, our forefathers could wage a war and won the freedom in 1947.

We have adopted the DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNANCE and adopted a written constitution in the year 1950. The preamble of our constitution was amended vide the 42nd Constitution Amendment Act 1976 and accordingly, the Constitution reads as follows:

"We the people of INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute INDIA into a SOVEREIGN, SOCIALIST, SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens,

- **JUSTICE** – Social, Economic & Political
- **LIBERTY** – of Thought, Expression, Belief, Faith & Worship
- **EQUALITY** – of Status and opportunity and to promote among them all, FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the Individual and Unity & Integrity of the Nation".

In the year 1983, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, has given a clear definition and meaning of the word "SOCIALIST" as existing in the preamble of our Constitution in a case between D.S.NAKARA and UNION OF INDIA, vide the case No. (1983) 1 SCC 305, 325 and 326 and the same reads as follows:

"Preamble – SOCIALIST – Meaning and Scope of – Expression 'SOCIALIST' was internationally introduced in the preamble by the Constitution (Forty Second Amendment) Act 1976. The principle aim of a Socialist State is to eliminate inequality in income, status and standards of life. The basic frame work of socialist is to provide a decent standard of life to the working people and especially provide security from cradle to grave. This amongst others on economic side envisaged economic equality and equitable distribution of income. This is a blend of Marxism and Gandhism leaning heavily towards

Gandhian Socialism. From a wholly feudal exploited slave society to a vibrant, throbbing socialist welfare society is a long march, but during this journey to the fulfillment of goal by every state action whenever taken must be directed, and must be so interpreted, as to take the Society one step towards the Goal”.

The state shall, in particular, strive to minimize the inequalities in in-come, and endeavour to eliminate in-equalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only amongst individuals but also amongst the groups of people residing in different areas and engaged in different vocations. [38-(2)]

From the above, we can understand that the Central Government has a responsibility to implement the Constitutional obligation in letter and spirit, to provide remunerative prices for the Agricultural Produce of the Farmers as well as to provide equality of opportunity to ensure equitable distribution of in-come and social security from cradle to grave.

But, the successive Governments have miserably failed to provide the above and must hold the responsibility for the large number of suicides taking place across the country amongst farmers.

Hence, we suggest a nation-wide programme is to be undertaken to pressurize the Governments to implement the Constitutional obligation of ushering-in SOCIALISM at the earliest.

JAI KISAN