

Project Report

On

Rescue & Revival Mission

GENERAL

The Baba Nanak Educational Society is committed on the rescue revival mission. It is a non-partisan organisation, providing humanitarian assistance in rural Punjab to next of kin of suicide victims. These are families with small children left completely destitute by the death of bread-winners. In some cases more than one person in the family has committed suicide.

Why rescue & revival mission has been undertaken by our society that caught in ever deepening economic crisis and trapped debt, Punjab's farmers and farm laborers are committing suicide by the thousands. The situation is deteriorating day by day, but it is ignored by the govt. at both state and central level and finds only sporadic mention in the media. Suicide ends a life of despair for the victim but it only multiplies the distress for the victim's family. Many families have sold of their last bit of land yet remain under heavy debt, left with no means of support after the death of earning members, some time other members of the family are driven to take the extreme step. Cases of multiple suicides in families are becoming increasingly common. From 1988 to 2005 the number of suicides victims in two blocks of Sangrur district, namely Lehra and Andana (as documented by MASR) is 1540. This figure is not exhaustive, there may be more. The situation is as bad in adjoining blocks. Starvation has become a reality I rural Punjab. In most cases, next of kin of suicide victims lack resources, skills and education; they seek works as agricultural labor on daily wages but this is not always available. In the case of the very young, the elderly and infirm this too is beyond them. Even for the able-bodied, earning enough to simplify.