



# IAS PARLIAMENT

*Information is Empowering*  
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

## Farmers' issue

### What is the issue?

\n\n

\n

- Police force was deployed to deal with the farmers who were supposed to stage a road blockade in Chhattisgarh.
- The officer was instructed not to use force even if the agitation turned violent.

\n

\n\n

### What is the background of the issue?

\n\n

\n

- The Chhattisgarh Kisan Mazdoor Mahasangh, an alliance of 21 organisations, was staging a “chakka jam” (road blockade) on the outskirts of the state capital.
- The Chhattisgarh government did not want what happened in Madhya Pradesh (MP) where six farmers were killed when the police opened fire on them.
- Instead of directly confronting the farmers, the police officer diverted the traffic on National Highway 6.
- In Chhattisgarh, farmers are not buying cash crops and hence remain unaffected when crops fails.
- Interest-free loan is another issue that fails to charge them up.
- This year they had to dump and destroy quintals of tomatoes because the

demand was sluggish.

\n

- Government in Chhattisgarh had failed to fulfil its 2013 assembly manifesto that it would enhance the minimum support price of paddy to Rs 2,100 a quintal, besides a bonus of Rs 300 to farmers against procuring each quintal of paddy.

\n

- The other demands included procuring every grain of paddy, waiving crop loans, and implementing the report of the Swaminathan committee.

\n

\n\n

### **What is the history behind farmer's agitation in Chhattisgarh?**

\n\n

\n

- Farmers of the region launched the first satyagraha in the freedom movement.

\n

- In July 1920, The “Nahar (canal) Satyagraha” started at Kandel village (about 80 km from Raipur).

\n

- The farmers of Kandel launched a movement against the British government, which had imposed the irrigation tax.

\n

- A payment warrant of over Rs 4,000 was issued against them.

\n

- The farmers defied the order and refused to pay.

\n

- In return, the government started suppressing the villagers and took away their cattle.

\n

- The Kandel Satyagraha continued even as the British government took many into custody and tortured them.

\n

- The leaders then decided to urge Mahatma Gandhi to support and lead the movement.

\n

- The British government swung into action after sensing the expansion of the movement at the national level and asked the deputy commissioner of Raipur to probe the matter.

\n

- Based on his report, the British government wrote off the tax and returned

the cattle. The decision was taken before Gandhi reached Raipur to lead the agitation.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: Business Standard**

\n



**IAS PARLIAMENT**

*Information is Empowering*

A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative