PM Narendra Modi calls on RBI for 20-year financial inclusion roadmap

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday called on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to prepare a 20-year roadmap for financial inclusion, stressing on woes of farmers.

Modi said farmers should not have to resort to suicides because of a lack of funds in a speech delivered in Hindi at an event on financial inclusion at the apex bank.

Over a dozen debt-laden farmers in the country have committed suicide in recent weeks, and discontent in many rural areas against government policies is turning into anger against Modi less than a year after he swept into office.

The Prime Minister also said that the RBI's thinking on financial matters was often quite similar to the government's, although he did not provide any specifics.

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