Kids turn activists

Chandigarh: Her voice is soft and comes straight from the heart as this little girl sings and yearns for her dead mother. The irony hits squarely on the face when one realises that it's a 12-year-old girl who

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is sending out an anguished cry for her mother, who has abandoned her children after her debt-ridden, farmer husband committed suicide. Today, her eldest child, Jasbir Kaur, has become a mother to her two siblings as well as the 80 year old, depression-ridden grandmother.

For, Jasbir and 11 other children like hers, life has taken a different turn after they decided to become youngest activists from Punjab to highlight the farm crisis and taking their protest to food minister, Sharad Pawar. All thanks to a young couple from USA, who are documenting their story in a movie with the help of movement against state repression (MASR).

"The centre will leave out Punjab from providing farm relief package of Rs 4,000 crore because we never got any commitment from the food minister," observed Manmeet Singh of Sach Productions, the company which is making a film on the families. The struggle has turned the children into brave activists. TNN