

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2033
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2018**

Suicides by Students

2033. SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the data of student suicides in school and college campuses, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is collecting or recording data regarding the reasons or causes behind these student suicides ;
- (c) whether the Government is promoting counselling sessions for students and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is taking any other steps to prevent student suicides?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a)&(b): Data on student suicides in school and college campuses is not maintained by this Ministry. However, as per the data available on 'Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India 2015' published by National Crime Records bureau (NCRB), a total of 8934 students had committed suicide in the year 2015. The state wise list is enclosed as **Annexure-I**. The report mentions that 1360 persons below the age of 18 years and 1183 persons below the age of 30 years committed suicide during 2015 due to failure in examination. Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has informed that a total of 14 cases of suicides were reported in the year 2017 in Navodaya Vidyalayas.

(c)&(d): As education is a subject in the concurrent list of the constitution, a majority of the schools are under the control of the respective state Governments. As regards School Education, the States and UTs are advised to frame a special strategy for guidance and counselling in schools. It is recommended to have teachers qualified on guidance and counselling services and thereby capable of conducting varied guidance and counselling programmes in schools. Moreover, the existing teachers are also

trained for this purpose and Guest Lectures by prominent people in different fields are also arranged. Guidance and counselling is an essential part of in-service training programmes for teachers and Principals. During 2017-18, an amount of Rs. 465.87 lakh was approved to different States/UTs for guidance and counseling activities under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). Under the Integrated scheme for School Education – Samagra Shiksha launched from 2018-19, there is provision for supporting States and UTs on interventions related to Guidance and counselling in schools. Further, The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), vide its circular number 8, dated March 10, 2008, stated that at least twenty sessions of psychological counselling are to be provided to every student in an academic session at secondary and senior secondary level. The Board vide its circular number 24, dated July 14, 2009 highlighted the need of a full time Counsellor at each level of schooling. The advisory emphasized that parents and teachers may also be involved in psychological sessions. Affiliation Bye-Laws of CBSE since 2010 require that every school shall appoint a full time counsellor.

Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) has informed that in the training programme for teachers, one or two sessions are included to sensitize the teachers and Principals regarding safety and security of the children and also identify the suicidal tendency among the children and take preventive steps to avoid the same. Regular counseling sessions are conducted by inviting counselors in the schools where the students are found in a disturbed state. In case of serious psychological problems among the children, psychiatrists are engaged to identify the behavioral changes and the reasons for such behavior by the specialized counselors. Counselors are also appointed from time to time.

As regards Higher Education, the State Governments were also requested to consider the following 12 measures suggested by Justice Roopanwal Commission of Enquiry :

- (i) The university should evolve a mechanism where the students can appeal in case there is any excess by the university.
- (ii) Counselling Centres consisting of professionally trained counsellors should be set up which shall provide services to students, research scholars and faculty including non-teaching staff.
- (iii) Monitoring Committees should be constituted which should be headed by the supervisors who would provide guidance on the matters related to the subjects studied by the students.

(iv) Equal opportunity Cell headed by the Anti-discrimination Officer as per the UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 should be made functional.

(v) Grievance Redressal Committee headed by the Ombudsman as per the UGC (Grievance Redressal) Regulation 2012 should be made effective.

(vi) Strong induction programme for better acclimatization.

(vii) Establish, as far as possible, local guardian system for outstation students.

(viii) Grievances to be discussed and dispensed with on weekly basis and Vice Chancellor to hold meetings on monthly basis.

(ix) Remedial teaching for academically weak students.

(x) Deans to closely monitor Department problems. Any serious issue to be brought to the notice of Vice Chancellor immediately.

(xi) University to select suitable student volunteers to act as mentors and help freshers.

(xii) Effective administration and supervision of Hostel and strict compliance of Hostel Admission Rules and Regulations so that only current students allotted hostel accommodation by the University stay in the hostels.

As regards the educational institutes of the Ministry, a number of steps have been taken for overall development of students as well as to de-stress them. These include appointment of Student Counselors, organizing Workshops/Seminars on Happiness/Wellness, regular sessions on Yoga, holding induction programs, extracurricular activities including sports and cultural activities etc.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2033 FOR 30.07.2018 REGARDING SUICIDES BY STUDENTS ASKED BY SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE

Sl.No	States/UTs	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	360
2	Arunachal Pradesh	33
3	Assam	564
4	Bihar	62
5	Chhattisgarh	730
6	Goa	25
7	Gujarat	469
8	Haryana	177
9	Himachal Pradesh	43
10	Jammu & Kashmir	64
11	Jharkhand	138
12	Karnataka	597
13	Kerala	374
14	Madhya Pradesh	625
15	Maharashtra	1230
16	Manipur	6
17	Meghalaya	20
18	Mizoram	18
19	Nagaland	2
20	Odisha	330
21	Punjab	65
22	Rajasthan	197
23	Sikkim	41
24	Tamil Nadu	955
25	Telangana	491
26	Tripura	74
27	Uttar Pradesh	229
28	Uttarakhand	53
29	West Bengal	676
	Total (States)	8648
30	A & N Islands	14
31	Chandigarh	26
32	D&N Haveli	10
33	Daman & Diu	4
34	Delhi UT	214
35	Lakshadweep	1
36	Puducherry	17
	Total(UTs)	286
	Total (All India)	8934