GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4979 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST MARCH, 2023

SUICIDAL CASES OF MEDICAL STUDENTS

4979. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of medical students and medical professionals committed suicide during the last three years and the current year in the country, State-wise details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has ascertained the reasons of occurring of such cases;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents and make the medical profession more attractive?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (d): As informed by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 35,950 students (including medical students) committed suicide in the country during 2019-2021.

As per information received from the National Medical Commission, 68 cases of suicide by medical students have been reported from 531 medical colleges in the country during last three years due to family stress, financial situation and working environment. The details of medical students committed suicide during last three years, State/ UT-wise has been placed at Annexure-I.

The Under Graduate Medical Education Board has implemented new competency based medical education for MBBS students wherein Yoga course has been introduced during foundation course to alleviate the stress and depression of MBBS students. Further, to address the issue, National Medical Commission (Prevention & Prohibition of Ragging in Medical Colleges & Institutes) Regulations, 2021 provides for setting up of Mentoring Committee of Monitoring Cell under which mentor interacts with the students on regular basis. Further, the NMC issued an advisory regarding the concern of mental health and well-being of medical students.

Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) since 1982. The Government is supporting implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) under NMHP across districts in the country with the objectives to:

- (i) Provide suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges.
- (ii) Provide mental health services including prevention, promotion and long-term continuing care at different levels of district healthcare delivery system.
- (iii) Augment institutional capacity in terms of infrastructure, equipment and human resource for mental healthcare.
- (iv) Promote community awareness and participation in the delivery of mental healthcare services.

Further, the Government has set up a 24/7 helpline to provide psychosocial support, by mental health professionals, to the entire affected population, divided into different target groups viz children, students, adult, elderly, women and healthcare workers. In addition, guidelines/advisories on management of mental health issues, catering to different segments of the society have also been issued by the Government. The Government has announced a "National Tele Mental Health Programme" to further improve access to quality mental health counselling and care services in the country.

State/UT-wise details of medical students committed suicide during last three years

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	2020	2021	2022
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	2	0	1
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
4	Assam	0	0	0
5	Bihar	1	0	0
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
9	Delhi	1	0	0
10	Goa	0	0	0
11	Gujarat	4	4	2
12	Haryana	2	0	0
13	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1
14	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	1
15	Jharkhand	0	1	0
16	Karnataka	4	1	1
17	Kerala	2	2	1
18	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	0
19	Maharashtra	3	3	5
20	Manipur	0	0	0
21	Meghalaya	0	0	0
22	Mizoram	0	0	0
23	Orissa	0	1	2
24	Puducherry	1	0	0
25	Punjab	0	0	0
26	Rajasthan	3	1	3
27	Sikkim	0	0	0
28	Tamil Nadu	0	2	2
29	Telangana	0	1	0
30	Tripura	0	0	0
31	Uttar Pradesh	2	1	2
32	Uttarakhand	1	0	0
33	West Bengal	2	0	1

Source:- National Medical Commission.