

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2764

ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023

Increasing of Suicide Cases by Students

2764. SHRI NATARAJAN P.R.:
DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:
SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R.:
DR. A. CHELLAKUMAR:
MS. CHANDRANI MURMU:

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the number of suicide cases have increased during the last five years in the country including in premier educational institutes like Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Central Universities, IISERs and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), AIIMS and if so, the details thereof, year-wise, caste-wise, University-wise including student suicide in Odisha during the last five years;
- (b) whether the cases of suicides is proportionately higher in case of students pursuing higher education and if so, the details thereof including the details of students suicide in Odisha during the last five years;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated any investigation or fact finding committee to investigate the suicides and suspected death of students in IITs, IIMs, NITs in the country since 2014;
- (d) whether the Government has issued any direction to all Premier Institutes to take stern action in case of compelled suicide in the country;
- (e) the details of concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to address the root cause of student suicide in these insititutions and Universities; and
- (f) whether most of the students who died belonged to SC/ST and OBC category or came from poor economic background, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to tackle growing instances of caste discrimination and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (f): The details of number of students who committed suicide in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Central Universities (CUs), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISERs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), and All India Institutes of Medical Science (AIIMS), during the last five years are given in **Annexure**. No suicide cases have been reported in the IIT, NIT, IISER, IIM, and CU functioning in the State of Odisha in the last 5 years. However, one case in AIIMS, Bhubaneswar has been reported in 2020.

The Government accords highest importance to each incident of suicide on campuses of educational Institutions and has initiated numerous initiatives in this regard. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provisions for counselling systems for handling stress and emotional adjustments in Institutions. It also provisions for opportunities for students' participation in sports, culture/arts clubs, eco-clubs, activity clubs, community service projects, etc. To check suicidal tendency among students, the Higher Education Institutions take proactive welfare measures to prevent harassment and mental wellbeing of students and have engaged Counsellors / Psychologists / Doctors for counseling of students from time to time. In addition, the Institute's own faculties / Wardens / Mentors are also actively involved in helping students to deal with a wide range of concerns be it academic, personal, emotional. These Institutes conducts regular counseling sessions through sensitization program for the students' community. Further, students, wardens and caretakers are sensitized to bring to notice the signs of depression in fellow students to the authorities so that timely clinical consultation may be provided.

University Grants Commission (UGC) (Redress of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2019 have been formulated to safe guard the interest of students. UGC has also notified UGC Regulations on curbing the menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009 and issued circulars for strict compliance of the regulations. To address the issue of mental health and well-being during and after COVID, UGC had issued advisories to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) on 05.04.2020. UGC has also circulated the National Suicide Prevention Strategy, 2021 formulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The Ministry of Education has undertaken various steps such as peer assisted learning, introduction of technical education in regional languages for students in order to ease the academic stress. The Government of India initiative, named MANODARPAN, covers a wide range of activities to provide psychological support to students, teachers and families for mental and emotional well-being during the COVID outbreak and beyond. Besides this, students' specialised psychological counselling helplines, students' wellness centres, buddy-support system and various other measures have been implemented in Higher Education Institutions, for early detection of cases of psychological stress.

Usually, suicide amongst students is driven by varied causes working in isolation and mostly, in conjunction, which includes academic stress, family reasons, personal reasons, mental health issues, financial distress, and inter personal frictions between students. In order to proactively address any issues of SC / ST students, Institutes have set up mechanisms such as SC / ST students' cells, Equal Opportunity Cell, Student Grievance Cell, Student Grievance Committee, Student Social Club, Liaison officers, Liaison Committee etc. Further, UGC has issued instructions from time to time for promoting equity and fraternity amongst students.

The IIT Council in its recent meeting held in April, 2023 directed IITs to be proactive in providing all kind of support to students including developing a robust mechanism of zero tolerance for discrimination and also to deploy psychological counsellors in their Institutes. IIT Madras, IIT Delhi and IIT Gandhinagar have also conducted workshops on Mental Wellness & Stress Management, in Northern, Western and Southern regions during May-June, 2023, involving multiple educational Institutions and experts in the field of mental health, to develop a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention and mental health promotion.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) to (f) OF THE REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2764 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023 REGARDING “INCREASING OF SUICIDE CASES BY STUDENTS” ASKED BY SHRI NATARAJAN P.R., DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN, SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R., DR. A CHELLAKUMAR AND MS. CHANDRANI MURMU, HON’BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

1. Details of Institutes / Universities where student suicides have been reported

S.No.	Institutes / Universities	Number of students who committed suicide during the last five years				
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.	IITs	8	8	3	4	9
2.	NITs	3	8	1	2	7
3.	CUs	6	4	4	1	5
4.	IISERs	1	0	0	0	2
5.	IIMs	1	0	1	1	1
6.	AIIMS	2	0	4	2	3
Total		21	20	13	10	27

2. State-wise details of Institutes / Universities where student suicides have been reported

S.No.	State / UT	Name of Institutes / Universities	Number of students who committed suicide during the last five years and the current year				
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	IIT Tirupati, IIM Visakhapatnam, NIT-Andhra Pradesh, IISER-Tirupati, Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh, CU National Sanskrit University	0	0	1	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	NIT-Arunachal Pradesh, CU Rajiv Gandhi University	0	0	0	0	1
3	Assam	IIT Guwahati, NIT-Silchar, Assam University, CU Tezpur University	0	0	0	0	3
4	Bihar	IIT Patna, IIM Bodhgaya, NIT-Patna, AIIMS Bihar, AIIMS Patna, Central University Of South Bihar, Mahatma Gandhi Central University	0	0	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	CU Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, IIT Bhilai, IIM Raipur, NIT-Raipur, AIIMS Raipur	1	2	0	1	1
6	Delhi	IIT Delhi, NIT-Delhi, AIIMS Delhi, University of Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, The Central Sanskrit University	3	1	3	3	4
7	Goa	IIT Goa, NIT Goa	0	0	0	0	0

S.No.	State / UT	Name of Institutes / Universities	Number of students who committed suicide during the last five years and the current year				
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
8	Gujarat	IIT Gandhinagar, IIM Ahmedabad, SVNIT-Surat, AIIMS Rajkot, Central University of Gujarat	0	0	1	1	0
9	Haryana	IIM Rohtak, NIT-Kurukshetra, Central University of Haryana	1	1	0	0	0
10	Himachal Pradesh	IIT Mandi, IIM Sirmaur, NIT-Hamirpur, AIIMS Bilaspur, Central University of Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
11	Jammu & Kashmir	IIT Jammu, IIM Jammu, NIT-Srinagar, Central University of Jammu, Central University of Kashmir, AIIMS Jammu	0	0	0	0	0
12	Jharkhand	IIT ISM Dhanbad, IIM Ranchi, NIT-Jamshedpur, AIIMS Deoghar, Central University of Jharkhand	1	0	0	0	0
13	Karnataka	IIT Dharwad, IIM Bangalore, NITK-Surathkal, Central University of Karnataka	1	0	0	2	0
14	Kerala	IIT Palakkad, IIM Kozhikode, NIT-Calicut, IISER-Thiruvananthapuram, Central University of Kerala	0	1	0	0	2
15	Madhya Pradesh	IIT Indore, IIM Indore, NIT-Bhopal, IISER-Bhopal, AIIMS Bhopal, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vish., Indira Gandhi National Tribal University	0	1	0	0	2
16	Maharashtra	IIT Bombay, IIM Nagpur, VNIT-Nagpur, IISER-Pune, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, AIIMS Nagpur	1	1	0	0	2
17	Manipur	NIT-Manipur, Manipur University	0	0	1	0	0
18	Meghalaya	IIM Shillong, NIT-Meghalaya, North Eastern Hill Univ.	0	0	0	0	0
19	Mizoram	NIT-Mizoram, Mizoram University	0	0	0	0	0
20	Nagaland	NIT-Nagaland, Nagaland University	0	0	0	0	0
21	Odisha	IIT Bhubaneswar, IIM Sambalpur, NIT-Rourkela, IISER-Berhampur, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, Central University of Odisha	0	0	1	0	0
22	Puducherry	NIT-Puducherry, Pondicherry University	0	0	1	0	0
23	Punjab	IIT Ropar, IIM Amritsar, DR. B.R. Ambedkar NIT-Jalandhar, IISER-Mohali, Central University of Punjab	2	0	0	0	1

S.No.	State / UT	Name of Institutes / Universities	Number of students who committed suicide during the last five years and the current year				
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
24	Rajasthan	IIT Jodhpur, IIM Udaipur, NIT-Jaipur, Central University of Rajasthan, AIIMS Jodhpur	2	0	0	0	0
25	Sikkim	NIT-Sikkim, Sikkim University	0	0	0	0	0
26	Tamil Nadu	IIT Madras, IIM Tiruchirappalli, NIT-Tiruchirappalli, AIIMS Madurai, Central University of Tamil Nadu	1	4	1	0	3
27	Telangana	IIT Hyderabad, NIT-WARANGAL, AIIMS Bibinagar, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, University of Hyderabad, The English & Foreign Languages University	1	4	0	1	1
28	Tripura	NIT-Agartala, Tripura University	0	0	0	0	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	IIT Kanpur, IIT BHU, IIM Lucknow, NIT-Allahabad, AIIMS Raebareli, Aligarh Muslim University, Banaras Hindu University, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, University of Allahabad	5	3	1	1	3
30	Uttarakhand	IIT Roorkee, IIM Kashipur, NIT-Uttarakhand, AIIMS Rishikesh, Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University	1	1	1	1	2
31	West Bengal	IIT Kharagpur, IIM Calcutta, NIT-Durgapur, IEST Shibpur, IISER-Kolkata, AIIMS Kalyani, CU Visva Bharati	1	1	2	0	2
		Total	21	20	13	10	27
