

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2146
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019

Suicide Rate in Higher Education

2146. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing suicide rates in the higher education institutes in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has done any studies/research on discrimination/ harassment of students based on caste or religion in the higher education institutions such as IITs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures that are being taken by the government to prevent harassment of students in higher education institutions?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) : The available data reveals no increasing suicide rate in higher education institutes in the country.

(b) to (d) : The Government of India and University Grants Commission (UGC) have already taken several initiatives to check the incidents of harassment and discrimination of all students and to safeguard their interests, including of all disadvantaged groups, in higher educational institutions of the country which include formulation of University Grants Commission (Redress of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2019.

UGC vide its letters dated 19.07.2011, 02.07.2013, 07.03.2016, 05.09.2016, 15.5.2017, 04.06.2018 and 26th June,2019 has also issued instructions for prevention of Caste based discrimination, from time to time, to all the Universities/Deemed to be Universities. Recently, the UGC vide its letter dated 26.06.2019 has communicated to all universities to constitute a committee to look into the discrimination complaints received from the SC/ST/OBC Students /Teachers and non-teaching staff.

AICTE has also launched three week student induction program which includes physical activities, learning, art form, literature, cinema, social awareness and universal human values to make them stress free.