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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1046
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03RD DECEMBER, 2021

SUICIDES DUE TO COVID-19

1046. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

(a) whether the Government has the data regarding suicides committed in the country after March 2020, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b) Whether the Government is aware of any studies linking the rise in suicides with the COVID-19 induced stress, if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the Government has taken any steps to reduce the number of suicides happening in the country; and

(d) If so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(a): As per the "Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2020" Report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the total number of suicides committed by people during the year 2020 is 153052. Details of State/ UT- wise number of suicides committed by people during 2020 is Annexed.

(b) to (d): Realizing the impact that COVID-19 may have on the mental health of the people, the Government has taken a number of initiatives to provide psychosocial support during COVID-19. These initiatives include:

(i) Setting up of a 24/7 helpline to provide psychosocial support, by mental health professionals, to the entire affected population, divided into different target groups viz children, adult, elderly, women and healthcare workers.

(ii) Issuance of guidelines/ advisories on management of mental health issues, catering to different segments of the society.

(iii) Advocacy through various media platforms in the form of creative and audio-visual materials on managing stress and anxiety, and promoting an environment of support and care for all.

(iv) Issuance of detailed guidelines by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru- "Mental Health in the times of COVID-19 Pandemic - Guidance for General Medical and Specialized Mental Health Care Settings".

(v) All the guidelines, advisories and advocacy material can be accessed on Ministry of Health and Family Welfare website under "Behavioural Health – Psychosocial helpline" (https://www.mohfw.gov.in/).

(vi) Online capacity building of health workers by NIMHANS in providing psychosocial support and training through (iGOT)-Diksha platform.

Further, to address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP). The Government is supporting implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) under NMHP in 692 districts of 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.

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State UT wise number of suicide committed by people during 2020

SN	State/UT	Number of Suicides
1	Andhra Pradesh	7043
2	Arunachal Pradesh	160
3	Assam	3243
4	Bihar	809
5	Chhattisgarh	7710
6	Goa	308
7	Gujarat	8050
8	Haryana	4001
9	Himachal Pradesh	857
10	Jharkhand	2145
11	Karnataka	12259
12	Kerala	8500
13	Madhya Pradesh	14578
14	Maharashtra	19909
15	Manipur	44
16	Meghalaya	224
17	Mizoram	108
18	Nagaland	48
19	Odisha	5546
20	Punjab	2616
21	Rajasthan	5658
22	Sikkim	285
23	Tamil Nadu	16883
24	Telangana	8058
25	Tripura	845
26	Uttar Pradesh	4804
27	Uttarakhand	943
28	West Bengal	13103
	TOTAL STATE(S)	**148737**
29	A & N Islands	180
30	Chandigarh	128
31	D&N Haveli and Daman&Diu	156
32	Delhi UT	3142

33	Jammu & Kashmir	287
34	Ladakh	12
35	Lakshadweep	2
36	Puducherry	408
	TOTAL UT(S)	**4315**
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	**153052**