GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2749

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH DECEMBER, 2021/ AGRAHAYANA 23, 1943 (SAKA) CHILD SUICIDE

2749. DR. T.R.PAARIVENDHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that child suicide has been on the rise for the past three years;
- (b) if so, whether it is also true that child suicide cases in 2018 was 9413, in 2019 was 9613 and in 2020 was 11396 in 2021 and around 31 children die per day as per the data released by National Child Crime Prevention Unit/National Criminal Records Bureau of India;
- (c) whether any action has been taken/being taken to curb/prevent child suicide in the future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)

(a) & (b) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available till the year 2020. As per available information, the total number of suicide committed by children (below 18 years) during the last three years is as below:

Year	No. of children committed suicide
2018	9431
2019	9613
2020	11396

(c) & (d) As per available information, the Ministry of Education has undertaken a proactive initiative, named 'Manodarpan' covering a wide range of activities to provide psychosocial support to students, teachers and families for Mental Health and Emotional Well being during the COVID outbreak and beyond. A webpage for Manodarpan has been created on the Website of the Ministry of Education, which contains advisory, practical tips, posters, videos, do's and don'ts for psychosocial support, FAQs and online query system. Further, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has started 'NCERT Counselling Services for School Children' in April, 2020 to help school students across the country share their concerns. This service is provided free of charge by about 270 counsellors across different regions of the country.

Mental healthcare services have also been added in the package of services under Comprehensive Primary Health Care under Ayushman Bharat-HWC Scheme. Operational guidelines on Mental, Neurological, and Substance Use Disorders (MNs) at Health and Wellness Centers (HWC) have been released under the ambit of Ayushman Bharat. Ministry of Women and Child Development has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NIMHANS to establish a National Initiative & Integrated Resource Centre for Child Protection, Mental Health, and Psychosocial Care named "SAMVAD" at NIMHANS, at Bangalore.
