

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 123
ANSWERED ON 21/07/2025

Increase in Student Suicide Rate

123. Ms. Praniti Sushilkumar Shinde:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rate of suicide among students has increased a lot as per latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Report, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons due to which the Government failed to curb the increase in student suicides, despite its educational reforms and mental health initiatives;
- (c) the details of the concrete steps taken by the Government to address the mental health crisis in schools, especially in States like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh, which account for one-third of student suicides;
- (d) the reasons for not regulating coaching institutions in areas like Kota, where extreme academic pressure is pushing students to suicide; and
- (e) the details of steps taken by the Government to override this situation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(Dr. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (e): National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) collects data on suicides from police recorded suicide cases. Comprehensive analysis of the data related to the accidental deaths and suicides in the country is published in the yearly Accidental Death & Suicide in India (ADSI) reports by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB). Year wise and State wise details of student suicides are available in the ADSI reports which are accessible at <https://ncrb.gov.in/accidental-deaths-suicides-in-india-year-wise.html>. As per ADSI 2022 student suicide accounted for 7.6% of the total suicide cases compared to 8.0% in 2021, 8.2% in 2020. As per these Reports, there are various causes of suicides like professional/career problems, sense of isolation, abuse, violence, family problems, mental disorders, addiction to alcohol, financial loss, chronic pain etc.

To address the issue of suicide, the Government is taking multi-pronged measures and provides psychological support to students, teachers and families for mental and emotional well-being to avoid incidences of suicide. An initiative of Ministry of Education, MANODARPAN, covers a wide range of activities to provide psychological support to students, teachers and families for mental and emotional well-being such as National toll-free helpline that has been extending guidance to callers through trained counsellor; and live interactive sessions ‘Sahyog’ and Webinars ‘Paricharcha’ that are organized regularly to create awareness about the importance of mental health among all

stakeholders, students in all States/UTs including Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. These sessions are telecast on PM e-Vidya channels and are also available on 'NCERT Official' YouTube Channel.

To address the burden of mental disorders, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) in the country. The District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) component of the NMHP has been sanctioned for implementation in 767 districts for which support is provided to States/UTs through the National Health Mission (NHM). One of the objectives of DMHP includes to provide suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges.

Ayushman Bharat School Health & Wellness Programme under NHM incorporates "Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health" as a dedicated module. Health and Wellness Ambassadors (Teachers) are trained on mental health along with other thematic areas of the programme to support and provide awareness to school children on mental health and well-being.

A "National Tele Mental Health Programme" has been launched in 2022, to improve access to quality mental health counselling and care services in the country. As on today, 36 States/ UTs have set up 53 Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (MANAS) Cells. More than 23.80 lakhs calls have been handled on the helpline number. The Government has also launched Tele MANAS Mobile Application on the occasion of World Mental Health Day - October 10, 2024.

UGC issued advisory to HEIs on 06.01.2023 regarding the National Suicide Prevention Strategy framed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. UGC has issued Guidelines for Promotion of Physical Fitness, Sports, Student's Health, Welfare, Psychological and Emotional Well-being at HEIs on 13.04.2023.

The Ministry on 10.07.2023 has also circulated a broad framework for emotional and mental well-being of students in Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) with request to take proactive measures to incorporate the same in the institutional functioning and instil a feeling of confidence in the student community. Accordingly, IIT Madras, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IIT Gandhinagar and IIT Roorkee have conducted workshops on Mental Wellness & Stress Management.

Department of Higher Education initiated the Integrated approach for Promoting Positive Mental Health, Resilience, and Wellbeing under the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme. It comprises online and in-person sessions, visits to institutions with innovative mental health practices, and an Annual National Wellbeing Conclave. The goal is to empower faculty to address student mental health concerns for early intervention.

Guidelines for Regulation of Coaching Centers have been issued by Ministry of Education to States/UTs on 16.01.2024 for consideration by way of appropriate legal framework. This has been followed up with another letter to the States/ UTs on 16.07.2024. The Guidelines encompass several key aspects, including laying emphasis on significance of mental well-being, advocating for the prioritization of counsellors and psychologists' support within coaching centres; no batch segregation; maintenance of records etc.

Moreover, education being in the concurrent list, Centre and States are equally responsible to address this issue.
