

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1344
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

Suicides among NEET Aspirants

1344. Shri S Jagathratchakan:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of student suicides reported across the country during the last three years following the announcement of NEET results, State/year-wise, including the total number of suicides among NEET aspirants;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any studies/surveys to understand the mental health crisis among NEET aspirants and medical students and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has planned any support system to provide psychological counselling, helpline services, stress management programs and career guidance targeted at NEET aspirants to prevent such suicides, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Union Government plans to give greater autonomy to States to conduct medical entrance examination in light of recurring mental health concerns of students, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): 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>.

Central Government has taken several measures to provide psychological support to students, teachers and families for mental and emotional well-being to avoid incidences of suicide.

- The M/o Education on 10.07.2023 has 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.

- 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. 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.
- 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. These include National toll-free helpline that extends guidance to callers through trained counsellors; live interactive sessions 'Sahyog' and Webinars 'Paricharcha' that are organized regularly to create awareness about the importance of mental health among all stakeholders. These sessions are telecast on PM e-Vidya channels and are also available on 'NCERT Official' YouTube Channel.
- 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 17.07.2025, 36 States/ UTs have set up 53 Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (MANAS) Cells. More than 29,75,000 calls have been handled on the helpline number. The Government has also launched Tele MANAS Mobile Application to provide support for mental health issues ranging from wellbeing to mental disorders.
- To address the burden of mental disorders, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MHFW) implements the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) in the country. The District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) component of the NMHP provides support to States/UTs through the National Health Mission. Facilities made available under DMHP at the Community Health Centre (CHC) and Primary Health Centre (PHC) levels, inter-alia, include outpatient services, assessment, counselling/ psycho-social interventions, continuing care and support to persons with severe mental disorders, drugs, outreach services, ambulance services etc.
- In addition to the above, the Government has upgraded more than 1.81 lakh Sub Health Centres (SHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) to Ayushman Arogya Mandirs. Mental health services have been added in the packages of services under Comprehensive Primary Health Care provided at these Ayushman Arogya Mandirs.

As per Section 14 of the National Medical Commission (NMC) Act, 2019 the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) is to be conducted as uniform entrance test for admission to the undergraduate and postgraduate courses in all medical institutions in the country.

Hon'ble Supreme Court through its Judgement dated 29th April 2020 in Christian Medical College Vellore Association vs. UOI & Ors has upheld the NEET as a uniform entrance test for admission to the undergraduate and postgraduate courses in all medical institutions, noting that Uniform Entrance Test qualifies the test of proportionality and is reasonable.
