

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 63
ANSWERED ON-01/12/2025**

Student Suicides in IITs

63. Shri Joyanta Basumatary:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of student suicides in IITs across the country during the last ten years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has set aside any amount of funds allocated to IITs for ensuring adequate mental health facilities for students and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted any committee or conducted survey to examine the mental health of students in IITs and suggest measures to improve the same and if so, the details of the recommendations thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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>

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.

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 also 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 instill a feeling of confidence in the student community. These guidelines lay emphasis inter alia on sports, yoga, meditation etc. to address the wellbeing and mental health concerns. HEIs are promoting the integration of yoga in the academic life on campus by introducing year long yoga event calendars, dedicated courses on yoga etc.

Department of Higher Education has initiated the Integrated approach for Promoting Positive Mental Health, Resilience, and Wellbeing under the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme to empower faculty to address student mental health concerns for early intervention.

In pursuance of Supreme Court of India's Order dated 24.03.2025, a National Task Force (NTF) has been constituted under the chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) S. Ravindra Bhat, Former Judge, SCI for identification of the predominant causes which lead to commission of suicides by students, analysis of Existing Regulations, recommendations for Strengthening Protections etc.

Additionally, IITs have established Student Wellness Centres (SWCs) to promote student well-being through volunteer programs, student counselling/training sessions and grievance redressal mechanisms. Beyond utilizing professional online counselling platforms, IITs also employ mental health professionals, including counselors, psychiatrists, and psychometricians to provide in-person counseling and support to the students.
