

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1485**  
ANSWERED ON 09/02/2026

**Dropout and Suicide Rate in IITs/NITs/IIMs**

1485. Shri K Radhakrishnan:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT's), National Institutes of Technology (NIT's), Indian Institutes of Management (IIM's) and Central Universities have reported an exponential increase in the student dropout and suicide rates;
- (b) if so, the details of dropouts and suicide rate in each IIT's, NIT's, IIM's and Central Universities separately during the last five years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to conduct any enquiry on the context of this increased dropout rates and suicide rates in the national institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(Dr. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): In the Higher Education sector, students have multiple options and they choose and migrate from one course or programme or institute/university to another, as such there is no concept of Drop Out in Higher Education.

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 far as the Central Government is concerned; to address the issue of suicide, it 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 to provide guidance to callers through trained counsellor; 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 etc. These sessions are telecast on PM e-Vidya channels and are also available on 'NCERT Official' YouTube Channel.

UGC has issued advisory to HEIs in January, 2023 circulating the National Suicide Prevention Strategy framed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. UGC 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 of Education in July, 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. Accordingly, IIT Madras, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IIT Gandhinagar and IIT Roorkee have conducted workshops on Mental Wellness & Stress Management.

Integrated approach for Promoting Positive Mental Health, Resilience, and Wellbeing under the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme was started. 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 by early intervention.

To address the issue of mental health, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare(MHFW) is implementing National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) in the country, which include outpatient services, assessment, counselling/ psycho-social interventions, continuing care and support to persons with severe mental disorders, drugs, outreach services, ambulance services etc at Community Health Centre(CHC) and Primary Health Centre(PHC) levels. In addition, the Government is also taking steps to strengthen mental healthcare services at primary healthcare level. 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.

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 02.02.2026, 36 States/ UTs have set up 53 Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (MANAS) Cells. More than 32,83,000 calls have been handled on the helpline number. The Government has also launched Tele MANAS Mobile Application, which is a comprehensive mobile platform that has been developed to provide support for mental health issues ranging from wellbeing to mental disorders. In addition, a video consultation facility has been introduced under Tele-MANAS, as an upgrade to the existing audio calling service.

The Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 decriminalizes the suicide under Section 115, recognizing it as a manifestation of severe stress further mandating the government's responsibility to provide care, treatment and rehabilitation to the person who attempts suicide.

In pursuance of Order dated 24.03.2025 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Criminal Appeal No. 1425 of 2025 in the matter of Amit Kumar & Ors Vs. Union of India & Ors., a National Task Force (NTF) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) S. Ravindra Bhat, Former Judge, SCI to identify predominant causes of suicides by students, analyze of existing regulations and suggest recommendations for strengthening students' protection.