

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 657
ANSWERED ON-26/07/2023

Suicide by students in IITs, IIMs, Medical and other Higher Educational Institutes

657 Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of students who have committed suicide in IITs, IIMs, Medical and other Higher Educational Institutes in the last five years, year-wise and institute-wise;
- (b) number of students from SC/ST/OBC/Minority category-wise who have committed suicide in last five years, year-wise and institute-wise;
- (c) number of SC/ST/OBC dropouts in IITs, IIMs, NITs, Law University and other higher institutes, institute-wise and category-wise in last five years; and
- (d) the main reasons for large number of suicides and steps taken by Government to check these suicides?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a & b): The information as received from IITs, IIMs, Medical and other Higher Educational Institutes is attached as **Annexure – I**.

(c): The information as received from IITs, IIMs, NITs, Law University and other Higher Educational Institutes is attached as **Annexure – II**. It is also mentioned that the maximum number of dropouts is in Postgraduate and Ph.D programmes. The main reasons are offers for placement in Public Sector Enterprises and personal preference for better opportunities elsewhere. The drop out in Undergraduate programmes is attributed to withdrawal due to wrong choices filled, poor performance and personal and medical reasons. Institutions have initiated a number of corrective measures to minimize the dropouts, which include appointment of advisors to monitor the academic progress of students, provision of additional classes for academically weaker students, Peer Assisted learning, counselling to de-stress students, psychological motivation, and extracurricular activities.

(d): The Government accords the highest importance to each incident of suicide on campuses of educational institutions and has initiated numerous initiatives in this regard. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provisions for counselling systems for handling stress and emotional adjustments in Institutions. It also provisions for opportunities for students' participation in sports, culture/arts clubs, eco-clubs, activity clubs, community service projects, etc.

University Grants Commission (UGC) (Redress of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2019 have been formulated to safe guard the interest of students. UGC has also notified UGC Regulations on curbing the menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009 and issued circulars for strict compliance of the regulations. To address the issue of mental health and well-being during the after COVID, UGC had issued advisories to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) on 05.04.2020. UGC has also circulated the National Suicide Prevention Strategy, 2021 formulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The Ministry of Education has undertaken various steps such as peer assisted learning, introduction of technical education in regional languages for students in order to ease the academic stress. The Government of India initiative, named MANODARPAN, covers a wide range of activities to provide psychological support to students, teachers and families for mental and emotional well-being during the COVID outbreak and beyond. Besides this, students' specialised psychological counselling helplines, students' wellness centres, buddy-support system and various other measures have been implemented in IITs and other Institutions, for early detection of cases of psychological stress.

The higher educational institutions take various steps such as conducting workshops/ seminars on Happiness and Wellness, regular sessions on Yoga, induction programs, extracurricular activities including sports and cultural activities, assigning of one faculty adviser for small group of students to support with their academics and monitor their progress, and appointment of Student Counsellors for overall personality development and de-stressing students. Further, students, wardens and caretakers are sensitized to bring to notice the signs of depression in fellow students to the authorities so that timely clinical consultation may be provided.

In order to proactively address any issues of SC/ ST students, Institutes have set up mechanisms such as SC/ ST students' cells, Equal Opportunity Cell, Student Grievance Cell, Student Grievance Committee, Student Social Club, Liaison officers, Liaison Committee etc. Further, University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued instructions from time to time for promoting equity and fraternity amongst students.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) & (b) OF THE REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 657 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26/07/2023 REGARDING “SUICIDE BY STUDENTS IN IITs, IIMs, MEDICAL AND OTHER HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS” ASKED BY SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI, HON’BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

S. No.	Institutes/ HEIs	Category	Number of students who committed suicide in last five years				
			2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1.	IITs	Total	8	3	4	9	7
		SC	1	0	0	2	2
		ST	0	0	0	1	0
		OBC	3	1	2	2	1
		Minority	1	0	0	1	0
2.	IIMs	Total	0	1	1	1	0
		SC	0	0	0	0	0
		ST	0	0	0	0	0
		OBC	0	0	1	0	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	0
3.	AIIMS	Total	0	4	3	3	3
		SC	0	0	0	0	0
		ST	0	0	0	0	2
		OBC	0	2	1	0	1
		Minority	0	1	0	0	0
4.	NITs	Total	8	1	2	7	4
		SC	1	0	0	2	1
		ST	0	0	0	0	0
		OBC	5	0	1	2	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	1
5.	IIITs	Total	1	0	0	1	0
		SC	0	0	0	0	0
		ST	0	0	0	0	0
		OBC	1	0	0	1	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	0
6.	SPAs	Total	1	0	1	0	0
		SC	0	0	0	0	0
		ST	0	0	0	0	0
		OBC	1	0	1	0	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	0
7.	IISERs	Total	0	0	0	2	0

S. No.	Institutes/ HEIs	Category	Number of students who committed suicide in last five years				
			2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
		SC	0	0	0	0	0
		ST	0	0	0	0	0
		OBC	0	0	0	0	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	0

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (c) OF THE REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 657 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26/07/2023 REGARDING “SUICIDE BY STUDENTS IN IITs, IIMs, MEDICAL AND OTHER HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS” ASKED BY SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI, HON’BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

S. No.	Institutes/ HEIs	Category	Number of students who dropout in last five years				
			2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1.	IITs	Total	1510	2152	2411	1746	320
		SC	186	287	318	229	48
		ST	85	104	106	98	15
		OBC	391	527	640	428	80
		Minority	16	13	20	14	0
2.	IIMs	Total	107	225	224	203	99
		SC	23	59	52	35	19
		ST	16	28	16	24	7
		OBC	21	41	49	32	20
		Minority	1	6	2	1	1
3.	NITs	Total	1292	1467	1467	1270	127
		SC	243	193	217	202	20
		ST	148	113	114	101	10
		OBC	324	335	321	309	40
		Minority	222	101	104	50	8
4.	M/o Law & Justice	Total	0	0	0	0	0
5.	IIITs	Total	177	288	187	117	34
		SC	35	45	25	13	6
		ST	27	33	15	16	7
		OBC	39	64	30	21	7
		Minority	4	5	2	2	0
6.	SPAs	Total	13	12	15	16	0
		SC	2	0	3	0	0
		ST	1	0	1	0	0
		OBC	6	4	3	8	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	0
7.	IISERs	Total	219	244	356	203	24
		SC	33	40	37	27	2
		ST	20	21	16	10	3
		OBC	52	60	94	56	4
		Minority	10	14	15	23	2
8.	CUs	Total	4926	5410	4156	2962	0

S. No.	Institutes/ HEIs	Category	Number of students who dropout in last five years				
			2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
		SC	674	796	555	399	0
		ST	780	768	657	417	0
		OBC	1212	1468	1131	785	0
		Minority	0	0	0	0	0
