

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:294

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012

SUICIDE CASES

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increasing trend in the cases of suicide by school students due to examination related reasons in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the measures taken or being considered to prevent such cases;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to change the pattern of examinations and curriculum; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a)&(b): There are sporadic reports in the media of suicides committed by the students of various grades. The report of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) shows that while the number of suicides by school students declined between 2008 and 2009, there was an increase in 2010. This increase can be attributed to various social, economic or personal reasons and not to examination pressure alone.

(c): Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), in respect of its affiliated schools, does not maintain such data. However, the state-wise details, based on the NCRB reports, of suicide by school students for the year 2008, 2009 & 2010 is furnished in Annexure-I.

(d)to(f): CBSE has taken the following initiatives to tackle such problem effectively:

- (i) Abolition of class X Board Examination w.e.f. 2011 for the students who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after class X,
- (ii) Grading System has been brought in at the level of IX & X,
- (iii) Providing 15 Minutes time for reading question paper during examination,
- (iv) Proper weightage to internal school based assessment,
- (v) Five chances of improvements in class X in all subjects have been provided. Also five chances of compartment in class XII examination in one subject have been provided,
- (vi) Providing counselling to students and the parents along with helpline programme before the commencement of the examination and during the declaration of results through telephone, Interactive Voice Record system (IVRS), leading news papers and online connectivity.