

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1514  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013  
SUICIDES IN PREMIER INSTITUTES  
M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether the number of suicides in the premier institutes like Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and National Institutes of Technology (NITs) have increased in the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise, year-wise and institute-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted any expert committee to ascertain the causes of these suicides;
- (d) if so, the details and the findings of the committee;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to protect the IIT and NIT students resorting to such extreme decisions and to lessen their burden on curriculum and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken by the Government to curb the recurrence of such suicides in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The premier educational institutes like the IITs and the the NITs are autonomous bodies governed by their respective Acts and Statutes. Fact finding committees / inquiry committees are constituted by the respective Institutes. The reasons for suicides, as per the findings of the committees, include depression, academic load, peer pressure and also emotional / inter-personal issues. While a statement showing the IIT-wise number of suicides is annexed, that of the NITs is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) to (f): Concerned with the growing incidence of suicides among the students of higher education, including the IITs, the Council of IITs, in its 43rd meeting, held on 14.09.2011, constituted a Task Force headed by Prof. M. Anandakrishnan, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT-Kanpur, including representatives inter-alia from the parents, teachers, alumni, professional counsellors, etc, to suggest remedial measures after studying the causes of such occurrences. The report of the Task Force, which inter-alia recommended that every Institute should have a dedicated Counselling Centre / Service which will serve as a mainstay to cater to the mental health and psychological needs of the students, has been circulated to all the Centrally Funded Technical Institutes (CFTIs), including the IITs and the NITs, for implementation.