

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 02.05.2005
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDE BY STUDENTS .

4049

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that as a result of existing education system and commercialisation thereof tragedy like Suicide among students has arisen due to increasing competition among students and failure in the same;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether, it is also a fact that our education system and prevailing defects in evaluation system are primarily behind this tendency; and
- (d) if so, the measures being taken by Government to check this tendency?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

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(a to (d):, The problem of increasing stress among students during examinations and instances of some students committing suicides due to failure in examination and stress have been engaging the attention of the Government. However, there are various contributory factors such as competition, peer & parental pressure, fast changing socio and economic conditions, lack of employment opportunities and fear of failure in examinations which become the cause of tragedies like suicides among students. The Ministry is deeply concerned with the issue of high stress level among students caused by the public examinations at the end of class X and XII conducted by various boards, Joint Entrance Examinations for IITs and other entrance examinations. To address the question of promoting equality in access to education as also allow the students to have a stress free environment of joyful learning, the Ministry had convened a meeting recently with Eminent Educationists, Principals, representatives from premier institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Management, Heads of the Boards of Examination and others. It was unanimously agreed that there must be systemic reforms to eliminate exam-related stress, it was also felt that a national consensus on the issue should be reached through wider discussion.