

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 05.03.2007
ANSWERED ON
SUICIDES BY STUDENTS AT IITS .

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SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA

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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of students have committed suicides or attempted suicides at various IITs in the last three years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that on November 6, 2006, a student from Kerala committed suicide at IIT, Kanpur;
- (c) whether Government have noted the casual attitude of managements of IITs to suicide amongst students;
- (d) what steps will be taken to hold the authorities accountable for each and every suicide on their campuses; and
- (e) the steps proposed to check such suicides?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

- (a): Some students have committed suicides or attempted suicides at various IITs in the last three years.
- (b): Yes, Sir.
- (c) to (e): Events of suicides are taken very seriously. Following steps have been taken by the authorities of IITs to check cases of suicides: -
 - (i) Counseling which looks into all aspects viz. personal, financial, psychological and emotional problems of the students;
 - (ii) Holding workshops / seminars to cope with the challenges;
 - (iii) Creation of help lines;
 - (iv) Modifications of the examination scheme so that students should not feel over-stressed during examinations;
 - (v) Monitoring of performance of students during semester;
 - (vi) Setting up of mechanisms so that the families are well informed about the performance of students; and
 - (vii) Conducting of seminars on breathing exercises, yoga and meditation, etc.