

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:183
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2006
SUICIDE BY STUDENTS
Jindal Shri Naveen

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

- (a) whether there has been an increasing trend in the case of suicide by school students due to examination related reasons in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken or being considered to prevent such suicides;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to change the pattern of examinations and curriculum;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has initiated a National Adolescent Programme; and
- (g) if so, the objectives thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 183 FOR 5.12.2006 ASKED BY SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL REGARDING SUICIDE BY STUDENTS

(a) & (b): Information on trend of cases of suicide by school students due to examination-related reasons is not maintained by the Government.

(c) to (e): To reduce examination-related stress among students, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has taken the following measures including changes in pattern of examination and curriculum:

- i) Launching of 'Helpline' before the commencement of examination and also before the declaration of results.
- ii) 15 minutes of additional time to students for reading the question paper before they begin to write the answers.
- iii) Restructuring the question papers in such a manner that in question paper of 3 hours, student can finish it comfortably within 2 hours and 30 minutes.
- iv) Simplification of question papers in some of the important subjects to provide more internal choices of questions and also to reduce the number of questions to make the students comfortable in respect of time and speed.
- v) Proper weightage to internal school assessment based on project work and assignments in important subjects like Mathematics, Social Science and Science & Technology.
- vi) Publication of sample question papers and marking schemes to familiarize teachers and students with the nature of questions and question papers.
- vii) Providing facility of compartment examination in two subjects in class X and one subject in class XII.
- viii) Providing three chances of compartment examination for classes X and XII.

(f) & (g): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of HRD is implementing "Adolescence Education Programme" with the following objectives:

- i) To organise life skills based co-curricular activities in the secondary and higher secondary schools.

ii) To integrate adolescence education elements in school curriculum, teachers' education courses and adult education schemes.