

Physical activities for minimising stress in technical institutes

538. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of suicide cases amongst the students of technical education institutes throughout the country is on the rise due to heavy study stress;

(b) whether the Ministry considers introducing mandatory participation in physical activity by the students in such institutes in order to minimize the effects of stress; and

(c) if so, what sort of physical activities the Ministry would like to propose for the students of the technical institutes to relieve them from the study stress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) Sir, there was one case of suicide among the students of IITs during the year 2016-17.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal for introducing mandatory participation in physical activities by the students in IITs. A Task Force was constituted in 2012 for prevention of suicide and promotion of wellness in centrally funded technical institutions including IITs. The Task Force recommended that there was a need to focus on sports, art and other extracurricular activities as well. The recommendation was accepted and communicated to all centrally funded technical institutions including all IITs. Wellness centre has been established in all IITs. The IIT Council in its meeting held on 28.4.2017 has also adopted measures to be taken by IITs for promoting wellness in the campuses. To further promote wellness among students of IITs, a workshop of all IITs was also held in July, 2017.

Publication of text books by CBSE

539. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBSE has the mandate publish the text books for secondary and senior secondary level;

(b) the prime objectives of CBSE, as per the mandate; and