

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in addition to prevailing measures to prevent such suicides by the students of IITs?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) No Sir.

(b) During the last five years (2015 - 2019), 25 students took their lives across 9 IITs.

(c) and (d) The IIT Council in its 51st meeting held on 28th April, 2017 considered the issue of suicide and a presentation was made by Prof. Partha P. Chakrabarti, the then Director IIT Kharagpur. In the presentation it was emphasized that the IIT students face various challenges related to academic, aspirational, social and life style. The Council adopted the following measures to be taken by all the IITs, in addition to the counselling centres being run:—

(i) Multi-modal Vulnerability Assessment for Early Identification (ii) Wider Mental Health Assessment Programme (iii) Help Manual, Attendance Management, Alert and QRTs.

IITs have also taken various steps for overall development of students as well as to de-stress them, which includes, establishment of Students Wellness Centre, Guidance and Counseling unit and appointment of Student Counselors, student mentors, organizing Workshops/Seminars on Happiness/Wellness, regular sessions on Yoga, holding induction programs, extracurricular activities including sports and cultural activities etc.

#### **Changes to the system of higher education and vocational education**

556. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to bring in changes to the present system of higher education and vocational education by introducing more practical learning in order to make it more practical and employment-oriented;

(b) if so, the details of the steps initiated by Government in consultation with State Governments to make all level of higher education more practical and employment-oriented in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Government is in the process of formulating

a new National Education Policy. Based on feedback/comments received from various stakeholders on the Draft National Education Policy 2019 submitted by the Committee for the Draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan, the Ministry is in the process of finalizing the National Education Policy, 2020.

Furthermore, the Government has received recommendations of 10 Experts Groups under Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme (EQUIP). The recommendations were circulated to State Governments and other related departments of Government of India for suggestions and comments. The recommendations include increasing employability through various initiatives such as Vocational curriculum reforms, Internship platforms, creation of skills centres of excellence, infrastructural assistance to B.Voc institutions, counseling centres, etc. A final decision on the recommendations contained in EQUIP is under consideration.

### **Expenditure on Education**

557. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Central budgetary allocation for education in proportion to the total Central budgetary allocation for all Ministries for the last five years;
- (b) details of total expenditure incurred on education by the Centre in proportion to the total expenditure incurred by the Centre for the last five years; and
- (c) details of expenditure on education by Centre as a percentage of GDP over the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The proportion of allocation for Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) to the total Central budget was 4.61%, 3.89%, 3.66%, 3.71% and 3.48% during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, respectively.

(b) and (c) As per Analysis of Budgeted expenditure on Education 2017-18, the proportion of expenditure on education (in respect of all central ministries including MHRD) by centre to the total expenditure incurred by centre was 7.22%, 8.02%, 7.96%, 7.58% and 8.15% during 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, respectively. During the same period, expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP was 3.84%, 4.07%, 4.20%, 4.32% and 4.43%.