CHAPTER – 2

SUICIDES IN INDIA

Incidence and Rate of Suicides during the Decade (1999-2009)

More than one lakh persons (1,27,151) in the country lost their lives by committing suicide during the year 2009. This indicates an increase of 1.7% over the previous year's figure (1,25,017). [Table–2.1]

The number of suicides in the country during the decade (1999–2009) has recorded an increase of 15.0% (from 1,10,587 in 1999 to 1,27,151 in 2009). The increase in incidence of suicides was reported each year during the decade except in 2000 and 2001. The population has increased by 18.5% during the decade but the rate of suicides in 2009 was 10.9 which marginally lower than 11.2 recorded in 1999. The rate of suicides has shown a declining trend since 1999 to 2003. A mixed trend was observed during 2003 to 2009. [Table–2.1 and 2(A)]

Table – 2 (A)

Incidence of Suicides, Growth of Population and Rate of Suicides During 2005 to 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total number of Suicides</th>
<th>Estimated Mid-Year Population* (in Lakhs)**</th>
<th>Rate of Suicides (Col.3/Col.4)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>113914</td>
<td>11028</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>118112</td>
<td>11197.75</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>122637</td>
<td>11365.5</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
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<td>125017</td>
<td>11531.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>127151</td>
<td>11694.4</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* – Source: The Registrar General of India

** – One Lakh = 0.1 Million
Figure – 2.1
Growth in Incidence of Suicides, Population and Rate of Suicides During 2005 to 2009
The State/UT and City wise information on the number of suicides reported, its percentage share in total suicides and rate of suicides during the year are presented in Table–2.2. West Bengal has reported the highest number of suicides (14,648) accounting for 11.5% of total suicides followed by Andhra Pradesh (14,500), Tamil Nadu (14,424), Maharashtra (14,300) and Karnataka (12,195) accounting for 11.4%, 11.3%, 11.2% and 9.6% respectively of the total suicides in the country. These 5 States together accounted for 55.1% of the total suicides reported in the country. The remaining 46.9% suicides were reported in the rest of 23 States and 7 UTs. Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state (16.7% share of population) has reported comparatively lower percentage of suicidal deaths, accounting for only 3.3% of the total suicides reported in the country.

The States which have witnessed significantly higher cases of suicidal deaths during the year 2007 to 2009 are presented in Table–2(B). These States have accounted for about 10% or more of the total suicides reported in the country during 2007 to 2009. All the five States viz. West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka have registered consistently higher number of suicidal deaths during the last few years.
West Bengal has reported the third highest number of suicidal deaths in 2007, highest number of suicides in 2008 and the highest number of such deaths in 2009 accounting for 12.4%, 11.9% and 11.5% of total such deaths in the country in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Delhi has reported the highest number of suicides (1,477) among UTs, followed by Puducherry (518). Seven UTs together accounted for 1.8% of total suicides in the country. 35 mega cities on the contrary, accounted for 10.6% of the total suicides in the country.

1 suicide was reported from Lakshadweep in 2009 against none in 2008. The States and UTs which have reported significant increase in Suicides in 2009 over 2008 were Uttarakhand (from 191 in 2008 to 342 in 2009 – an increase of 79.1%), followed by Mizoram (an increase of 68.3%), Meghalaya (31.8%), Jharkhand (22.1%), Daman & Diu (21.1%), Madhya Pradesh (19.5%) and Chhattisgarh (19.0%) as compared to national average of 1.7%. (Table–2.3)

**Figure – 2.3**

![State/UT wise Percentage Variation in Suicides during 2009 over 2008](chart.png)
Mass/Family Suicides

An attempt has been made this year also to collect information on the number of cases where family members have committed suicide jointly. 14 States and 3 UTs did not furnish this information. The available information is presented in Table–2(C). 209 deaths at the national level under Mass/Family suicides consisting of 95 males and 114 females were reported as per the information available. 15 cities also did not furnish information. The available statistics reveal that there were 44 mass suicidal deaths consisting of 25 males and 19 females in mega cities.

The highest number of cases were reported from Madhya Pradesh (39) followed by Andhra Pradesh (26), Kerala (13) and Gujarat (10) out of 99 cases.

Rate of Suicides — Trends in States/UTs

Rate of suicides, i.e., the number of suicides per one lakh population, has been widely accepted as a standard yardstick. The All India rate of suicides was 10.9 during the year which is marginally higher than 10.8 reported in the year 2008. Puducherry reported the highest rate of suicide (47.2) followed by Sikkim (39.9), A & N Islands (31.0), Kerala (25.3) and Chhattisgarh (24.4). The details of States/UTs which have recorded higher rate of suicides during 2007 to 2009 are given in Table–2(D).

Figure – 2.4

![Rate of Suicides in States / UTs during 2009](image-url)
## Table – 2 (C)
State/UT/City wise Distribution of Family Suicides during 2009

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>State/UT</th>
<th>No. Of Cases</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Minor*</th>
<th>Total Victims</th>
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**UNION TERRITORIES:**

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Table – 2 (C) (Concluded)
State/UT/City wise Distribution of Family Suicides during 2009

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**Note:**
NA stand for data not available.
*Below 18 years of age.
Table – 2 (D)

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<td>National Rate</td>
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Puducherry, A & N Islands and Kerala continued to report higher suicide rates during the last 3 years. While Kerala has recorded suicide rates more than twice the national average during the last three years, UTs of Puducherry and A & N Islands have recorded more than 4 and 3 times of the national average respectively.

Causes of Suicides

‘Family Problems’ and ‘Illness’, accounting for 23.7% and 21.0% respectively, were the major causes of suicides among the specified causes. ‘Love Affairs’ (2.9%), ‘Bankruptcy’ (2.5%), ‘Dowry Dispute’, ‘Drug Abuse/Addiction’ and ‘Poverty’ (2.3% each) were the other causes of suicides.

Suicides due to ‘Family Problems’ and ‘Drug Abuse/Addiction’ have shown an increasing trend during last 3 years. Suicides due to ‘Dowry Dispute’ have shown a declining trend during last 3 years whereas suicides due to all the other specified reasons have shown a mixed trend during this period. [Table–2(E)]

Figure – 2.5

Percentage Share of Various Causes of Suicides during 2009
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>% Variation over 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suicides</td>
<td>% Share</td>
<td>Suicides</td>
<td>% Share</td>
<td>Suicides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bankruptcy or Sudden change in Economic Status</td>
<td>3312</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2970</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Suspected/Illicit Relation</td>
<td>1299</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1264</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cancellation/Non-Settlement of Marriage</td>
<td>984</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Not having Children (Barrenness/Impotency)</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Illness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>AIDS/STD</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii)</td>
<td>Paralysis</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv)</td>
<td>Insanity/Mental Illness</td>
<td>8638</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>8699</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v)</td>
<td>Other Prolonged Illness</td>
<td>16452</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>16651</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Death of Dear Person</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1019</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dowry Dispute</td>
<td>3148</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>3038</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Divorce</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Drug Abuse/Addiction</td>
<td>2332</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2730</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Failure in Examination</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2189</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Fall in Social Reputation</td>
<td>1105</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1151</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Family Problems</td>
<td>29238</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>29777</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ideological Causes/ Hero Worshipping</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Illegitimate Pregnancy</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Love Affairs</td>
<td>3383</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3774</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Physical Abuse (Rape, Incest etc.)</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>2809</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>3006</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Professional/Career Problem</td>
<td>1273</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1176</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Property Dispute</td>
<td>1411</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1394</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>2394</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2080</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Causes Not known</td>
<td>20409</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>20124</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Other Causes</td>
<td>17653</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>18668</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>122637</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>125017</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The number of suicides due to ‘Unemployment’ and ‘Professional / Career Problem’ showed a relatively higher increase of 18.8% and 15.1% respectively as compared to previous year, whereas number of suicides due to 'Ideological Causes / Hero Worshipping' and 'Illegitimate Pregnancy' have declined by 67.3% and 40.8% respectively as compared to previous year. State, UT and City–wise details on various causes of suicides are presented in Table–2.10. The States/UTs which reported more than the All-India average share under the two major causes of suicides i.e. Illness and Family Problems are grouped in the Table–2(F). Eleven States/UTs have reported higher percentage share than the All India average in suicides with causes such as 'Illness'.

Similarly, eight States/UTs have reported higher share than the All India average in suicides caused due to ‘Family Problems' during the year.

The lone suicide in Lakshadweep was due to ‘Illness’. The other States/UTs which reported higher share of suicides due to ‘Illness’ were Punjab (36.5%), A & N Islands (34.4%), Kerala (33.8%), Puducherry (31.9%), Andhra Pradesh (28.8%), Maharashtra (28.6%), Goa (28.4%), Karnataka (26.4%), Gujarat (25.2%) and Tamil Nadu (21.2%).

6.5% suicides in Kerala were due to ‘Bankruptcy or Sudden Change in Economic Status’. 5.4% suicides in D & N Haveli and 5.8% suicides in Sikkim were due to ‘Suspected / Illicit Relation’ and ‘Cancellation / Non-Settlement of Marriage’ respectively. 8.9% suicides in D & N Haveli were due to ‘Not Having Children’. 21.1% suicides in Punjab, 18.7% in Goa and 16.3% suicides in Kerala each were due to 'Insanity/Mental Illness'. Similarly, 12.8% suicides in Bihar and 10.5% suicides in Uttar Pradesh were due to 'Dowry Dispute'. 'Drug Abuse / Addiction' accounted for 8.4% suicides in Maharashtra. 10.7% suicides in Chandigarh were due to 'Failure in Examination'. 12.5% suicides in D & N Haveli and 11.8% suicides in Assam were due to 'Love Affairs'. 10.4% suicides in Andhra Pradesh were on account of 'Poverty'. 7.1% suicides in Sikkim and 6.6% suicides in Assam were on account of 'Professional / Career Problem' and 'Property Dispute' respectively.

### Table – 2 (F)
States & UTs reporting higher share of Suicides due to Illness and Family Problems during 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>State/UT</th>
<th>Suicides</th>
<th>% age Share</th>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>State/UT</th>
<th>Suicides</th>
<th>% age Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lakshadweep</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>43.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>41.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>A &amp; N Islands</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>3516</td>
<td>40.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>2962</td>
<td>33.8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>5279</td>
<td>36.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Puducherry</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>31.9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>4169</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>4263</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>4085</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>1215</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>3224</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>1552</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>3060</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Suicide Victims by Sex and Age Group

Distribution of suicides by causes and sex during 2009 is presented in Table–2(G). The overall male : female ratio of suicide victims for the year 2009 was 64:36, the same as in the year 2008. The proportion of Boys : Girls suicide victims (upto 14 years of age) was 51:49 i.e. almost equal number of young girls have committed suicide as their male counterparts. The proportion of female victims was comparatively more under the heads ‘Illegitimate Pregnancy’ (100.0%), ‘Dowry Dispute’ (97.5%), ‘Physical Abuse (Rape, Incest etc)’ (70.3%), ‘Barrenness / Impotency (Not having children)’ (68.2%), ‘Suspected/Illlicit Relation’ (57.6%), ‘Divorce’ (54.1%) and ‘Cancellation/Non-settlement of marriage’ (52.6%). It is observed that social and economic causes have led most of the males to commit suicide whereas emotional and personal causes have mainly driven females to end their lives. Youths (15-29 years) and lower middle-aged people (30-44 years) were the prime groups taking recourse to the path of suicides. Around 34.5% suicide victims were youths in the age group of 15-29 years and 34.2% were middle aged persons in the age group 30-44 years. Among the specified causes, ‘Family Problems’ (346), ‘Failure in Examination’ (291) and ‘Illness’ (274) were the main cause of suicides among children (2,951). ‘Family Problems’ have driven 10,631 youths (15-29 years), 11,215 lower middle aged people (30-44 years) and 6,035 upper middle aged persons (45-59 years) to commit suicide. Nearly 41.1% (4,185 out of 10,189) of suicides committed by Senior citizens (60 years & above) were due to ‘Illness’. Senior citizens have accounted for 8.0% of the total victims.

Age-group wise distribution of suicide victims at State/UT/City level is given in Table–2.5. It is observed that 17.2% (508 out of 2,951) of children (upto 14 years) who committed suicides belonged to Madhya Pradesh. 14.9% (1,521 out of 10,189) senior citizens (60 years & above) belonged to Kerala.

56.4% (62 out of 110) victims in Arunachal Pradesh and 55.3% (817 out of 1,477) victims in Delhi UT were young (15-29 years) as compared to the national average of 34.5%. 51.9% of the victims (14 out of 27) in Manipur were middle aged (30-44 years) against the national average of 34.2%.

Figure – 2.6

Suicide Victims by Sex & Age-Group during 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upto 14 Year</td>
<td>1501</td>
<td>1450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-29 Year</td>
<td>23746</td>
<td>20174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-44 Year</td>
<td>29335</td>
<td>19596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-59 Year</td>
<td>14153</td>
<td>7007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 Year &amp; above</td>
<td>10189</td>
<td>2896</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table – 2 (G)
Distribution of Suicides by Causes and Sex
(Age-Group-wise) during 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Upto 14 Years</th>
<th>15-29 Years</th>
<th>30-44 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bankruptcy or Sudden change in Economic Status</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Suspected/Illlicit Relation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cancellation/Non-Settlement of Marriage</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Barrenness/Impotency (Not having Children)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Illness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>AIDS/STD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii)</td>
<td>Paralysis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv)</td>
<td>Insanity/Mental Illness</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v)</td>
<td>Other Prolonged Illness</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Death of Dear Person</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dowry Dispute</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Divorce</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Drug Abuse/Addiction</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Failure in Examination</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Social Disrepute</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Family Problems</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ideological Causes/Hero Worshipping</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Illegitimate Pregnancy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Love Affairs</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Physical Abuse (Rape, Incest etc.)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Professional/Career Problem</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Property Dispute</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Causes Not Known</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Other Causes</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1501</td>
<td>1450</td>
<td>2951</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Table – 2 (G) (Concluded)
**Distribution of Suicides by Causes and Sex (Age-Group-wise)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>45-59 Years</th>
<th>60 Years &amp; above</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>5-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>13-14</td>
<td>15-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Bankruptcy or Sudden change in Economic Status</td>
<td>859</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>933</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Suspected/Ilicit Relation</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cancellation/Non-Settlement of Marriage</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Barrenness/Impotency (Not having Children)</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Illness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(i) AIDS/STD</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(ii) Cancer</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(iii) Paralysis</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(iv) Insanity/Mental Illness</td>
<td>1413</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>2080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(v) Other Prolonged Illness</td>
<td>3184</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>4384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Death of Dear Person</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dowry Dispute</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Divorce</td>
<td>37</td>
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<td>68</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Drug Abuse/Addiction</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Failure in Examination</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Social Disrepute</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Love Affairs</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Physical Abuse (Rape Incest etc.)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Poverty</td>
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<td>Professional/Career Problem</td>
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<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
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<td>326</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Causes Not Known</td>
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<td>1096</td>
<td>4272</td>
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<td>Other Causes</td>
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<td>1380</td>
<td>4515</td>
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<td><strong>19596</strong></td>
<td><strong>7007</strong></td>
<td><strong>26603</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(181)
Professional Status of Suicide Victims

Information regarding professional status of suicide victims is presented in Table–2.6. Housewives (25,092) accounted for 54.9% of the total female victims and nearly 19.7% of total victims committing suicides. Government servants were 1.3% of the total suicide victims.

Private and Public Sector personnel have accounted for 8.4% and 2.3% of the total suicide victims respectively, whereas students and un-employed victims accounted for 5.3% and 7.8% respectively. Self employed category accounted for 39.8% of victims. It comprised 13.7% engaged in Farming/Agriculture activities, 6.1% engaged in Business and 2.9% Professionals.

State/UT–wise and Profession wise analysis [Table–2.11] of suicide victims reveals that the lone victim of suicide in Lakshadweep was a housewife. Government servants accounted for 23.6% and 22.2% of suicide victims in Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur respectively. 33.6% suicide victims in A & N Islands and 30.4% suicide victims in Daman & Diu were in Private Service. 16.0% and 24.0% suicide victims in Chandigarh were PSU employees and students respectively. 29.6% suicide victims in Manipur were unemployed. 14.5% suicide victims in Sikkim were engaged in business activity. 10.4% suicide victims in Puducherry were professionals. 55.1% suicide victims in Mizoram were engaged in farming / agriculture activities.

Age-wise profile of professional status of victims during the year 2009 shows that nearly 44.0% of ‘Housewives’ and 77.0% of Students who had committed suicides during 2009 were in the age-group 15-29 years. 40.9% of salaried and 39.0 of unemployed suicide victims were in the age – group 30-44 years.

Social Status of Suicide Victims

The information on the marital status of suicide victims has been presented in Table–2.7. It was observed that 70.4% of the suicide victims were married while 21.9% were unmarried. Divorcees and Separated have accounted for about 3.4% of the total suicide victims. The proportion of Widow & Widower victims was around 4.3%.

The State/UT–wise distribution of suicide victims by Marital Status is presented in Table–2.12. It was observed that 52.2% of victims in Daman & Diu and 50.7% of suicide victims in Mizoram were unmarried against 21.9% at the National level. The sole suicide victim in Lakshadweep was married. 78.3% suicide victims in Kerala were also married against the National average of 70.4%.

Educational Status of Suicide Victims

The sex-wise and education-wise break-up of suicide victims is presented in Table–2.8. The maximum number of suicide victims was educated up to Middle level (23.7%). Illiterate and Primary educated persons accounted for 21.4% suicide victims and 23.4% respectively. Only 3.1% suicide victims were graduates and post-graduates. 51.9% suicide victims in Sikkim were illiterate. 36.5% suicide victims in Gujarat had education upto primary level. 68.1% suicide victims in Mizoram and 59.1% suicide victims in Puducherry had middle level education. The sole suicide victim in Lakshadweep had education upto Matriculation / Higher Secondary [Table–2.13]
### Figure – 2.8

**Distribution of Suicide Victims by Marital Status during 2009**

- **Never Married**
  - Male: 17738
  - Female: 10063

- **Married**
  - Male: 58192
  - Female: 31300

- **Widow / Widower**
  - Male: 2848
  - Female: 2674

- **Divorcee**
  - Male: 635
  - Female: 613

- **Separated**
  - Male: 2058
  - Female: 1030

### Figure – 2.9

**Percentage Share of Suicide Victims by Educational Standard - 2009**

- **No Education**
  - Share: 21.4%

- **Primary**
  - Share: 23.4%

- **Matriculate/Secondary**
  - Share: 18.7%

- **Middle**
  - Share: 23.7%

- **Graduate**
  - Share: 2.3%

- **Diploma**
  - Share: 0.9%

- **Post Graduate and above**
  - Share: 0.8%

- **Higher Secondary**
  - Share: 8.8%

- **Primary**
  - Share: 23.4%

- **No Education**
  - Share: 21.4%
Table – 2 (H)
Percentage of Suicide Victims by Educational Level — 2007-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Educational Level</th>
<th>Percentage Share</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No Education</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>25.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Matriculate/Secondary</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Higher Secondary</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Post-Graduate &amp; above</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Means Adopted for Committing Suicides
The means adopted for committing suicide varied from the easily available means such as consumption of poison, jumping into the well, number of victims who terminated their lives by hanging have been reported from Arunachal Pradesh (93.6%), A & N Islands (80.9%) and D & N Haveli (71.4%). Share of suicides by ‘Poisoning’ has decreased from 34.8% in 2008 to

Table – 2 (I)
Percentage share of the Means adopted in Committing Suicides during 2007-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Means Adopted</th>
<th>% Share</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alcoholism</td>
<td>1.1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Fire/self immolation</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<td>31.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Poisoning</td>
<td>34.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i) Consumption of insecticides</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii) Other poisons</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Self infliction of injury</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Jumping from</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i) Buildings</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii) Other sites</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jumping off from moving vehicles/trains</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Machine</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Over dose of sleeping pills</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Self electrocution</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Coming under running vehicles/train</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Other means</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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</table>

etc. to more painful means such as self inflicted injuries, hanging, shooting, etc. Suicide by Consuming Poison (33.6%), Hanging (31.5%), Self Immolation (9.2%) and Drowning (6.1%) were the prominent means of committing suicides (Table–2.9) as in past. Substantial 33.6% in 2009 while share of ‘Self electrocution’ has remained static at 0.8%. Share of ‘Jumping’ from buildings and other sites has increased from 0.9% in 2008 to 1.5% in 2009. The State/UT’s share of suicides by ‘Hanging’ and ‘Poisoning’ is presented in Table–2(J).
### Table – 2 (J)
States/UTs having higher Percentage share of Suicides Committed by Consumption of Poison and Hanging than National Average — 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>States/UTs</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>% share</th>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>States/UTs</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>% share</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consumption of Poison</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By Hanging</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All-India Share (33.6%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>All-India Share (31.5%)</td>
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<td>Arunachal Praesh</td>
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<td>A &amp; N Islands</td>
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<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>2603</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>D &amp; N Haveli</td>
<td>40</td>
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(185)
## Table – 2 (K)
### Distribution of Age-group wise & Sex wise Suicides Classified according to Means Adopted during 2009

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<th>SL. No.</th>
<th>Means Adopted</th>
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<th>15-29 Years</th>
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<th>30-44 Years</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Excessive Alcoholism</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>302</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>623</td>
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<td>424</td>
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<td>Fire-Arms</td>
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<td>639</td>
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<td>668</td>
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<td>6718</td>
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<td>4626</td>
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<td>(i) Consumption of Insecticides</td>
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<td>4868</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>44</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>278</td>
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<td>526</td>
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<td>(i) From Building</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>(ii) From Other sites</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>Jumping off Moving Vehicles/Trains</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>58</td>
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<td>112</td>
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<td>130</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>220</td>
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<td>Coming under running vehicles/trains</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>2951</td>
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<td>29335</td>
<td>14153</td>
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<td><strong>Percentage</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>34.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(186)
Table – 2 (K) (Concluded)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Means Adopted</th>
<th>45-59 Years</th>
<th>60 Years &amp; above</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage of Male to Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Excessive Alcoholism</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Drowning</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>1464</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fire/Self Immolation</td>
<td>825</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>1803</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fire-Arms</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hanging</td>
<td>6271</td>
<td>1797</td>
<td>8068</td>
<td>2168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Poisoning</td>
<td>6866</td>
<td>2366</td>
<td>9232</td>
<td>2349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>Consumption of insecticides</td>
<td>4257</td>
<td>1406</td>
<td>5663</td>
<td>1572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>Consumption of other Poison</td>
<td>2609</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>3569</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Self Infliction of injury</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Jumping</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>From Building</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>From Other sites</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jumping off Moving Vehicles/Trains</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>By Machine</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Overdose of sleeping pills</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Self electrocution</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Coming under running vehicles/trains</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Other means</td>
<td>2722</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>3626</td>
<td>1334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>19596</td>
<td>7007</td>
<td>26603</td>
<td>7293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(187)
The sex-wise break-up and percentage distribution of the means adopted for suicides in various States/UTs & Cities is presented in Table-2.14. The number of male victims was more than females for all means of suicides except those committed by ‘Self immolation’ where share of female victims was more (66.0%).

Table – 2 (L)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Suicides in Cities</th>
<th>Cities share to All India</th>
<th>Rate in Cities</th>
<th>% Variation over previous year (incidence)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>12331</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>13844</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>14336</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>13071</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>– 8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>13503</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

33.3% suicides in Manipur were committed by 'Fire Arms'. 'Coming under Running Vehicles / Trains' was the adopted means of committing suicides in Punjab where it accounted for 44.5% of all suicides.

Suicides in Cities

The number of suicides in 35 mega cities have reported an increasing trend during the year 2005 to 2007. Thereafter, the number of suicides in cities has decreased from 14,336 in 2007 to 13,071 in 2008 and then increased to 13,503 in 2009. The rate of suicides was 11.4 in 2005; it was around 13 in 2006 and 2007, declined to 12.1 in 2008 and increased to 12.5 in 2009.

Table – 2 (M)

Comparative Percentage Distribution of Suicides by Causes in Cities and All-India (Major Causes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Cause of Suicide</th>
<th>No. of Cases (in 2009)</th>
<th>Share in total suicides reported in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>All-India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Family Problems</td>
<td>2982</td>
<td>30082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Total Illness</td>
<td>2762</td>
<td>26731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Insanity/Mental Illness*</td>
<td>951</td>
<td>8469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>2472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Love Affairs</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>3711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Drug Abuse/Addiction</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>2942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Failure in Examination</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Bankruptcy or Sudden Change in Economic Status</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>3162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>2987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Dowry Dispute</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>2921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 8417 77018 62.3 60.6

* included in total illness
The suicide rate in cities (12.5) was higher as compared to All-India suicide rate (10.9). Bengaluru has reported the highest rate of suicides (38.1) followed by Jabalpur city (34.4). Amritsar city and Kolkata had the lowest rate at 3.2 and 1.5 respectively among 35 cities.

7.0% of suicides were committed due to ‘Mental Illness’ as against 6.7% of such suicides at National level as per causal analysis of suicides in cities. Similarly, the share of suicides due to 'Unemployment', 'Love Affairs', ‘Drug Abuse / Addiction’ and 'Failure in Examination' was comparatively higher than their respective National averages.

‘Bankruptcy / or Sudden Change in Economic Status’ was the reason of 10.0% of suicides in Kochi. ‘Suspected / Illicit Relation’ accounted for 9.9%and 9.3% suicides in Jamshedpur and Rajkot respectively. In Bhopal, 29.5% suicides were on account of ‘AIDS/STD’. ‘Insanity / Mental Illness' accounted for 39.2% suicides in Ludhiana, 34.2% in Kochi and 31.3% suicides in Amritsar. 27.4% suicides in Varanasi were accounted for by 'Dowry Dispute' whereas 11.3% suicides in Nasik were caused by ‘Drug Abuse / Addiction’. ‘Failure in Examination’ accounted for 19.0% suicides in Patna, 17.4% suicides in Jabalpur and 15.2% suicides in Jamshedpur. 6.4% suicides in Jamshedpur and 4.5% in Vishakhapatnam were caused by Fall in Social Reputation’. ‘Family Problems’ claimed 65.6% suicides in Amritsar and were the major cause of suicides in Kanpur (57.7%), Nagpur (42.8%), Faridabad (42.5%), Mumbai (41.9%) and Surat (40.4%). 4.8% suicides in Patna were attributed to ‘Illegitimate Pregnancy’. ‘Love Affairs’ accounted for 30.4% suicides in Meerut and 17.1% suicides in Allahabad. 9.8% suicides in Ludhiana and 9.6% suicides in Vijayawada were on account of ‘Poverty’. In Jabalpur, 10.4% suicides were attributed to ‘Professional / Career Problem’. 8.6% suicides in Jabalpur and 15.6% suicides in Hyderabad were attributed to ‘Property Dispute’ and ‘Unemployment’ respectively. [Table-2.10]

45.4% suicide victims were housewives in Dhanbad while 7.7% and 7.5% were Government servants in Asansol and Kolkata respectively. In Jabalpur, 47.9% of suicide victims were private employees. 13.5% suicide victims in Kolkata were employees of PSUs. 23.8% suicides in Patna, 23.7% suicides in Allahabad and 23.0% suicides in Kanpur were committed by students. 23.0% suicide victims in Rajkot and 21.0% suicide victims in Varanasi were unemployed. 19.6% suicide victims in Vijayawada were engaged in Business activity. 12.0% victims in Madurai and Rajkot each were engaged in Professional activities. 63.2% of suicide victims in Lucknow were engaged in Farming / Agriculture activity. [Table-2.11]

‘Educational Profile’ of suicide victims revealed that 56.2% of suicide victims in Vijayawada and 40.4% of suicide victims in Bengaluru were illiterate. 50.4% of suicide victims in Rajkot were educated upto Primary level. 41.7% of suicide victims in Nasik had education upto Middle level. 78.1% of suicide victims in Amritsar were educated upto Matriculate / Secondary level. 39.2% suicide victims in Faridabad, 36.8% suicide victims in Dhanbad and 35.5% in Varanasi were educated upto Higher Secondary / Intermediate / Pre-University level. 9.2% suicide victims in Lucknow were Diploma holders. 18.4% suicide victims in Allahabad and 17.7% suicide victims in Varanasi were Graduates while 8.9% suicide victims in Meerut and 7.9% suicide victims in Allahabad had education upto Post Graduation or above. [Table-2.13]

The pattern of suicides reported from 35 cities showed that ‘Hanging’ (44.5%), ‘Poisoning’ (20.6%) and ‘Self Immolation’ (12.6%) were the prominent means adopted by the suicide victims in the cities. ‘Hanging’ claimed 79.5% of suicide victims in Kolkata and 71.4% of suicide victims in Kochi. 35.2% suicide victims consumed insecticides in Jabalpur, in Rajkot, 32.4% suicide victims immolated themselves. 27.8% suicides in Meerut were committed by ‘Fire Arms’. 14.5% suicides were committed by ‘Coming under Running Vehicles / Trains’ in Varanasi. [Table-2.14]