

## CHAPTER – 2

### SUICIDES IN INDIA

Each suicide is a personal tragedy that prematurely takes the life of an individual and has a continuing ripple effect, dramatically affecting the lives of families, friends and communities. Every year, more than 1,00,000 people commit suicide in our country. There are various causes of suicides like professional/career problems, discrimination, sense of isolation, abuse, violence, family problems, mental disorders, addiction to alcohol, financial loss, chronic pain etc. NCRB collects data on suicides from police recorded suicides cases.

#### Incidence and Rate of Suicides during the Decade (2005–2015)

Rate of suicides has been calculated using mid-year projected population for the non-census years whereas for the census year

2011, the population of The Population Census 2011 was used.

The number of suicides in the country during the decade (2005–2015) have recorded an increase of 17.3% (1,33,623 in 2015 from 1,13,914 in 2005). The increase in number of suicides was reported each year till 2011 thereafter a declining trend has been noticed till 2014 and it again increased by 1.5% in 2015 over 2014 (from 1,31,666 suicides in 2014 to 1,33,623 suicides in 2015). The population has increased by 14.2% during the decade while the rate of suicides has slightly increased by 2.9% (from 10.3 in 2005 to 10.6 in 2015). The rate of suicides is showing a mixed trend during the decade (2005-2015), however, rate of suicides is showing declining trend since 2010. [Table–2.1]

Table – 2 (A)

#### Number of Suicides, Growth of Population and Rate of Suicides during 2011 - 2015

Sl. No.	Year	Total Number of Suicides	Mid-Year Projected Population* (in Lakh)**	Rate of Suicides*** (Col.3/Col.4)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	2011	1,35,585	12,101.9#	11.2
2	2012	1,35,445	12,133.7	11.2
3	2013	1,34,799	12,287.9	11.0
4	2014	1,31,666	12,440.4	10.6
5	2015	1,33,623	12,591.1	10.6

\* –Mid-year Projected Population as on 1<sup>st</sup> July; Source: The Registrar General of India

# --Population of the Population Census, 2011; Source: The Registrar General of India

\*\* – One Lakh = 0.1 Million

\*\*\* – Rate of Suicides = Incidence of suicides per one lakh(1,00,000) of population.

## Number and Percentage Share of Suicides in States/UTs

The State/UT and City wise information on the incidents of suicides, its percentage share in total suicides and rate of suicides during the year are presented in **Table-2.2**.

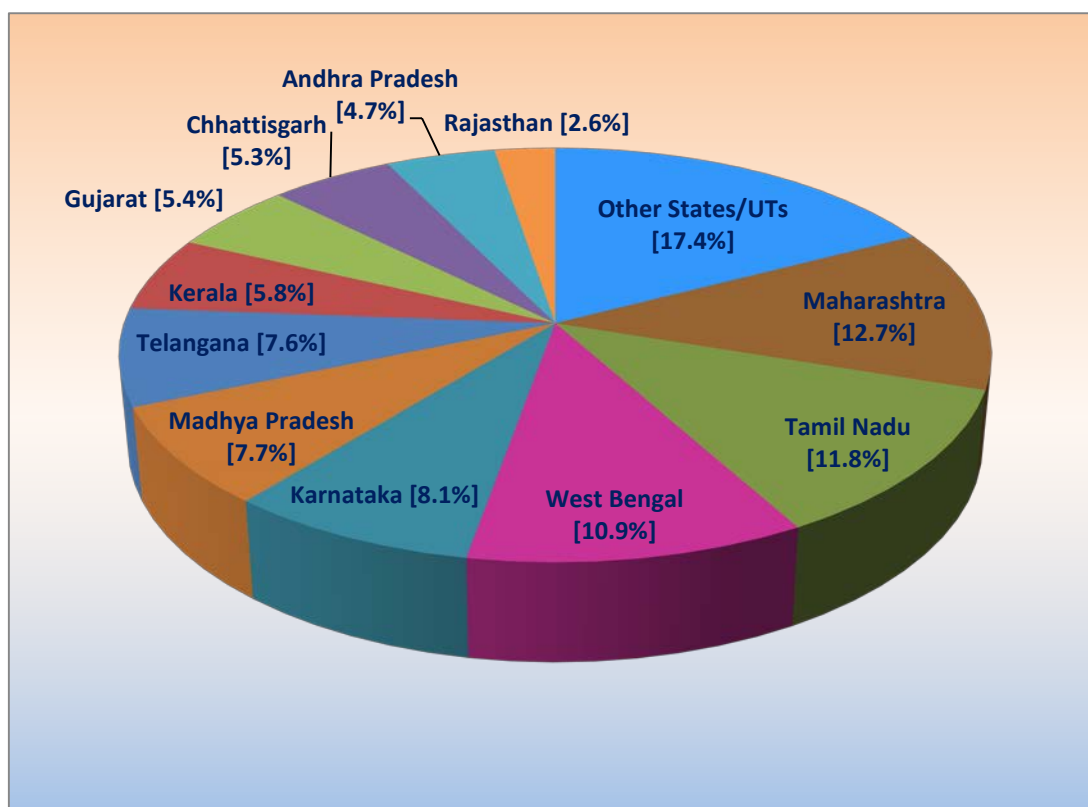
Majority of suicides were reported in Maharashtra (16,970) followed by 15,777 suicides in Tamil Nadu and 14,602 suicides in West Bengal, accounting for 12.7%, 11.8% and 10.9% of total suicides respectively. Karnataka (10,786 suicides) and Madhya Pradesh (10,293 suicides) accounted for 8.1% and 7.7% of the total suicides reported in the country respectively. These 5 States together accounted for 51.2% of the total suicides reported in the country. The remaining 48.8% suicides were reported in the remaining 24 States and 7 UTs. Uttar Pradesh, the most

populous State (17.1% share of country population) has reported comparatively lower percentage share of suicidal deaths, accounting for only 2.9% of the total suicides reported in the country.

The States which have witnessed significantly higher number of suicidal deaths during the year 2013 to 2015 are presented in the **Table-2(B)**. These States have continuously accounted for about 7.0% or more of the total suicides reported in the country from 2013 to 2015. Out of these States, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Karnataka have registered consistently higher number of suicidal deaths during the last three years.

**Figure – 2.1**

**State/UT wise Major Percentage Share of Suicides in States during 2015**

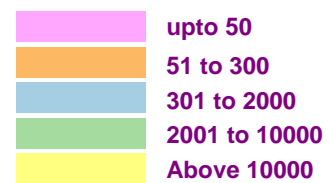


Note: OTHER STATES/UTs include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, A & N Island, Chandigarh, D & N Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry

## STATE/UT – WISE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUICIDES DURING 2015



### Number of Suicides



Map Powered by DevInfo, UNICEF

**Table – 2 (B)**  
**States with Higher Percentage Share of Suicides during 2013 to 2015**

Sl. No.	Year					
	2013		2014		2015	
1	Maharashtra	(12.3%)	Maharashtra	(12.4%)	Maharashtra	(12.7%)
2	Tamil Nadu	(12.3%)	Tamil Nadu	(12.2%)	Tamil Nadu	(11.8%)
3	Andhra Pradesh	(10.8%)	West Bengal	(10.9%)	West Bengal	(10.9%)
4	West Bengal	(9.7%)	Karnataka	(8.3%)	Karnataka	(8.1%)
5	Karnataka	(8.4%)	Telangana	(7.3%)	Madhya Pradesh	(7.7%)

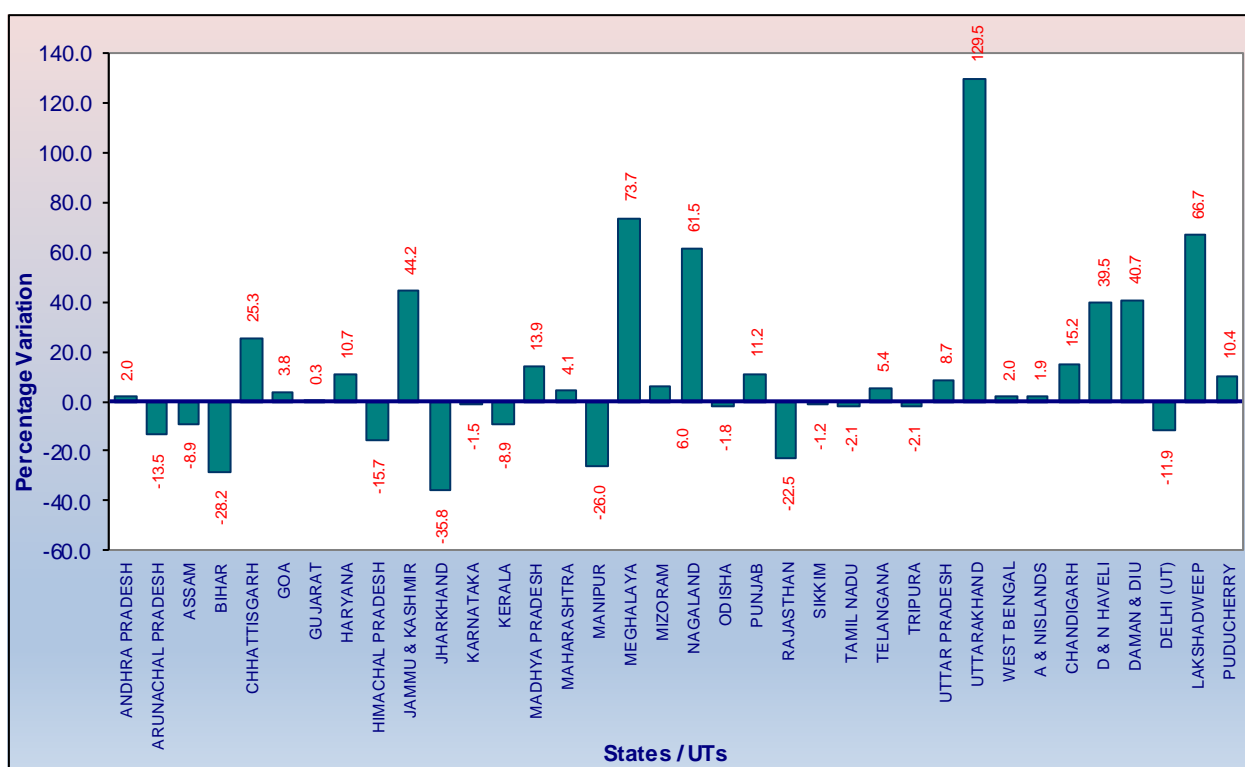
Maharashtra reported the highest number of suicidal deaths in 2013, 2014 and 2015, followed by Tamil Nadu during the last three years.

Delhi has reported the highest number of suicides (1,845) among UTs, followed by Puducherry (711). Seven UTs together accounted for 2.2% of total suicides in the country. A total of 19,665 suicides were

reported in the 53 mega cities of the country during the 2015.

The States and UTs which have reported significant percentage increase in suicides in 2015 over 2014 were Uttarakhand (129.5%), Meghalaya (73.7%), Lakshadweep (66.7%), Nagaland (61.5%) and Jammu & Kashmir (44.2%) while highest percentage decrease was reported in Jharkhand (35.8%), Bihar (28.2%), Manipur (26.0), Rajasthan (22.5%) and Himachal Pradesh (15.7%) [Table–2.3].

**Figure – 2.2**  
**State/UT wise Percentage Variation in Suicides during 2015 over 2014**

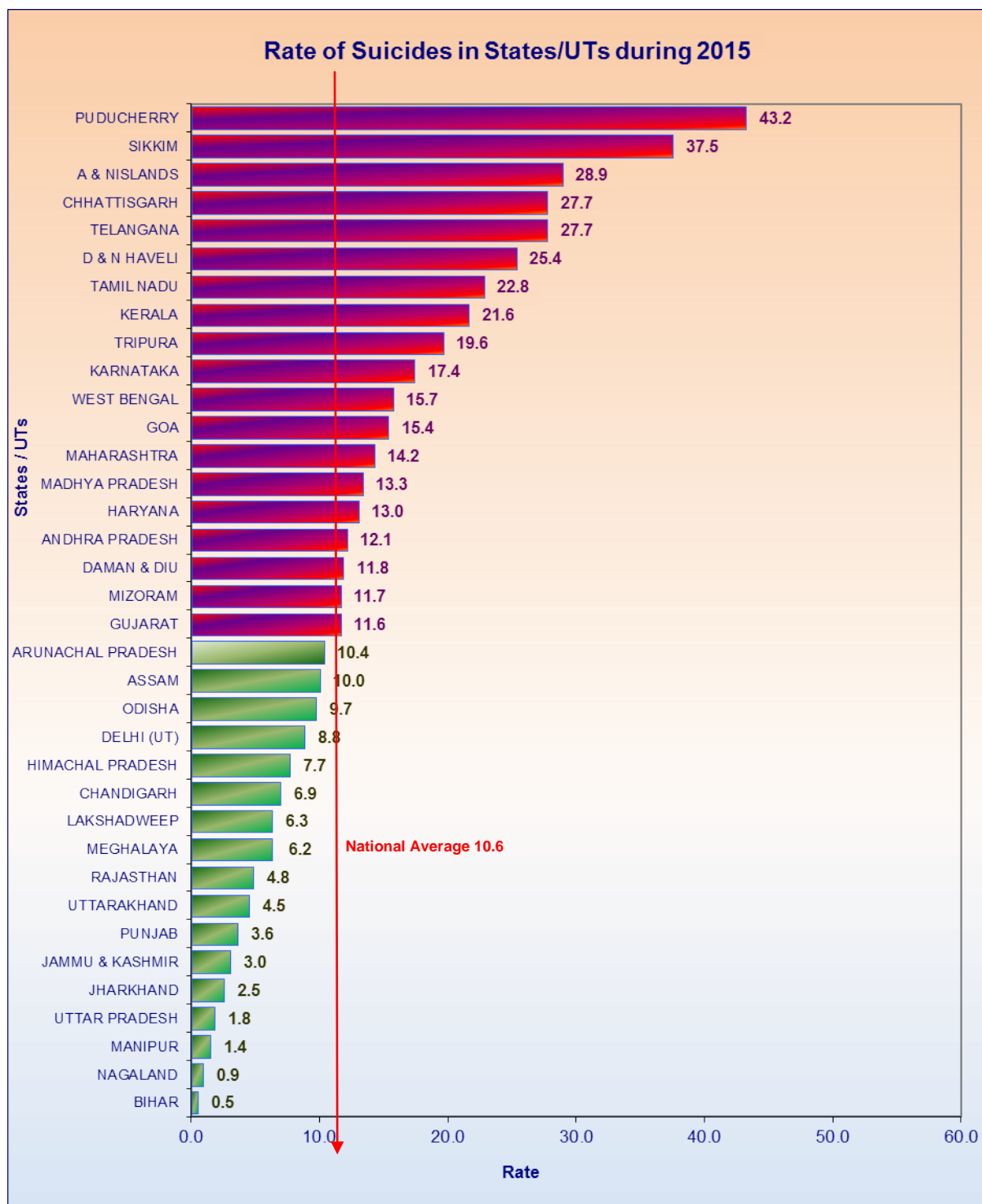


## Rate of Suicides — Trends in States/UTs

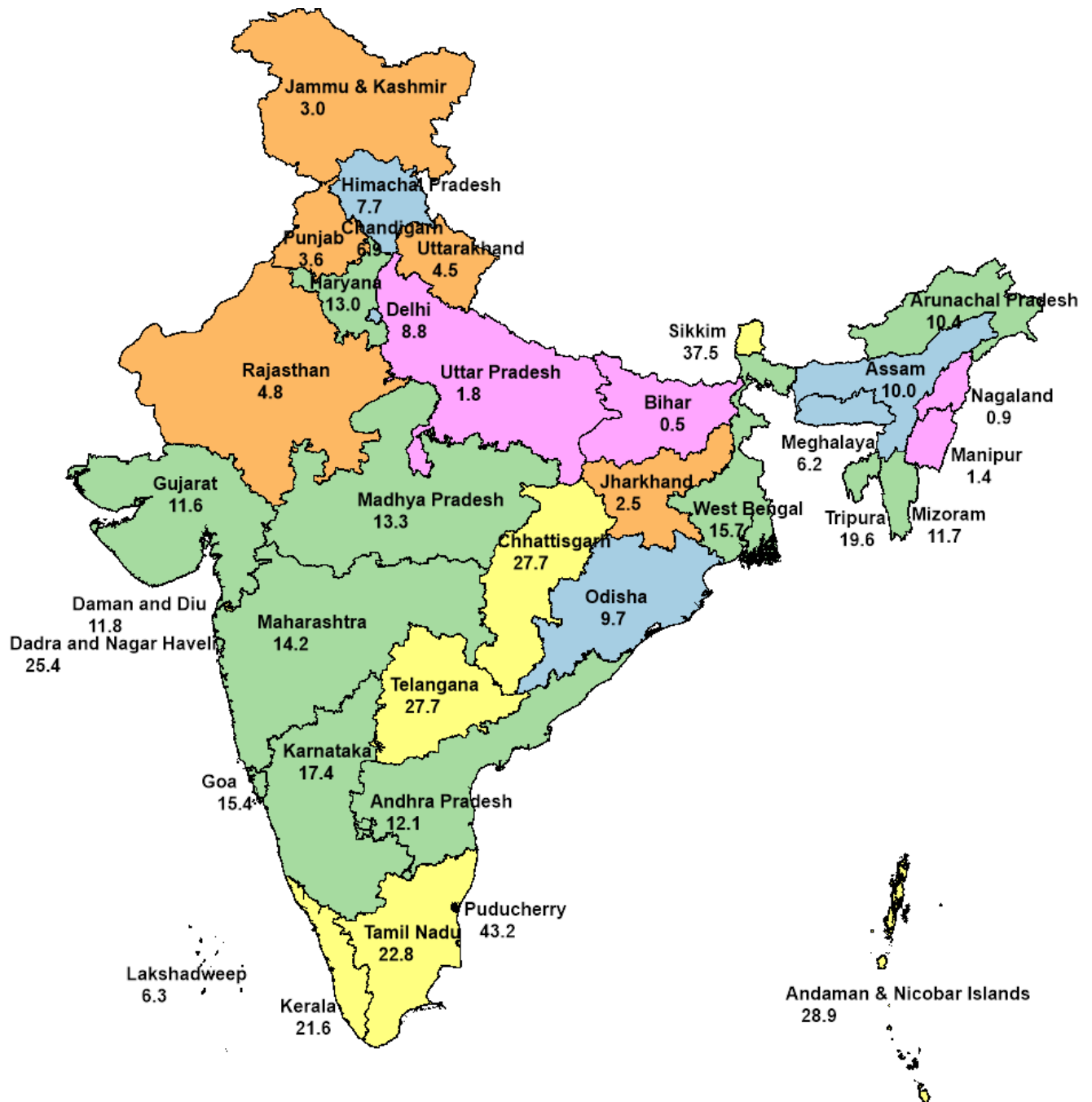
Rate of suicides i.e. the number of suicides per one lakh population, has been widely accepted as a standard yardstick for comparison. All India rate of suicides was 10.6 during the year 2015. Puducherry reported the

highest rate of suicide (43.2) followed by Sikkim (37.5), A & N Islands (28.9), Telangana and Chhattisgarh (27.7 each) and Dadar & Nagar Haveli (25.4). The details of States/UTs which have recorded higher rate of suicides during 2014 to 2015 are given in **Table-2(C)**.

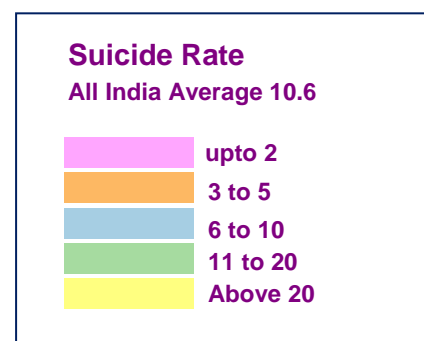
Figure – 2.3



## STATE/UT - WISE SUICIDE RATE DURING 2015



Note:  
Suicide Rate means Number of Suicides per One Lakh population.



Map Powered by DevInfo, UNICEF

**Table – 2 (C)**  
**States/UTs with Higher Suicide Rate during 2013 to 2015**

		Year			
		2014		2015	
2013		2014		2015	
Puducherry	35.6	Puducherry	40.4	Puducherry	43.2
Sikkim	29.3	Sikkim	38.4	Sikkim	37.5
A & N Islands	28.8	A & N Islands	28.9	A & N Islands	28.9
Tripura	25.9	Telangana	26.5	Chhattisgarh	27.7
Kerala	24.6	Kerala	23.9	Telangana	27.7
<b>National Rate</b>	<b>(11.0)</b>	<b>National Rate</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>	<b>National Rate</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>

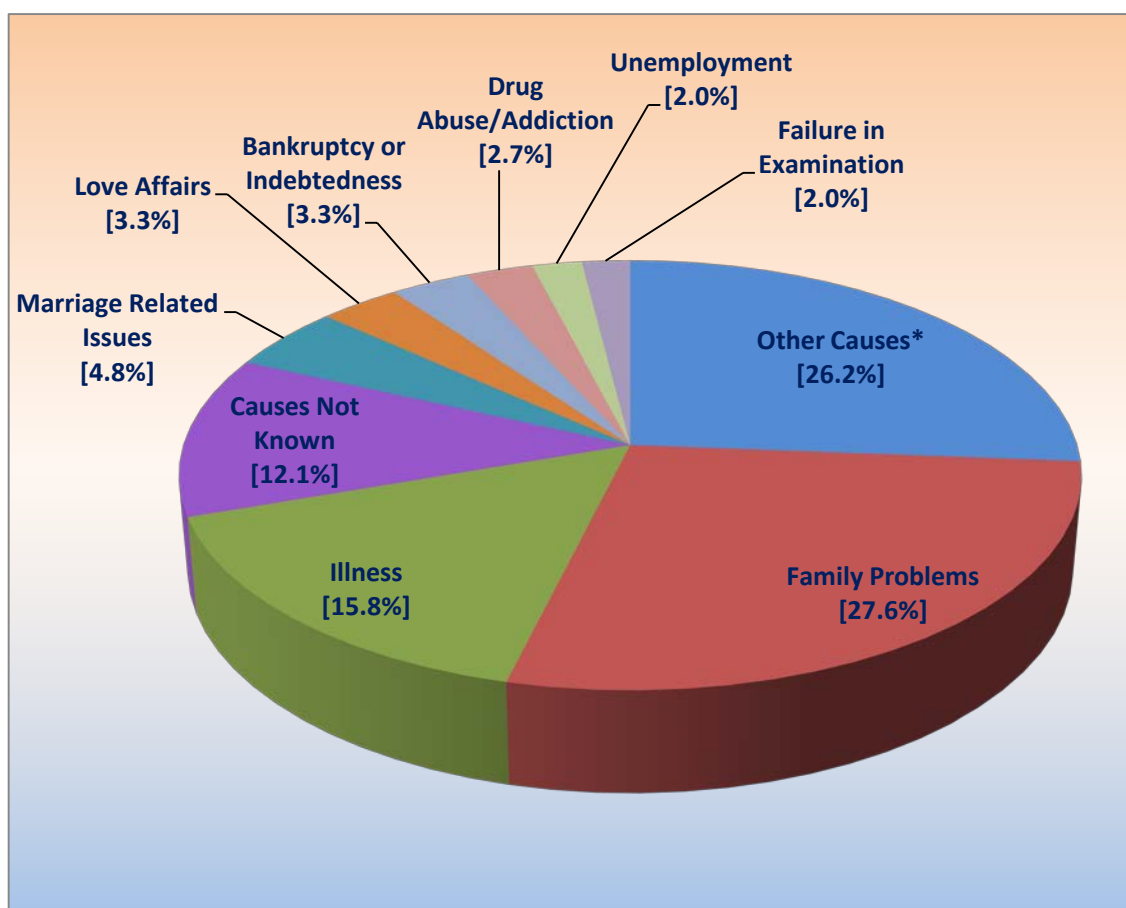
Puducherry continued to report high suicide rate during last 3 years which has been more than 3 times of the national average during the period.

**Causes of Suicides**

‘Family Problems’ and ‘Illness’ were the major causes of suicides which accounted for for 27.6% and 15.8% of total suicides

respectively during 2015. ‘Marriage Related Issues’ (4.8%), ‘Bankruptcy & ‘Love Affairs’ (3.3% each), ‘Drug Abuse/Alcoholic Addiction’ (2.7%) and ‘Failure in Examination’ & ‘Unemployment’ (2.0% each), ‘Property Dispute’ (1.9%), Poverty (1.3%) and Professional/Career Problem (1.2%) were other causes of suicides [Table–2.4].

**Figure – 2.4**  
**Percentage Share of Various Causes of Suicides During 2015**



\* Figure of Suicides due to Poverty, Unemployment, Physical Abuse, Professional/Career Problem, etc. included along with Other Causes.

State, UT and City-wise details on various causes of suicides are presented in **Table-2.5**. 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(D)**.

age groups accounted for 33.4% and 32.8% suicides respectively. 'Family Problems' (307), 'Illness' (163) 'Failure in Examination' (162) were the main causes of suicides among children (below 14 years of age)

**Table – 2 (D)**  
**States & UTs Reporting Higher Share of Suicides due to Illness and Family Problems during 2015**

Illness				Family Problems			
All India % Share							
15.8%				27.6%			
Sl. No.	State/UT	Suicides	% Share	Sl. No.	State/UT	Suicides	% Share
1	Lakshadweep	4	80.0	1	Tamil Nadu	7,377	46.8
2	A & N Islands	70	44.3	2	Rajasthan	1,301	37.6
3	Andhra Pradesh	1,916	30.8	3	Mizoram	46	37.4
4	Puducherry	192	27.0	4	Kerala	2,809	36.5
5	Goa	77	25.5	5	Tripura	269	36.1
6	Kerala	1,856	24.1	6	Puducherry	239	33.6
7	Punjab	246	23.5	7	Maharashtra	5,532	32.6
8	Tamil Nadu	3,445	21.8	8	Uttar Pradesh	1,210	31.0
9	Gujarat	1,537	21.2	9	Jharkhand	252	30.2
10	Maharashtra	3,427	19.1	10	Uttarakhand	137	28.8
11	Madhya Pradesh	1,950	18.9	11	Punjab	302	28.8
12	Karnataka	1,743	16.2	12	Bihar	148	28.7

12 States/UTs have reported higher percentage share than the All India average in suicides with cause of suicides such as 'Illness'. Similarly, 12 States/UTs have reported higher share than the All India average in suicides committed due to 'Family Problems' during the year.

### Suicide Victims by Sex and Age Group

Age group wise distribution of suicides by causes during 2015 is presented in **Table-2(E)**. The overall male: female ratio of suicide victims for the year 2015 was 68.5:31.5, showing a marginal increase of male and marginal decrease of female ratio as compared to year 2014 (67.7:32.3). The proportion of Boys: Girls suicide victims (below 14 years of age) were 53.8:46.2 in 2015 as compared to 52.3:47.7 in 2014. The proportion of female victims were more in 'Marriage Related Issues' like 'Dowry Related Issues', 'Divorce', 'Physical Abuse (Rape)'. Middle aged people (30 and above- below 45 years) and Youth (18 and above- below 30 years) were the most vulnerable groups resorting to suicides. These

### Professional Status of Suicide Victims

Details on professional status of suicide victims are presented in **Table-2.6**. Housewives accounted for 53.0% of the total female victims (22,293 out of 42,088) and constitute nearly 16.7% of total victims who committed suicides (22,293 out of 1,33,623) during 2015.

Government servants accounted for 1.2% (1,645 out of 1,33,623) of the total suicide victims as compared to 5.4%(7,198 out of 1,33,623) of total victims from Private Sector Enterprises. Employees from Public Sector Undertakings formed 1.3% (1,728 out of 1,33,623) of the total suicide victims, whereas students and un-employed victims accounted for 6.7% (8,934 victims) and 8.2% (10,912 victims) of total suicides respectively. Self-employed category accounted for 19.1% of total suicides victims (12,185 out of 1,33,623). 9.4% of total victims (12,602 out of 1,33,623) were engaged in farming sector and 17.8% of total victims(23,799 out of 1,33,623) were daily wage earners.



Figure – 2.5

Suicide Victims by Sex and Age Group during 2015

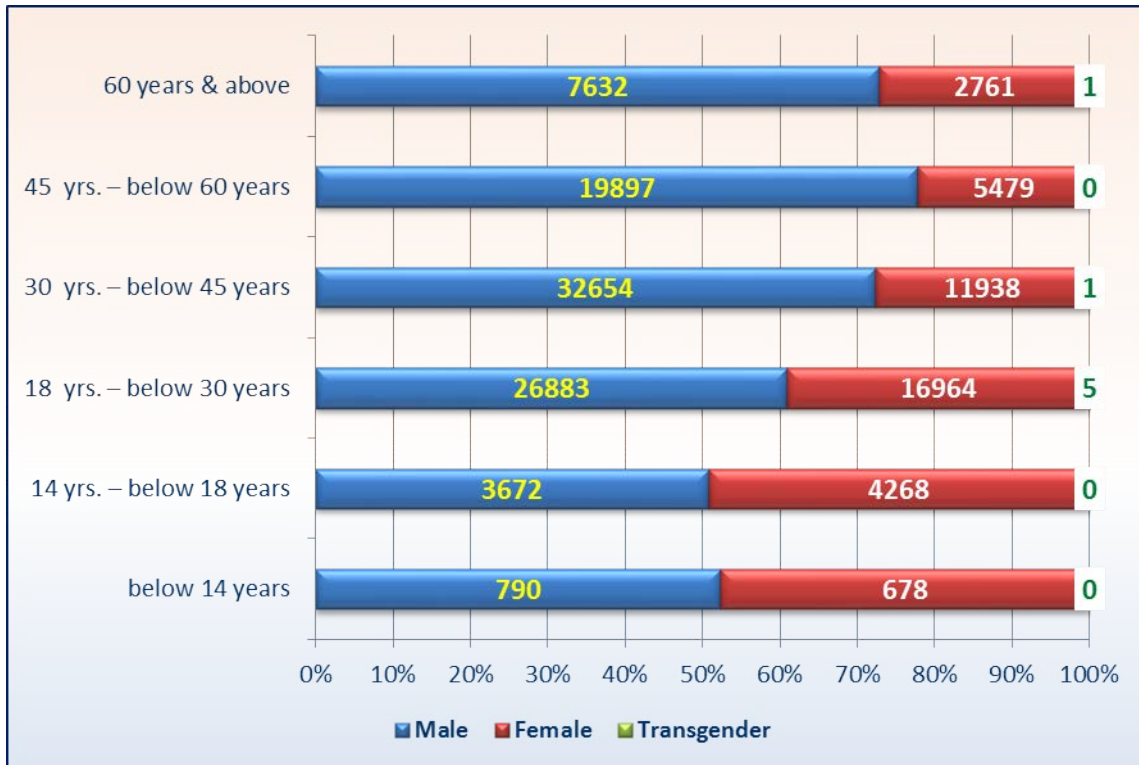
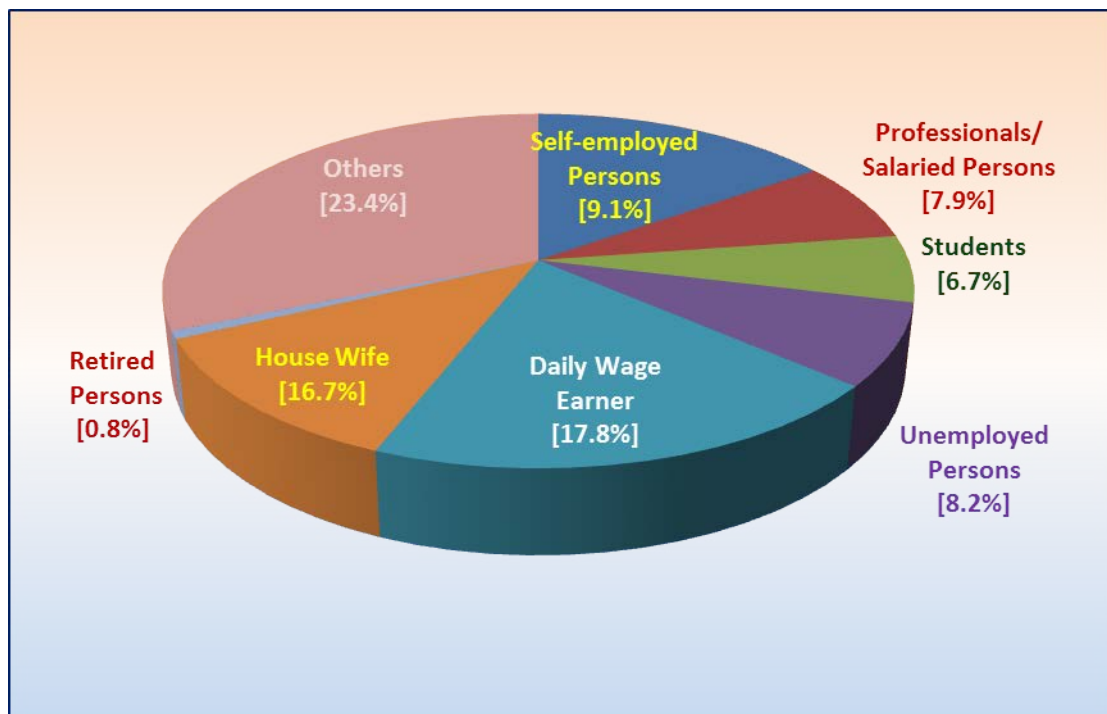


Figure – 2.6

Percentage Distribution of Suicide Victims by Profession During 2015



**Table 2(E)**  
**Age and Gender - wise Distribution of Suicides during 2015**  
**(Cause-wise)**

Sl. No.	Cause	Below 18 years				18 yrs. –Below 30 years				30 yrs. – Below 45 years			
		M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	11	3	0	14	716	54	0	770	1780	125	0	1905
<b>2</b>	<b>Marriage Related Issues (Total)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>1046</b>	<b>2559</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3605</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2015</b>
	2.1 Non Settlement of Marriage	13	27	0	40	321	342	0	663	260	136	0	396
	2.2 Dowry Related Issues	2	19	0	21	39	1335	0	1374	26	427	0	453
	2.3 Extra Marital Affairs	8	27	0	35	165	232	0	397	162	110	0	272
	2.4 Divorce	1	7	0	8	55	103	0	158	98	64	0	162
	2.5 Others	27	65	0	92	466	547	0	1013	442	290	0	732
3	Failure in Examination	697	663	0	1360	726	457	0	1183	72	15	0	87
4	Impotency/Infertility	7	3	0	10	72	68	0	140	102	103	0	205
5	Other Family Problems	950	1189	0	2139	7141	5492	0	12633	9251	4006	0	13257
<b>6</b>	<b>Illness (Total)</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>3127</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5201</b>	<b>4420</b>	<b>1832</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6252</b>
	6.1 AIDS/STD	0	2	0	2	32	10	0	42	86	12	0	98
	6.2 Cancer	1	12	0	13	86	42	0	128	164	55	0	219
	6.3 Paralysis	1	10	0	11	51	46	0	97	124	41	0	165
	6.4 Insanity/ Mental Illness	277	245	0	522	1592	878	0	2470	1859	800	0	2659
	6.5 Other Prolonged Illness	141	215	0	356	1366	1097	1	2464	2187	924	0	3111
7	Death of Dear Person	18	24	0	42	156	121	0	277	200	96	0	296
8	Drug Abuse/Alcoholic Addiction	43	21	0	64	930	44	0	974	1444	50	0	1494
9	Fall in Social Reputation	16	14	0	30	188	66	0	254	311	82	0	393
10	Ideological Causes/Hero Worshipping	9	1	0	10	12	10	0	22	8	6	0	14
11	Love Affairs	273	541	0	814	1597	1080	0	2677	609	294	0	903
12	Poverty	37	20	0	57	396	79	0	475	568	90	0	658
13	Unemployment	68	31	0	99	1035	90	0	1125	913	105	0	1018
14	Property Dispute	27	46	0	73	465	135	0	600	641	209	0	850
15	Suspected/ Illicit Relation (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	10	18	0	28	82	82	1	165	135	73	0	208
16	Illegitimate Pregnancy (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	0	14	0	14	0	25	0	25	0	8	0	8
17	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	0	26	0	26	8	19	0	27	6	12	0	18
18	Professional/Career Problem	29	11	0	40	410	95	1	506	459	94	0	553
19	Causes Not Known	655	625	0	1280	3405	1903	0	5308	3767	1461	1	5229
20	Other Causes	1141	1067	0	2208	5371	2512	2	7885	6980	2250	0	9230
<b>21</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>4462</b>	<b>4946</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9408</b>	<b>26883</b>	<b>16964</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>43852</b>	<b>32654</b>	<b>11938</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44593</b>

Note: 'M'- refers to Male, 'F'- refers to Female, 'Tr'- refers to Transgender and 'T' – Total

**Table 2(E)**  
**Age and Gender - wise distribution of Suicides during 2015 (Concluded)**  
**(Cause-wise)**

Sl. No.	Cause	45 yrs. – Below 60 years				60 years & above				Total			
		M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T
(1)	(2)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	1270	66	0	1336	304	28	0	332	4081	276	0	4357
<b>2</b>	<b>Marriage Related Issues (Total)</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>2497</b>	<b>3915</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6412</b>
	2.1 Non Settlement of Marriage	55	19	0	74	5	0	0	5	654	524	0	1178
	2.2 Dowry Related Issues	6	20	0	26	0	0	0	0	73	1801	0	1874
	2.3 Extra Marital Affairs	61	17	0	78	2	1	0	3	398	387	0	785
	2.4 Divorce	34	25	0	59	4	0	0	4	192	199	0	391
	2.5 Others	188	93	0	281	57	9	0	66	1180	1004	0	2184
3	Failure in Examination	16	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	1511	1135	0	2646
4	Impotency/Infertility	34	25	0	59	28	6	0	34	243	205	0	448
5	Other Family Problems	5031	1546	0	6577	1670	652	0	2322	24043	12885	0	36928
<b>6</b>	<b>Illness (Total)</b>	<b>3815</b>	<b>1449</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5264</b>	<b>2450</b>	<b>1106</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3557</b>	<b>14232</b>	<b>6944</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21178</b>
	6.1 AIDS/STD	34	9	0	43	4	1	0	5	156	34	0	190
	6.2 Cancer	212	83	0	295	123	49	0	172	586	241	0	827
	6.3 Paralysis	160	30	0	190	106	49	0	155	442	176	0	618
	6.4 Insanity/ Mental Illness	1282	523	0	1805	604	349	0	953	5614	2795	0	8409
	6.5 Other Prolonged Illness	2127	804	0	2931	1613	658	1	2272	7434	3698	2	11134
7	Death of Dear Person	144	74	0	218	78	40	0	118	596	355	0	951
8	Drug Abuse/Alcoholic Addiction	861	33	0	894	235	9	0	244	3513	157	0	3670
9	Fall in Social Reputation	234	78	0	312	55	49	0	104	804	289	0	1093
10	Ideological Causes/Hero Worshipping	8	0	0	8	3	0	0	3	40	17	0	57
11	Love Affairs	58	18	0	76	4	2	0	6	2541	1935	0	4476
12	Poverty	336	46	0	382	117	10	0	127	1454	245	0	1699
13	Unemployment	361	32	0	393	73	15	0	88	2450	273	0	2723
14	Property Dispute	546	146	0	692	216	60	0	276	1895	596	0	2491
15	Suspected/ Illicit Relation (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	49	18	0	67	2	4	0	6	278	195	1	474
16	Illegitimate Pregnancy (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	49	0	49
17	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	1	2	0	3	0	6	0	6	15	65	0	80
18	Professional/Career Problem	319	55	0	374	100	17	0	117	1317	272	1	1590
19	Causes Not Known	2519	775	0	3294	794	309	0	1103	11140	5073	1	16214
20	Other Causes	3951	940	0	4891	1435	438	0	1873	18878	7207	2	26087
<b>21</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>19897</b>	<b>5479</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25376</b>	<b>7632</b>	<b>2761</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10394</b>	<b>91528</b>	<b>42088</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>133623</b>

Note: 'M'- refers to Male, 'F'- refers to Female, 'Tr'- refers to Transgender and 'T' – Total

Out of total 91,528 male suicides, maximum suicides were committed by daily wage earners (20,409) followed by persons engaged in farming sector (11,584) and self-employed persons (11,124). A total of 42,088 females committed suicides during 2015 in the country. 22,293 females who committed suicides were house-wives followed by students (4,247) and daily wage earners (3,388). A total of 7 transgender have committed suicide. Out of 7 transgender, 2 were un-employed, 2 were daily wage earners while profession of 3 falls under 'Other Professions'.

State/UT-wise and profession wise analysis of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.7**. Out of 5 suicides reported in Lakshadweep, 1 suicide was committed by female student. Majority of suicides committed by house-wives were reported in West Bengal (2,908 out of 2,22,93 suicides) followed by Maharashtra (2,819 suicides) and Madhya Pradesh (2,701 suicides) which accounted for 13.0%, 12.6% and 12.1% of total such suicides during 2015 respectively. Majority of suicides committed by government servants were reported in Maharashtra (287 out of 1645 suicides) followed by Tamil Nadu (189 suicides), Madhya Pradesh (169 suicides), Gujarat(114 suicides) and Karnataka (96 suicides) which accounted for 17.4%, 11.5%, 10.3% 6.9% and 5.8% of total such suicides respectively. Majority of suicides committed by persons engaged in Private Sector Enterprises were reported in Tamil Nadu (1,500 out of 7,198 suicides), Maharashtra (1,301 suicides), Gujarat (599 suicides), Karnataka (485 suicides) and Haryana (473 suicides), they accounted for 20.8%, 18.1%, 8.3%, 6.7% and 6.6% of total such suicides respectively. 13.8% of total suicides committed by students were reported in Maharashtra (1,230 suicides) followed by 10.7% in Tamil Nadu (955 suicides), 7.6% in West Bengal (676 suicides), 7.0% in Madhya Pradesh (625 suicides) and 6.7% in Karnataka (597 suicides). Of suicides committed by un-employed persons 12.1% were in Tamil Nadu (1,316 out of 10,912 suicides), 11.6% in Madhya Pradesh (1,265 suicides), 10.4% in Kerala (1,131 suicides), 9.3% in Maharashtra (1,018 suicides) and 8.7% in West Bengal (946 suicides). 12.0% of

suicide victims in Assam, 11.5% of such victims in Tamil Nadu, 11.4% of such victims in West Bengal, 9.3% in Telangana and 8.9% in Maharashtra were engaged in business activities. 34.1% of victims in Maharashtra, 12.5% of victims in Karnataka, 11.1% of victims in Telangana, 10.2% of victims in Madhya Pradesh and 7.6% of victims in Chhattisgarh were engaged in farming sector.

### **Social Status of Suicide Victims**

Social Status of victims is classified in seven categories namely 'Married', 'Un-married', 'Widowed/Widower', 'Divorcee', 'Separated', 'Others' and 'Status Not Known'.

The information on the social status of suicide victims is presented in **Table- 2.8**. It observed that 69.5% (92,878 out of 1,33,623) of the suicide victims were married while 21.1% were un-married (28,179). Separated and Divorcees have accounted for 0.8% (1,090 victims) and 0.7% (907 victims) of total suicides victims respectively. The proportion of widowed/widower victims was around 1.8% of total suicides victims (2,449 out of 1,33,623 victims) during 2015.

The State/UT-wise information on the social status of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.9**.

### **Economic Status of Suicide Victims**

The information on the economic status of suicide victims is presented in **Table- 2.8(II)**. 70.0% of suicide victims in 2015 were having income of less than ₹1 lakh (93,586 out of 1,33,623 victims). 25.0% (33,413 out of 1,33,623 victims) of suicide victims belong to income group of '₹1 lakh & above to less than ₹5 lakh'. The State/UT wise information on the Economic Status of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.10**.

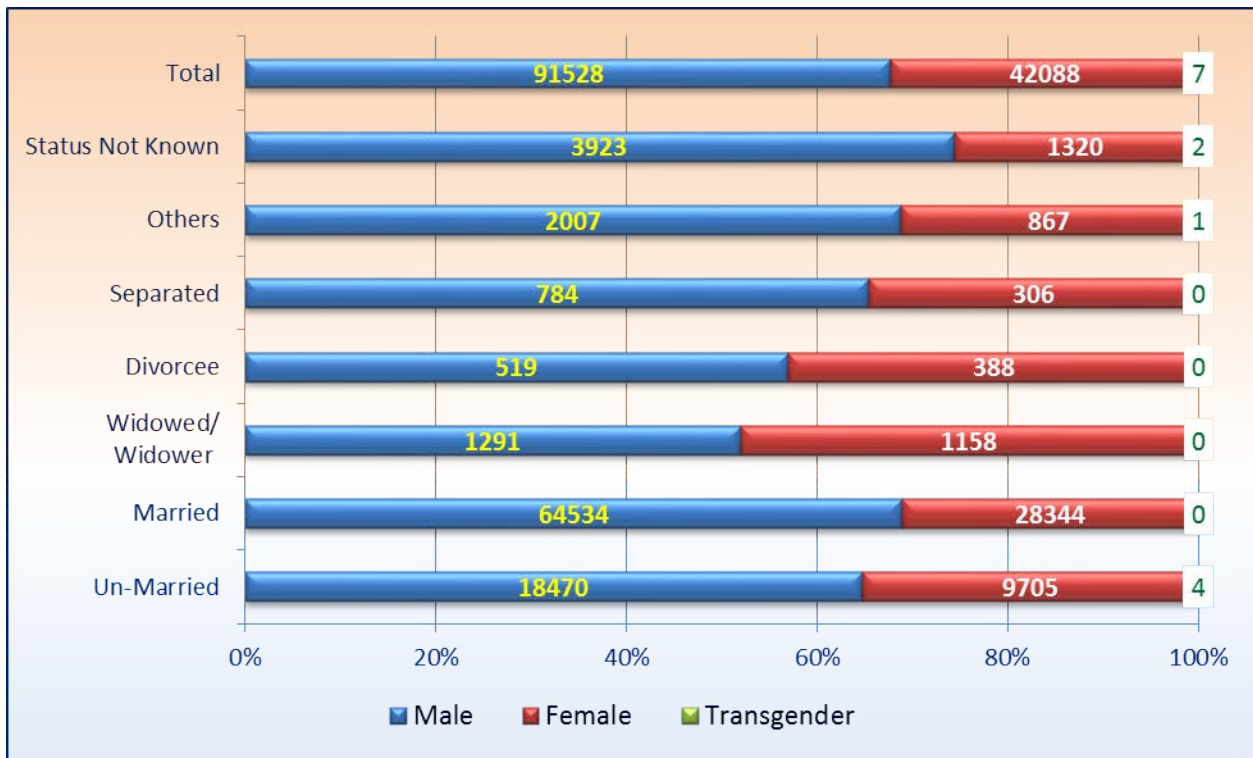
### **Educational Status of Suicide Victims**

The sex-wise and education-wise break-up of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.8(III)**. The maximum numbers of suicide victims (21.7%) (28,996 out of 1,33,623 victims) were educated up to Matriculation/Secondary level. Middle level educated, Primary educated and Illiterate persons accounted for 21.2% (28,275 out of 1,33,623

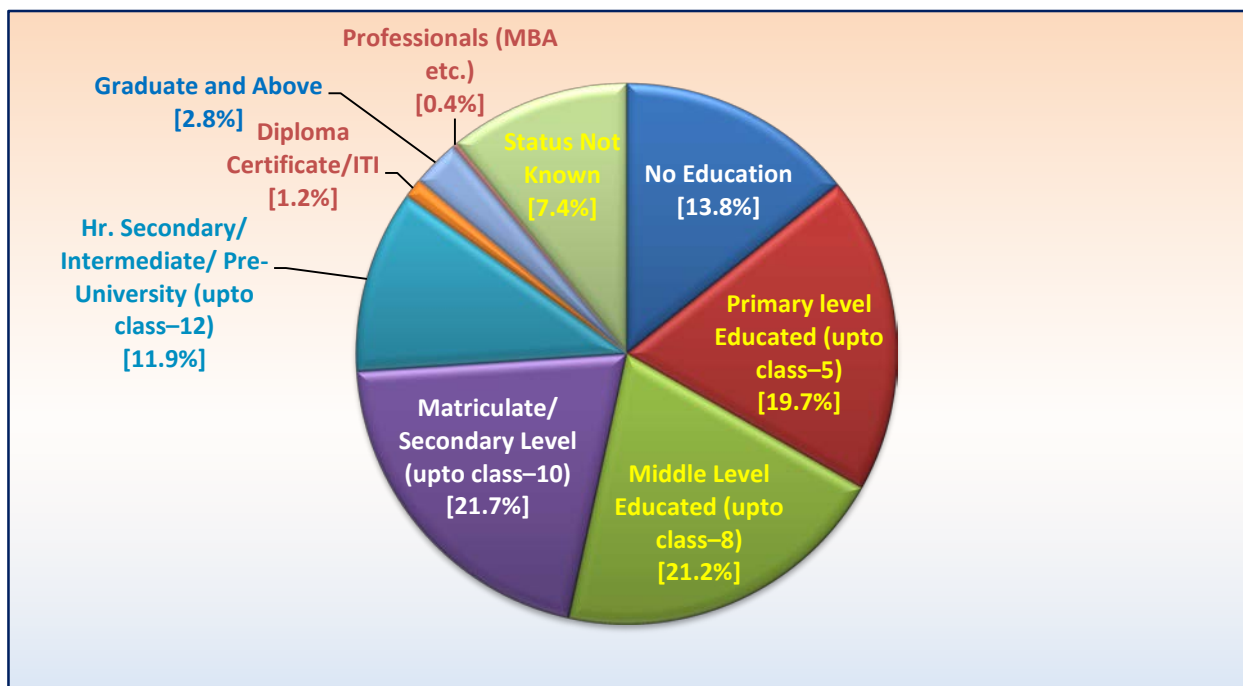
victims), 19.7% (26,290 out of 1,33,623 victims) and 13.8% (18,497 out of 1,33,623 victims) respectively of total suicides victims during 2015. Only 2.8% (3,807 out of 1,33,623

victims) of total suicide victims were graduates and above during 2015.

**Figure – 2.7**  
**Distribution of Suicide Victims by Social Status during 2015**



**Figure – 2.8**  
**Percentage Share of Suicide Victims by Educational Status during 2015**



**Table – 2 (F)**  
**Percentage of Suicide Victims by Educational Level during 2013 – 2015**

Sl. No.	Educational Level	Percentage Share		
		2013	2014	2015
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	No Education	18.5	14.3	13.8
2	Primary Level	22.1	19.0	19.7
3	Middle Level	23.6	20.2	21.2
4	Matriculate/Secondary Level	20.5	20.5	21.7
5	Higher Secondary Level	10.3	11.0	11.9
6	Diploma	1.2	1.1	1.2
7	Graduate & above	3.7	2.8	2.8
8	Professionals (MBA etc.)	@	0.3	0.4
9	Status Not Known	@	10.8	7.4
<b>10</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: '@' Not Collected

The State/UT wise information on the Education Status of suicide victims is presented in **Table– 2.11**.

Out of 26,290 suicides committed by persons educated up-to primary level, 24.9% were reported in West Bengal (13.8%), followed by Maharashtra (12.3%), Karnataka (11.2%), Tamil Nadu (9.6%) and Madhya Pradesh (9.0%). Out of 18,497 victims of suicide who have no education, 14.6% of such victims were from Telangana (2,705 out of 18,497) and 11.4% victims were from Madhya Pradesh (2,109 out of 18,497). 19.4% (740 out of 3,807) of total suicides victims having education up to graduation & above were reported in Tamil Nadu. Majority of suicides committed by persons educated up to middle level (up to class 8<sup>th</sup>) were reported in Maharashtra (3,937 victims) and Tamil Nadu(3,490 victims) [**Table–2.11**].

Percentage share of suicides victims by educational level during 2013-15 is presented in **Table–2(F)**.

### Means Adopted for Committing Suicides

The means adopted for committing suicide varied from the easily available and effective means such as consumption of poison, jumping into the well etc. to more painful means such as self inflicted injuries, hanging, shooting, etc. Like previous year, 'Hanging' (45.6%), consuming 'Poison' (27.9%), 'Self-Immolation' (7.2%) and 'Drowning' (5.4%) were the prominent means/mode of committing suicides.

Percentage share of the means adopted in committing suicides during 2013-15 is

presented in **Table–2(G)**.

During the year 2015, the share of 'Drowning' (from 5.6% in 2014 to 5.4% in 2015) and 'Coming Under Running Vehicle/Train' (from 2.6% in 2014 to 2.5% in 2015) as mode adopted by suicide victims, has decreased while share of 'Fire/Self Immolation' (from 6.9% in 2014 to 7.2% in 2015), 'Hanging' (from 41.8% in 2014 to 45.6% in 2015), 'By Poison' (from 26.0% in 2014 to 27.9% in 2015) and 'Jumping from Building or Other Sites of Moving Trains/Vehicles' (from 1.1% in 2014 to 1.8% in 2015) and 'By Touching Electric Wire' (from 0.6% in 2014 to 0.7% in 2015) have increased during 2015 over 2014.

The sex-wise break-up and means adopted for suicides in various States/UTs is presented in **Table–2.13**.

The number of male victims were more than females in all means of suicides except those who committed suicides by 'Fire/Self-immolation' where share of female victims was more (5,832 out of 9,558).

**Table – 2 (G)**  
**Percentage of Means/Mode Adopted by Victims to Commit Suicide during 2014 – 2015**

SL	Means/Mode Adopted	Percentage & Number	
		2014	2015
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Consuming Sleeping Pills	0.5%(714)	0.5%(645)
2	Drowning	5.6%(7,426)	5.4%(7,267)
3	Fire/Self Immolation	6.9%(9,122)	7.2%(9,558)
4	Firearms	0.4%(507)	0.4%(469)
5	By Hanging	41.8%(55,050)	45.6%(60,952)
6	By Poison	26.0%(34,254)	27.9%(37,232)
7	By Self inflicting Injury	0.4%(566)	0.4%(572)
8	By Jumping	1.1%(1,408)	1.8%(2,382)
9	By Coming under Running Vehicles/ Trains	2.6%(3,387)	2.5%(3,338)
10	By Touching Electric Wire	0.6%(752)	0.7%(954)
11	By Other Means	14.0%(18,480)	7.7%(10,254)
<b>12</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Suicides in Cities

City refers to mega city i.e. city having population of 10,00,000 or more.

The numbers of suicides in 53 mega cities show mixed trend during 2012 to 2015. It shows an increasing trend from the year 2012 (19,120) to 2013 (21,313). However, a decline of 8.1% is seen in 2014 over 2013 (from 21,313 suicides in 2013 to 19,597 suicides in 2014), it slightly increased by 0.4% (from 19,597 in 2014 to 19,665 in 2015). A steep rise of 11.5% was observed in 2013 over 2012. Details on year-wise incidents in cities, percentage share to All-India, rate of suicides and percentage change during 2012- 2015 may be seen in **Table 2(G)**.

in cities which accounted for 34.0% (6,682 out of 19,665) of total suicides followed by 'Illness' (17.2%) (3,379 victim out of 19,665 victim). However, a total of 1,019 victims have committed suicide in 53 mega cities due to 'Marriage Related Issues' accounting for 5.2% of total suicides in the cities.

## Mass/Family Suicides

This section provides information on the number of cases where family members have committed suicide jointly. Out of 36 States/UTs, Mass/Family Suicides were reported in 18 States and 1 UT during the year 2015. State/UT & City-wise information on mass/family suicides is presented in **Table-2.14**.

**Table – 2 (G)**  
**Number, Percentage Share to All-India, Rate of Suicides and Percentage Change during 2012- 2015**

Year	Suicides in Cities	Cities Share to All-India	Rate of Suicides in Cities	% Change Over Previous Year (Incidence)
2012	19,120	14.1	11.9	4.6%
2013	21,313	15.8	13.3	11.5%
2014	19,597	14.9	12.2	- 8.1%
2015	19,665	14.7	12.2	0.4%

The four Metropolitan Cities — Chennai (2,274), Bengaluru (1,855), Delhi City (1,553) and Mumbai (1,122) have reported higher number of suicides. These four cities together have reported almost 34.6% of the total suicides reported from 53 mega cities. These four Metropolitan Cities have shown a declining trend during 2015 over 2014, except Chennai City, where an increase of 2.7% was observed (from 2,214 suicides in 2014 to 2,274 suicides in 2015). A steep increase (845.0%) in the incidents was observed in Bhopal (from 40 in 2014 to 378 in 2015) followed by Faridabad (100.0%) (from 128 in 2014 to 256 in 2015) [**Table - 2.3**].

The suicide rate in cities (12.2) was higher as compared to All-India suicide rate (10.6). Durg-Bhilainagar followed by Kollam have reported the highest suicides rate of 34.9 and 32.5 respectively whereas Ranchi did not report any suicide during 2015 and Meerut reported 1 suicide during the year [**Table-2.2**].

'Family Problems (other than marriage related issues)' was the major cause of suicide

A total of 101 cases of mass/family suicides were registered during the year 2015. In these 101 cases of mass/family suicides, a total of 217 persons, comprising of 144 married persons and 73 unmarried persons, have committed suicides during 2015.

Maximum cases of mass/family suicides were reported in Madhya Pradesh (17 cases) followed by Andhra Pradesh (15 cases), Maharashtra (11 cases), Rajasthan (10 cases) and Kerala (9 cases) during 2015. A total of 43 persons in Madhya Pradesh, 28 persons in Rajasthan, 25 persons in Andhra Pradesh, 24 persons in Maharashtra, 25 persons in Andhra Pradesh and 22 persons in Kerala have committed mass/family suicides during 2015 [**Table-2.14**].

Out of 53 cities, mass/family suicides were reported in 8 cities. These eight cities have registered 20 cases of mass/family suicides in which 39 persons have committed suicides during 2015. Among these 39 persons, 28 were married and 11 were unmarried persons [**Table-2.14**].

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