



SUICIDES WITH RESPECT TO AGE AND SEX IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Vital factors responsible for suicide are psychiatric disorders, drug misuse, psychological states, culture, genetic, economic, family and social situations. About eight lakh people commit suicide worldwide every year, of these 1.35 lakh (17%) are residents of India (G.O.I. Report, 2012). Keeping in view the gravity of the situation an attempt has been made to examine the intensity, nature, growth and S.M.R. (Suicidal Mortality Rate) of suicidal deaths with respect to age and sex in India from 2004 to 2013.

Mean value, proportion, Average Annual Compound Growth Rates of suicidal deaths and S.M.R. are reckoned and results are presented using Histogram. The age group of 15-29 years and 30-44 years constitute about 69% of total suicides in India, though A.A.C.G.R. is highest among people above 60 years during the period of analysis.

Key words: Suicidal deaths, married, police, psychiatric disorders, women.

INRODUCTION

Historically suicide came to be regarded as a sin way back in Christian Europe in 452 A.D., as the work of the devil. Among the common causes of suicides mental illness is the most common cause of suicide and untreated depression leads to suicidal tendencies. About eight

lakh people commit suicide worldwide every year, of these 1.35 lakh (17%) are residents of India (G.O.I. Report, 2012). Keeping in view the gravity of the situation it becomes imperative to analyse the growth and nature of suicides in India with respect to different age groups and sex (Male or female) from 2004 to 2013.

METHODOLOGY

The data on suicidal deaths, with respect age and sex in India from 2004 to 2013 is subjected to primary and graphical analysis. Suicidal deaths with respect to age is divided into five parts (Heads) i.e. Under 14 years, 15 – 29 years, 30 – 44 years, 45 – 59 years and Above 60 years. The heads are further divided into male and female.

Suicide Mortality Rate (SMR) is also computed, which is defined as the number of suicides reported per lakh population of a specific year. This rate is universally taken as a realistic indicator since it balances the effect of growth in population. To ascertain the growth of suicides under various heads of social status, during the period of analysis, average annual compound growth rates were computed using the following formula.

$$Y = a b^t e^u$$

Y = Yearly expenditure on Police

t = Time period

u = Stochastic term

a and b are constants which were estimated by principle of least square using following formula

$$\frac{\sum Y_t}{n} = \frac{a \sum b^t}{n}$$

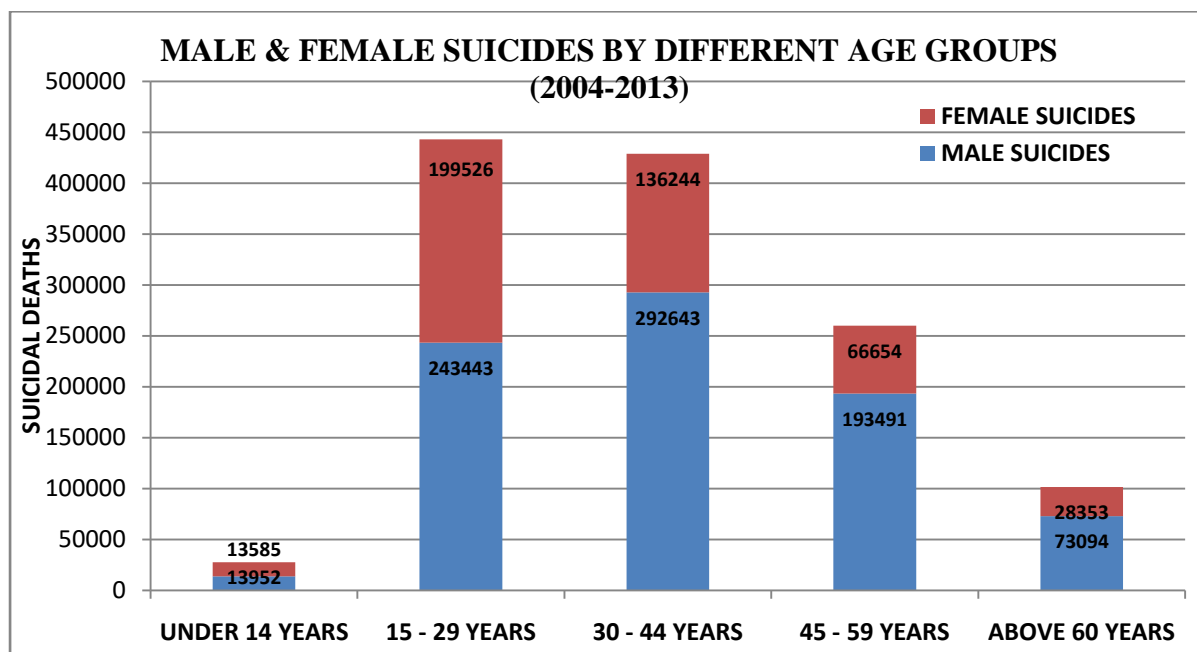
$$\text{Average C.G.R.} = (b - 1) 100$$

DISCUSSION

Suicides in India with respect to age and sex (2004-2013)

Clearly indicated in table 1 that during the period of analysis (2004-2013), highest number of suicidal deaths are in the age group of 15-29 years (442960) followed by 30-44 years (428887), 45-59 years (260145), above 60 years (101427) and under 14 years (27537),

constituting 35.12%, 34.01%, 20.63%, 8.04% and 2.18% of total suicidal deaths respectively. Easy availability of narcotic substances due to drug trafficking across the international border, frustration due to unfulfilled high aspirations, peer pressure and negative influence of a family member are primary reasons for rising trend in consumption of drugs in India. The alarming situation is going out of control as ready availability of different types of drugs pose a huge threat for the vulnerable youth. Rural youth are particularly susceptible to the influence of this evil.



The police department can play an important role in curbing the worsening scenario. It can launch an awareness drive with N.G.Os. and civil society members and distribute literature highlighting the evils of drug abuse among the rural youth. The drug mafia which is flourishing in the country can be tethered in by effective and ethical policing only. The drug mafia operating since long in North and South Americas is being tackled primarily by police in the forefront. It's a war between the mafia on one hand and police at the other. Discussions on the drug problem in India always lean towards political bickering and blame games begin. Sprucing up the police force to tackle it is the answer.

The highest AACGR is experienced by age group of above 60 years to the extent of 2.92% followed by 45-59 years (2.57%). Health care system in India has to be improved, which is presently having dismal presence in rural areas. India faces a growing need to fix its basic health concerns in the areas of HIV, cancer, tuberculosis, and diarrhoea and other prolonged illness. Besides the rural-urban divide, another key driver of India's healthcare landscape is

the high out-of-pocket expenditure (roughly 70%). This means that most Indian patients pay for their hospital visits and doctors' appointments with straight up cash after care with no payment arrangements (Jayaraman, 2016). The need for health care is more for aged people. Special facilities should be crafted for patients with psychiatric disorders in the existing infrastructure so as to early diagnose and appropriate cure is done.

CONCLUSION

The highest number of suicidal deaths is between the age group of 15 years to 45 years. They collectively form about 69 percent of total suicides in India. Youth is under immense stress to make their place in society but due to intense competition it becomes very hard and hence faces stress and depression.

REFERENCES

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TABLE 1: SUICIDES IN INDIA WITH RESPECT TO AGE & SEX (2004-2013)

AGE & SEX / YEAR	Under 14 years			15 – 29 years			30 – 44 years			45 – 59 years			Above 60 years			TOTAL		
	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
2004	1467	1446	2913	21617	18519	40136	25850	12446	38296	17065	6074	23139	6672	2561	9213	72651	41046	113697
2005	1328	1227	2555	21832	18411	40234	25932	12251	38183	17236	6389	23625	6597	2720	9317	72916	40998	113914
2006	1194	1270	2464	22757	19459	42216	27809	12890	40699	17345	6261	23606	6597	2530	9127	75702	42410	118112
2007	1184	1295	2479	23446	19714	43160	28551	13281	41832	19113	6458	25571	7001	2594	9595	79295	43342	122637
2008	1165	1216	2381	24396	20256	44652	29519	14043	43562	18819	6373	25192	6645	2585	9230	80544	44473	125017
2009	1501	1450	2951	23746	20174	43920	29335	14153	43488	19596	7007	26603	7293	2896	10189	81471	45680	127151
2010	1640	1490	3130	26387	21238	47625	30444	14402	44846	20768	7121	27889	7941	3168	11109	87180	47419	134599
2011	1574	1461	3035	26604	21410	48014	31400	14815	46215	20507	7029	27536	7754	3031	10785	87839	47746	135585
2012	1353	1385	2738	25942	20693	46635	31704	14456	46160	21217	7282	28499	8237	3176	11413	88453	46992	135445
2013	1546	1345	2891	26716	19652	46368	32099	13507	45606	21825	6660	28485	8357	3092	11449	90543	44256	134799
TOTAL	13952	13585	27537	243443	199526	442960	292643	136244	428887	193491	66654	260145	73094	28353	101427	816594	444362	1260956
PROPOR TION (%)	---	---	2.18	---	---	35.12	---	---	34.01	---	---	20.63	---	---	8.04	64.76	35.24	100.00
A.A.C.G.R	1.97	0.91	1.45	2.59	1.25	1.99	2.55	1.74	2.29	2.95	1.64	2.57	2.98	2.70	2.92	2.68	1.54	2.29

Source: Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India, National Crime Record Bureau, Ministry of Home, G.O.I.