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Q9

## **Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian Society.**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · GS I · 10 marks · Women, Population and Urbanisation

Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

### **Core demand of the question**

- Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian Society
- Use social, economic, and health causes, not only individual distress

### **Revision summary**

NCRB patterns point to young women and housewives as a large share of women who die by suicide.

Dowry, early marriage, and domestic violence close exit routes.

Education without safe work and voice creates a hope gap.

Mental-health stigma and thin district care leave distress untreated.

The response is law enforcement, confidential care, and economic independence, not only awareness weeks.

### **Flow diagram**

Patriarchy dowry violence -> Young women at risk

Hope vs blocked work exams -> Young women at risk

Stigma thin mental care -> Young women at risk

Young women at risk -> Suicide toll

### **Conclusion**

- Enforce dowry and domestic-violence law, and make one-stop centres and women's helplines actually answer.
- Put school and college counsellors, and the Tele-MANAS and KIRAN mental-health lines, within reach of young women without a guardian's veto.
- Expand safe paid work and delayed marriage so adulthood is not only a transfer between two families.

Suicide among young women rises where patriarchy, dowry, violence, blocked work, and untreated distress meet. Law already names some of these harms; the way forward is enforcement, confidential care, and real economic options.

### **Facts & figures**

**NCRB suicides data**

Annual Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India volumes remain the main official count by age, sex, and cause group.

**Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961**

Central law against dowry; weak enforcement still leaves marital extortion in place.

**PWDVA, 2005**

Civil protection against domestic violence, including in shared households.

**Mental Healthcare Act, 2017**

Rights-based mental-health law that also changed the legal approach to attempted suicide.

**KIRAN / Tele-MANAS**

National mental-health helplines meant to give confidential first contact.

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