

3. SUICIDE RATE

YEAR	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
2001	206	323	529
2002	157	410	567
2003	194	388	582
2004	201	338	539
2005	198	340	538
2006	177	349	526
2007	319	198	517
2008	334	173	507
2009	326	192	518
2010	333	175	508

Source:- Crime Records Bureau, Puducherry.

The physical and mental strains encountered by the females in their life are increasing over the period because of severe competitions in various spheres of life. As women have to face various socio-economic challenges, they are more prone to these strains. During 2007 to 2010, it is significant to note that the female suicide rate was higher than male suicide rate. The female suicide rate is in fact more than doubled that of male i.e. out of the total of suicide rate of 508, 333 or 65.55% are females. It can also be seen that during the period from 2006 to 2010 there was a drastic increase in the female suicide rate by 88.14%. Due to dowry dispute, family problems, and not having children women take the extreme step. In the present social structure, employment is very important for women. A woman with employment can easily escape from an abusive marriage and which also gives them some bargaining power to demand greater freedom inside and outside the household. Awareness in reporting of the female suicide is also an important factor for capturing the states on such issues.