

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 343**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH JULY, 2022/ASHADHA 28, 1944 (SAKA)

INCREASE IN DRUG ABUSE AMONG YOUTH

343. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumption of drugs and narcotic substances like heroin, cannabis and other opioids has increased significantly in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is true that the consumption of drugs among the youth is increasing and now roughly around 10 crore (100 million) Indians consume drugs whereas 15 years ago it was around 2 crore (20 million) and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to combat drug abuse among the youth in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has conducted 'Comprehensive National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India' through the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi during 2018. The report of the survey was released in February, 2019.

As per the said report the details of major drug abuse are as under :-

S.No	Name of the Substance	Age 10-17 years	Age 18-75 years
		Estimated No. of users	Estimated No. of users
1	Cannabis	20,00,000	2,90,18,000
2	Opioids	40,00,000	1,86,44,000
3	Cocaine	2,00,000	9,40,000

(c) & (d) The Government of India through Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been implementing National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) scheme under which financial assistance is provided to (i) State Governments/Union Territory(UT) Administrations for preventive Education and Awareness Generation, Capacity Building, Skill development, vocational training and livelihood support of ex-drug addicts. (ii) Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Voluntary Organizations (VOs) for running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA), Community based peer Led Intervention (CPLI) for early detection of Drug Use among Adolescents and Outreach and Drop In Centres (ODIC), District De-Addiction Centres (DDACs) and Addiction treatment facilities (ATFs) in Government Hospitals.

In addition, the Government of India is taking sustained and coordinated action for tackling the problem of substance abuse among the youth. This includes:

- (i) Launching of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) in 272 most vulnerable districts with a massive community outreach programme, involving more than 8000 youth volunteers. More than 3.3 crore youth have been reached out under the Abhiyaan.**
- (ii) Maintaining of 350 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres, which not only treat the drug addicts but also provides motivational counseling, after care services and re-integration into the social mainstream.**
- (iii) Maintaining of 53 Community based Peer Led Intervention (CPLI) Centres with focus on vulnerable and at risk children and adolescents. Under this, peer educators engage children for awareness generation and life skill activities.**
- (iv) Setting up and maintaining of 73 Outreach and Drop In Centres (ODIC) to provide safe and secure space for substance users with provision of screening, assessment and counseling and thereafter provide referral and linkage for treatment and rehabilitation services of substance dependent.**
- (v) Setting up of 38 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) in Government hospitals.**
- (vi) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also running a National Toll Free Helpline 14446 to provide tele-counseling to Drug users and refer them to the nearest de-addiction centre.**
- (vii) Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has coordinated with Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E) and National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to spread awareness against drug abuse and protect the youth, especially children from falling prey to the drug menace by formulating a Joint Action Plan on**

Prevention of Drugs and Substances Use among Children and Illicit Trafficking.

- (viii) NCB has also launched Awareness campaigns through various social media platforms by way of Audio Video messages of eminent personalities from the field of Politics, Bureaucracy, Sports, Films, Music etc and also through Telecom service providers, FM radios, Television Channels, etc.**
- (ix) Anti drugs messages were released from the twitter handles of eminent personalities.**
