

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2115  
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY, 2019  
PAUSA 11, 1940 (SAKA)

**Amending NDPS Act**

†2115. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government has received any recommendation from the Government of Punjab to initiate the process of amending the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 to provide for more deterrent punishment for the 1<sup>st</sup> time drug smugglers and peddlers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) What action Government has taken thereon?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA)**

- (a) Yes Sir, Ministry of Finance has received a letter dated 04.07.2018 from Chief Minister of Punjab requesting therein for awarding of death penalty even for first time offenders under NDPS Act 1985 by making suitable amendments.
- (b) A reply has been sent to Chief Minister of Punjab on 09.08.2018 intimating that NDPS Act 1985 already provides for stringent punishments including death sentence and heavy fine for violations of various provisions of the act, therefore there is no need for any further amendments to enhance the punishment/penalty at present.