

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1996**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17TH DECEMBER, 2025/ AGRAHAYANA 26, 1947
(SAKA)**

DRUG-LACED VAPE DEVICES

1996 SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of reports that e-cigarettes and vape devices seized in different States contain narcotic substances such as methamphetamine, ketamine and other synthetic drugs;

(b) the details of seizures and laboratory findings during last three years;

(c) whether any cross-border or organised networks involved in smuggling such adulterated vapes have been identified;

(d) steps taken to strengthen screening at airports, ports and courier hubs;

(e) whether Government proposes amendments to Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS) Act or Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA), 2019; and

(f) measures adopted to protect students from access to such dangerous devices online?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (c) Government has banned e-cigarettes under Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA), 2019. Under this Act, the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and

advertisement of electronic cigarettes is prohibited. The enforcement of the Act lies with the States/Union Territories through law enforcement agencies. Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has not investigated any case involving seizure of e-cigarette and vape devices with narcotic substances.

(d) The Government has taken various steps to strengthen screening at airports, ports etc, some of which is as under: -

(i) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Customs field formations keep constant vigil and take operational measures, inter alia, based on intelligence, passenger profiling with the aid of Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), risk-based interdiction and targeting, non-intrusive inspection like baggage and container scanning and coordination with other agencies.

(ii) Field formations are regularly sensitized to newer methods of smuggling.

(iii) K9 (Canine) Squad, specialized in detecting narcotics have been deployed at airports to curb smuggling of narcotics.

(iv) Action is taken in accordance with law on detection and seizure of narcotic drugs at airports, ports including arrest and prosecution of the persons involved.

(e) There is no proposal to amend NDPS Act, 1985 in this regard.

(f) Government has banned production and import of e-cigarettes under Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA), 2019. However, Government is taking various measures to tackle the issue of abuse of narcotic substances, some of which are as under: -

(i) A National Narcotics Helpline No. 1933 “Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochna Kendra” (MANAS) has been created as a 24x7 toll-free National Narcotics Call Centre helpline. Accordingly, MANAS has been envisioned as an integrated system providing a single platform for citizens to log, register, track and resolve drug related issues/problems through various modes of communication like call, SMS, Chat-bot, e-mail & web-link.

(ii) A Toll-free Helpline No.14446 for de-addiction is operated for providing primary counseling and immediate assistance to persons seeking help. Till date, more-than 4.30 lakh calls have been received on the Toll-free Helpline for de-addiction.

(iii) Launched Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) in all districts of the country. It has reached out to more than 24.9 crore people including 8.7 crore youth and 6 crore women.

(iv) Government through its autonomous body National Institute of Social Defense (NISD) and other collaborating agencies like State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), etc. provides for regular awareness generation and sensitization sessions for all stakeholders including students, teachers, parents.

(v) Navchetna Modules, Teachers Training Modules have been developed by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE) for sensitizing students (6th – 11th standard), teachers and parents on drug dependence, related coping strategies and life skills.

(vi) Various programs such as rallies, paintings, distribution of pamphlets, posters, cultural program, nukkad natak, radio programs and awareness campaigns are being organized throughout the year in School, Colleges and Universities.
