

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 363**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD DECEMBER, 2025/ AGRAHAYANA 12, 1947
(SAKA)**

RIISING DEATHS DUE TO DRUG OVERDOSE IN INDIA

363 SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, 12 people die every week in India due to drug overdose, as reported for the year 2023;

(b) whether NCRB distinguishes between overdose due to illegal narcotic substances, prescription/OTC drugs, and other substances;

(c) if not, whether Government proposes to refine classification and reporting methodologies to differentiate between overdose due to narcotic drugs, prescription drugs, and other intoxicants; and

(d) the steps being taken to strengthen surveillance, reporting accuracy, forensic investigation, awareness and rehabilitation to reduce overdose-related mortality in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) As per latest data published by NCRB pertaining to the year 2023, death due to drug overdose during 2021 to 2023 in the country is as under:-

Year	2021	2022	2023
Total	737	681	654

Source: NCRB

(b) to (d) NCRB does not distinguish between overdose due to illegal narcotic substances, prescription/OTC drugs and other substances. Consultations with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other experts are going on to refine the classification and reporting methodologies so that overdoses of narcotic drugs, prescription medicines, and other intoxicating substances can be differentiated.
