

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1739  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016**

**ILLEGAL DRUGS**

**1739. SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sought an amendment in the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS) to strengthen enforcement action against illegal sale of drugs;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to make amendments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a): Yes, the Government of Kerala suggested to the Central Government for some changes in the existing provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS)

(b) & (c): The decision on the proposal of the Government of Kerala to change the definition of small quantity to cover the offence under NDPS Act could not be taken as the matter is sub-judice before the High Court of Kerala. Further, the Government of Kerala has forwarded a memorandum to the Central Government suggesting, *inter-alia*, some changes in the existing provisions in the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, which have been examined and the State Government has been informed that the existing provisions of the Act provide for stringent penalties/rigorous provisions for consumption as well as for illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.