

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. *41
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2017**

DRUG ADDICTS

***41. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:**

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of drug addicts in the country has gone up requiring more stringent action from the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to open more rehabilitation centres for the drug addicts in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering to provide aid to the States in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)**

- (a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question *41 for answer on 19.12.2017

by Shri Chandrakant Khaire on Drug Addicts

(a) The last National Survey on the extent, pattern and trend of drug abuse was sponsored by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the year 2000-2001. The report was published in 2004. The Survey estimated that about 7.32 Crore persons in India were users of alcohol and drugs. Of these 87 lakh used Cannabis, 20 lakh used opiates and 6.25 Crore were users of Alcohol. The survey covered 40,697 individuals. Only males within the age group of 12-60 years were part of the Survey. The Survey did not provide state level data.

A rapid Survey in the States of Punjab and Manipur to provide estimates of drug dependent individuals was conducted by the Ministry in 2015. The Ministry also financially supported the Directorate of Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention, Department of Women and Child Development, Government of NCT of Delhi for conducting a survey in collaboration with AIIMS, New Delhi on mapping and size estimation of street children who use drugs in Delhi. Since there was no reliable data on drug abuse, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is now undertaking a National level Survey in collaboration with National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in August, 2016. The survey will provide national and state-level estimates of proportion and absolute number of individuals using various drugs and suffering from substance use disorders. The Survey would cover 6 Lakh individuals in 1.5 Lakh Households in 185 districts of the country.

(b) Yes, the Government is considering to release grant under the Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substances (Drug) Abuse to set up more de-addiction centres on need basis. One de-addiction centre in each district will be considered if recommended by the State Governments. Presently, the Ministry is providing financial assistance to 424 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts covering 257 districts out of 710 districts in the country.

(c) The Ministry has modified the Scheme in order to support de-addiction centres in prisons, juvenile homes, district hospitals, railway hospitals etc. The Ministry would also consider supporting State Governments under the Scheme if they provide building for 15/30/50 bedded de-addiction centre.
