

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2599  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.07.2019**

**SURVEY ON DRUGS**

**2599. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any survey regarding the consumption of legalised and non-legalised psychoactive drugs;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has considered the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) guidelines to combat illegal drug trade across the world and if so, the details in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)**

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has conducted a National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in 2018. The National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi was entrusted with the responsibility to lead the technical and scientific aspects of the National Survey.

As per the report, Alcohol is the most common psychoactive substance used by Indians followed by Cannabis and Opioids. About 16 Crore persons in the country consume alcohol, 3.1 Crore use cannabis products, 2.26 Crore use opioids and approximately 1.18 Crore use sedatives. The report further stipulates that 2.9 Crore individuals suffer from alcohol dependence, 25 lakh from cannabis dependence, 28 lakh from opioid dependence and 11.8 lakh are using sedatives in dependent pattern.

(c): The Ministry is entrusted with the role of drug demand reduction and not with combating illegal drug trade.

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