

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4658
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019**

Drug Addiction in Universities

†4658. **SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the youth are facing difficulties in completing their higher education due to prevalence of drug addiction in education campuses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the details of such universities/university campuses is identified by the Government where the situation of drug addiction is widespread; and
- (d) the step taken/being taken by the Government to tackle this problem?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) & (b): No, Sir. There is no confirmed report to conclude that the youth are facing difficulties in completing their higher education due to prevalence of drug addiction in education campuses. Nevertheless, the Government is committed to create a drug free healthy educational environment in various education campuses.

(c): University-wise details on drug abuse is not centrally maintained.

(d): The Government has, inter-alia, taken the following measures to ensure that drug abuse does not occur in Higher Educational Institutions: -

- i. The Government has been creating awareness among the youth through print, electronic and social media along with conducting workshops in education campuses about the harmful effects of drugs.
- ii. Especially on 26th June every year, on the occasion of the 'International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking', special awareness measures are taken in various educational institutions to sensitize the students against drug hazards.

- iii. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued a circular to all Vice Chancellors for implementation of the actionable points of the National Policy on Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances (NDPS). Para 55 of the NDPS deals with steps to tackle the problem of sale of drug to school and college children.
- iv. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been conducting awareness generation programmes, in collaboration with Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth (SPIC MACAY), to create awareness in children and youth about the harmful effects of substance abuse.
- v. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also running a National Toll-Free Drug De-addiction Helpline Number 1800-11-0031 on 24 x 7 basis to help the victims of drug abuse, their family and society at large.
- vi. The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), under the Ministry of Home Affairs has been organizing workshops and seminars in coordination with various government agencies and NGOs in the country about ill effects of drug abuse and trafficking.
- vii. The National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, conducts capacity building programmes, sensitization and preventive education programmes in schools and colleges on regular basis.
