

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4860
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2019**

SURVEY ON DRUG ABUSE

4860. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted a 'National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India' through the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, during 2018 presenting data on estimates of current use (use within past 12 months), harmful use and dependence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to help people, about 5.2 percent of Indians (more than 5.7 crore people) who are estimated to be affected by harmful substance or dependent on alcohol use; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. 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, All India Institutes of Medical Sciences, 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) & (d): This Ministry has been implementing a Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse since 1985-86. Under this scheme, financial assistance up to 90% of the approved expenditure is given to Voluntary Organizations and other eligible agencies for setting up/running Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCAs). In the case of North-Eastern State, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir, the quantum of assistance is 95% of the total admissible expenditure.

The Ministry has also begun implementation of a National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction for 2018-2025. The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families. It focuses on preventives education, awareness generation, identification, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent persons and training and capacity building of the service providers through collaborative efforts of the Central and State Governments and Non-Governmental Organizations.
