

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3350
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2023**

PREVENTION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

3350. MS. S. JOTHIMANI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any cognizance of the rising incidence of substance abuse among youth of the country and if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether it intends to mandate schools both public and private to organise sensitisation and awareness programmes regarding the same and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of de-addiction centres functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu, along with the financial support provided to these centres during the last year; and
- (d) the specific steps that the Government has taken to dissuade tobacco use, drug abuse and alcohol consumption among street children and slum dwellers?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)**

- (a) & (b): (i) There has been a change in the pattern of substance abuse as reflected in the National survey on Extent, Pattern and Trends of Substance Use done in 2004, and in the Comprehensive National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India conducted in 2018. Comparison of these Surveys is not possible since the survey in 2004 was done only on males; whereas the later survey was comprehensive.
- (ii) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) which is an umbrella scheme under which financial assistance is provided to (i) 'State Governments/ Union Territory (UT) Administrations for Preventive Education and Awareness Generation, Capacity Building, Skill development, vocational training and livelihood support of ex-drug addicts, Programmes for Drug Demand Reduction by States/UTs etc. and (ii) NGOs/VOs for running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA)-340, Community based peer Led Intervention (CPLI)-48 for early Drug Use Prevention among Adolescents, Outreach and Drop In Centres (ODIC)-71 and District De-Addiction Centres (DDACs).

iii. Launched Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) in 372 most vulnerable districts under which a massive community outreach is being done through more than 8000 youth volunteers. So far, NMBA has reached to more than 9.55 crore people including 3.12 crore youth, 2.08 crore women and more than 3.14 lakh educational institutions have also participated in this Abhiyaan.

iv. Ministry also supports setting up of Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) in some Government hospitals, which is being implemented through AIIMS, New Delhi.

v. A Toll-free Helpline for de-addiction, 14446 is being maintained by the Ministry for providing primary counseling and immediate referral services to the persons seeking help through this helpline.

(c): During the year 2021-22, funds amounting to Rs. 4.95 Crore have been released to 25 projects in the state of Tamil Nadu by the Ministry.

(d): This Ministry has launched Community based Peer led Intervention (CPLI) Centres in 2019-20 which specifically focus on vulnerable and at risk children and adolescents. Under this, peer educators engage children for awareness generation and life skill activities.
