

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3583
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2019**

PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE

†3583. SHRI RAM SWAROOP SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take any stringent measures to check the intake of heroine and other narcotics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the Government is likely to take stringent measures for prevention and treatment of substance/drug abuse?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) for 2018-2025. The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy. The activities under the NAPDDR, inter-alia, include awareness generation programmes in schools/colleges/Universities, workshops/seminars/ with parents, community based peerled interactions intervention programmes for vulnerable adolescent and youth in the community, provisioning of treatment facilities and capacity building of service providers.

The Ministry also implements a “Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse” under which financial assistance is provided to eligible Non-Governmental Organizations based on the recommendations of State Governments/UT Administrations for running Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts to provide composite/integrated services for the rehabilitation of addicts including adolescents. The Ministry has also approved the proposal of National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (NDDTC, AIIMS) for providing financial assistance for establishment of Addiction Treatment Facilities at 125 Govt. Hospitals in phase manner for over a period of three years.

The Ministry has identified 127 districts across the country for establishing Outreach and Drop in Centres (ODIC) to conduct outreach activities in the community for prevention of drug abuse with a special focus on youth who are dependent on drugs. In addition, the Ministry is also

undertaking Community based Peer led Intervention (CPLI) programmes in 68 vulnerable districts for early prevention education specially for vulnerable adolescents and youth in the community.

So far as the steps taken to curb intake of heroine & other narcotics in the country is concerned, Deptt. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance have informed that the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 prohibit, the manufacture, production, trade, use etc. of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, except for medical or scientific purposes. The Act provides for stringent penalties/rigorous provisions for illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. NDPS Act follows graded punishment, wherein quantum of punishment is decided on the basis of the quality of the drugs involved in the trafficking. The enforcement agencies of Central and State Governments have been empowered to enforce the provisions of the Act, and adopt various measures, inter-alia, including (i) intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes, (ii) strengthening of the intelligence system, and (iv) bilateral/multilateral cooperation with other countries for sharing of information on illicit trafficking.
