

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1496
TO BE ANSWERED ON. 20.09.2020**

DRUG ADDICTION AMONGST YOUTH

1496. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government recognizes that the incidence of drug addiction has increased in the country, especially amongst the youth and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any new steps to initiate drug de-addiction, particularly amongst the youth during the last two years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of children under the age of 18 years, who have been identified as drugs addicts during the last three years, State and year-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (d): The Ministry had conducted a National Survey to collect state wise data on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in the country during the year 2018. The report presents major findings of the survey in terms of proportion of Indian population in the group of 10-75 years using various substances and those affected by substance use disorders.

As per the report, prevalence in percentage and estimated number of individuals who are currently users of various psychoactive substances (as per the estimated population in 2018) is as follows-

Substance	Children & Adolescents (10-17 years)		Adults (18-75 years)	
	Prevalence (in %)	Estimated no. of users	Prevalence (in %)	Estimated no. of users
Alcohol	1.30	30,00,000	17.10	15,10,00,000
Cannabis	0.90	20,00,000	3.30	2,90,00,000
Opioids	1.80	40,00,000	2.10	1,90,00,000
Sedatives	0.58	20,00,000	1.21	1,10,00,000

Inhalants	1.17	30,00,000	0.58	60,00,000
Cocaine	0.06	2,00,000	0.11	10,00,000
ATS	0.18	4,00,000	0.18	20,00,000
Hallucinogens	0.07	2,00,000	0.13	20,00,000

The table above provides estimated (not identified) number of adults and children who are users (not 'addicted' to) of various substances in India on the basis of findings of National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India.

(b) & (c): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated and is implementing 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 peer led interactions intervention programmes for vulnerable adolescent and youth in the community, provisioning of treatment facilities and capacity building of service providers.

The Ministry has also initiated focused intervention programmes in vulnerable districts across the country with an aim to increase community participation and public cooperation in the reduction of demand for dependence-producing substances and promote collective initiatives and self-help endeavour among individuals and groups vulnerable to addiction or found at risk.

The Ministry has launched Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan in 272 most affected districts with focus on institutional support, community outreach and awareness generation.

These districts are identified based on inputs from Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and findings of Comprehensive National Survey done by Ministry. Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan in 272 districts is from 15th August 2020 to 31st March 2021. Abhiyaan Action Plan has the following components:-

- i. Awareness generation programmes in the community and Youth in particular
- ii. Focus on Higher Educational institutions, University Campuses and Schools
- iii. Community outreach and identification of dependent population
- iv. Focus on Treatment facilities in Hospital settings
- v. Capacity Building Programmes for Service Providers
