GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1480

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 07th DECEMBER, 2021/AGRAHAYANA 16,1943 (SAKA) SMUGGLING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

1480. SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any joint effort with the neighbouring nations to check the smuggling of narcotic drugs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of narcotics in the border areas adjoining Pakistan, Nepal and Tibet; and
- (d) the action plan formulated by the Government to check the increasing consumption of narcotic drugs amongst the youth?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

- (a) & (b) The Government is making various joint efforts with the neighbouring countries to check smuggling of Narcotic drugs. Some of them are detailed below:-
 - (i) Signing of Bilateral Agreements and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Maldives and Bhutan on prevention and combating illicit trafficking in Narcotics Drugs, Psychotropic substances and chemical precursors, as well as related offences and security cooperation.

- (ii) Government of India is providing technical assistance to the bordering countries especially Myanmar, by providing satellite imageries of areas under illicit cultivation of opium poppy and subsequent destruction thereof.
- (iii) Director General Level talks with neighbouring nations such as Myanmar, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, etc., are held regularly to resolve various issues on drug trafficking having international ramifications.
- (iv) Intelligence Sharing and Controlled Delivery Operations are being carried out with neighbouring countries.
- (c)The following measures have been taken to prevent smuggling along the border areas:
 - (i) Detailed vulnerability mapping of Border, deployment of additional manpower by different forces manning the border and use of special surveillance equipment;
 - (ii) Round the clock surveillance of the border through patrolling, laying nakas, installation of border fence and flood lights, introduction of force multipliers and Hi-tech surveillance equipments such as Hand Held Thermal Imager (HHTI), Night Vision Device (NVD),

Long-Range Reconnaissance and Observation System (LORROS),

Battle Field Surveillance Radar (BFSR), Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), etc;

- (iii) Up-gradation of intelligence network and sensitization of field formations is being done on regular basis.
- (iv) Establishment of observation posts, area domination patrols along the border, use of water craft and boats for domination of riverine areas of International Border, etc.
- (d) The Government is taking sustained and coordinated action for arresting the problem of substance abuse among the youth. This includes:
 - (i) Launching of Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) in 272 vulnerable districts. Under this, a massive community outreach is being done involving youth volunteers.
 - (ii) Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCAs) are being run for treating the drug users and to provide services of preventive education, awareness generation, motivational counseling, detoxification/de-addiction, after care and re-integration into the social mainstream.

- (iii) Community based Peer led Intervention (CPLI) Centers are in operation with focus on vulnerable and at risk children and adolescents. Under this, peer educators engage children for awareness generation and life skill activities.
- (iv) Setting up and maintaining Outreach and Drop In Centers (ODICs) to provide safe and secure space for substance users, with provision of screening, assessment and counseling. It also provides referral and linkage to treatment and rehabilitation services for substance dependence.
- (v) Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) also facilitates awareness programme in schools/colleges/other educational institutes all over India. NCB officials visit de-addiction centers to spread awareness about health issues related to drug abuse.
- (vi) International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th

 June is organized every year to spread awareness among the general public about the ill effects of drug abuse and drug trafficking through various social media platforms by way of Audio/Video messages of eminent personalities from the field of Politics, Bureaucracy, Sports, Films, Music etc. and also through Telecom Service Providers, FM radios, Television Channels, etc.

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(vii) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E) and National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) with the assistance of NCB spread awareness against drug abuse and protect the youth, especially the children from falling prey to the drug menace. NCPCR formulated a "Joint Acton Plan on Prevention of Drugs and Substance Use among Children and Illicit Trafficking" which was launched on 08.02.2021.
