

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4050**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH MARCH, 2025/ CHAITRA 4, 1947 (SAKA)

USE OF DRUGS AMONG STUDENTS

4050. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the use of drugs among students including medical students;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported in the country during the last ten years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has noticed that criminal tendency among students is increasing due to the use of drugs, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to stop/control the use of drugs by the students; and

(e) whether the Government has any plan to start more awareness programmes in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) & (b): As a part of the National Survey on Extent and pattern for Substance Use in India, in order to understand the pattern and profile of substance use among school and college students across the country, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJ&E) conducted a multi-site survey in 2018-2019 as a Focused Thematic Study, "Substance Use

among Students”. In this focused thematic study, ten different locations from across the country were selected as survey sites.

Rates of Substance use in the sample of school students (Sample size- 5920)

Class of substance	Number (and percentage) of sample reported using in past 12 months
Cannabis	120 (2.0)
Sedatives	38 (0.6)
Opioids	163 (2.8)

Rates of Substance use in the sample of college students (N-2533)

Substance	Number (and percentage) of sample reported using in past 12 months
Charas, Ganja	159 (6.3)
Opioids: Opium	9 (0.4)
Opioids: heroin	6 (0.2)
Ph. Opioids	40 (1.6)
Sedatives	37 (1.5)
Cocaine	12 (0.5)
Amphetamine	4 (0.2)
Hallucinogen	9 (0.4)

(c). No such specific information is available.

(d) & (e): The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is the nodal Department for drug demand reduction in the country. To tackle the issue of substance use, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing National Action Plan for Drug Demand reduction (NAPDDR), a Centrally sponsored scheme under which following actions have been undertaken for rehabilitation and awareness of school children and minor youth:

- (i) Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) was launched on 15th August 2020 by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in 272 identified vulnerable district and has now been extended to all districts across the country. The initiative aims to raise awareness about substance abuse, with a special focus on higher educational institutions, university campuses and schools. It also emphasizes identifying dependent individuals, providing counseling and treatment facilities in hospitals and rehabilitation centers and conducting capacity-building programs for service providers.**

- (ii) So far, various on-ground activities under NMBA have sensitized over 14.79 crore people, including 4.96 crore youth and 2.97 crore women. The campaign has engaged over 4.16 lakh educational institutions, ensuring that its message reaches children and young people across the country. Additionally, more-than 10,000 dedicated Master Volunteers (MVs) have been identified and trained to further strengthen the movement.**
- (iii) Developed Navchetna Modules (A New Consciousness on Life Skills and Drug Education for School Children)- teacher training modules. The Navchetna module aims to increase awareness against drugs and promote education on life skills among students in schools.**
- (iv) 46 Community based Peer Led intervention (CPLI) centres are supported by MoSJ&E. These CPLIs focus on vulnerable and at risk children and adolescents to create awareness against drugs and teach life skills.**
- (v) A Toll-free Helpline for de-addiction, 14446 is being maintained for providing primary counselling and immediate referral services to the persons seeking help through this helpline.**
