

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.\*372**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025/ SRAVANA 28, 1947 (SAKA)**

**PRODUCTION AND TRADE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS**

**†\*372. DR. SAMBIT PATRA:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the illegal production and trade of drugs like Mephedrone;**
- (b) the number of production centres of the said drug exposed by law enforcement agencies in recent years;**
- (c) the quantum of Mephedrone and other drugs seized from such illegal drug production centres along with the number of persons arrested in this regard; and**
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to stop the operation of such illegal drug production centres?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO-\*372 FOR 19.08.2025 REGARDING PRODUCTION AND TRADE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS**

**(a) The Government of India is committed to prevent the illegal production and trade of drugs and its abuse. Various Central Agencies such as Narcotics Control Bureau, Customs, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Border Guarding Forces [Border Security Force (BSF), Assam Rifles, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) etc] and State Agencies (State Police/ Excise/ Forest Department) have been empowered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act- 1985 to have strict control over the movement of Narcotics and Psychotropic substances. The policy of the Government has been to promote the use of legitimate substances under NDPS for medical and scientific purposes and to prevent their diversion and illegal smuggling and misuse. In this regard, Government has taken various steps to prevent the illegal production and trade of drugs, some of which are mentioned below: -**

- (i) Constituted a 4-tier Narco-Coordination Centre (NCORD) mechanism which enables coordination among Central and State agencies.**
- (ii) Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) has been established in all States/UTs, which also serves as NCORD secretariat for local enforcement.**

- (iii) A Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) has been set up under the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to oversee significant drug seizure investigations.**
- (iv) A task force on Darknet and Crypto-Currency has been set up under the MAC mechanism with a focus on monitoring all platforms facilitating Narco-trafficking, sharing of inputs on drug trafficking amongst Agencies/MAC members, interception of drug networks, continuous capturing of trends, modus operandi & nodes with regular database updates and review of related rules & laws.**
- (v) Border Guarding Forces and Railway Protection Force are empowered under the NDPS Act for enforcement at borders and rail routes.**
- (vi) NCB collaborates with other agencies like Navy, Coast Guard, Border Security Force, and State ANTFs to carry out joint anti-drug operations.**
- (vii) Electronic scanning of consignments at ports is being implemented to detect drugs.**
- (viii) To enhance the capacity building, NCB regularly trains officers of Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (DLEAs).**

- (ix) Financial assistance is being provided to eligible States for strengthening their anti-narcotics units under the scheme “Assistance to States & UTs”.**
  - (x) National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-Offenders (NIDAAN) portal has been launched to support investigations and proactive policing.**
  - (xi) Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochna Kendra (MANAS)- A 24x7 toll-free helpline (1933) has been established to report drug-related issues via calls, SMS, chatbot, email, or web.**
  - (xii) Effort towards increased international cooperation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals is being regularly made.**
- (b) The number of clandestine laboratories busted by all Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (DLEAs) across the country as reported to Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) during last five years (2020 to 2024) are as under: -**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Clandestine Laboratories Busted (all Drugs) by all DLEAs in India</b>	<b>Mephedrone Laboratories Busted</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>

**Source: NCB**

**(c) The quantum of drugs (including Mephedrone) seized from such illegal drug production centres along with the number of persons arrested during last five years (2020 to 2024) are as under: -**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Quantity seized (in Kg)</b>	<b>No. of persons arrested</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>1616</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>2732</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>1698</b>	<b>40</b>

**Source: NCB**

**(d) Government has taken various steps to stop the operation of such illegal drug production centres, some of which are mentioned below: -**

**(i) Intelligence gathering and sharing mechanisms to identify and target networks involved in the illicit manufacture, trafficking, and distribution of synthetic drugs like Mephedrone has been intensified.**

- (ii) Clandestine laboratories engaged in the manufacture of Mephedrone are being proactively identified and dismantled through coordinated operations.**
- (iii) Financial investigations are being conducted against drug traffickers under Chapter V-A of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.**
- (iv) Red Flag Indicators (RFI) for sensitisation of field officers regarding clandestine laboratories involved in manufacturing of Synthetic Drugs including Mephedrone was shared by NCB with States/Union Territories.**
- (v) A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been shared by the Ministry of Home Affairs with the Director Generals of Police (DGsP) of all States and Union Territories to address the issues relating to Precursor Chemical trafficking including red flag indicators, clandestine laboratories and diversion of Controlled Substances and Precursors.**
- (vi) NCB in collaboration with Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), United States of America (USA) is conducting training programmes for all DLEAs on “Clandestine Laboratories and Precursor Chemical Diversion”.**