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Title: Need to take Government and Social initiatives to remove drugs abuse from the society.

**SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI):** Thank you very much, Sir. The Hon. Prime Minister in his recent 'Mann Ki Baat', talked about *nasha*, the impact of drug abuse and its impact on the family system, how families are breaking down and getting destroyed.

I just want to bring to your notice that we are genuinely faced with a genuine crisis in which 271 million, as per UNODC report, are suffering, which makes it 5.5 per cent of global population. India is especially vulnerable for the simple reason that we fall in the area between Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle, so we are a route to smuggling of drugs, especially coming out of Pakistan, Afghanistan and other areas and we are a consumer country as well. Our youth, especially children, are getting impacted because of this vulnerability. So, we need to set-up a task force. That task force has to be of the lawmakers and law enforcers.

The methodology of selling drugs is also changing. Darknet is getting used. The biggest beneficiary of this system is the terrorists, non-State actors and others like Taliban and all.

In order to control this entire system, the amendment in the NIA Act has been very useful. But I especially call upon my fellow hon. Members of Parliament that we all must set-up a task force and be a part of this initiative to remove drugs from our society and take this forward

not just as a Government initiative, but as a social initiative. Thank you very much.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Shrimati Rekha Verma and Kunwar Pushendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi.