

## **Regarding prevalence of drug abuse in Dakshina Kannada-laid**

**CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA (DAKSHINA KANNADA):** I would like to bring to the notice of the Government regarding the rising number of drug abuse among youth in Dakshina Kannada and dangers thereof. News Headlines every month signal the rampant movement of drugs in the city given the high vulnerability for trade of the same with the city being a hub due to various higher educational institution that sees lakhs of students from across countries. Last year there were instances of even medical college students being accused of indulging in the same. While Police crackdowns have led to arrests, the movement and supply doesn't show a decrease as there is news of even younger school children taking to such substances. Young minds with high disposable income has made them vulnerable targets and there have also been reports on how in the recent years, in Dakshina Kannada, girl students are being used as peddlers. An average of 60 persons per month visit the drug de-addiction centres in Mangaluru city. This is a very serious concern and we need urgent action dismantling the source of this menace as it is also an important concern for national security with handlers of this cartel using this drug trade to fund terror activity.