

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3687

ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008

REHABILITATION CENTRES

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dutt Smt. Priya Sunil;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to launch drug awareness campaign among the young people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that certain commonly used medicines and chemicals like cough syrups, paints etc. are being used as drugs, particularly by the young generation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether street children and children with disabilities are more vulnerable to such drug abuse
- (f) if so, the steps taken/being taken to protect such children from drug abuse;
- (g) whether the Government proposes to make a special provision for Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Government of India under its Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse is providing financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations for running Counselling Centres and De-addiction centres for drug abuse awareness generation for all categories of people including youth. A National Drug Awareness Campaign is launched every year on the occasion of International Day against Illicit Trafficking and Drug Abuse on 26th June and special camps are organized for making people aware about the ill effects of drug abuse. Similarly, information, education and communication materials have been developed to impart knowledge about drugs through radio, television, newspapers and other mass media.

(c) & (d) There is no authentic data to conclusively indicate that certain commonly used medicines and chemicals like cough syrups, paints ect. are being used as drugs, particularly by young generation. Also in this regard no survey has been conducted.

(e) & (f) There is no specific data either for street children or disabled children. On the face of it, street children are more vulnerable than children living in homes. However, the same cannot be said for vulnerability of disabled children. The Ministry of Women and Child Development are implementing an Integrated Programme for Street Children under which one of the components aims at reducing the incidence of drug and substance abuse among children.

(g) & (h) The Ministry has been implementing the Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse through its De-addiction Centre, which itself are working as Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts.