GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4412 ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009 SMUGGLING OF DRUGS Ananth Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that certain parts of the country is being used as transit point for drug smuggling;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that consumption of drugs is on the rise;

(d) if so, the details of the assessment made in this regard; and

(e) the action proposed/taken by the Government to combat and curb drug consumption and smuggling?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): India's geographical location contributes significantly to illicit transit trafficking of drugs. Towards India's West is Golden Crescent, the region comprising Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. Afghanistan is an internationally acknowledged source of opium and opium based drug like heroin. The Afghan heroin enters India through land borders of Pakistan adjoining Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. Hashish and Ganja sourced to Nepal is also trafficked through into Nepal Border. Small amounts of drugs are also trafficked along the Bangladesh and Indo-Myanmar Border.

(c)& (d): No, Madam. Government does not have any authentic report to indicate that consumption of drugs is on the rise.

(e): The action taken by the Government to combat and curb drug consumption and smuggling is at Annexure-I.