

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:77

ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010

ALCOHOL RELATED DISEASES

Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar;Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made/commissioned a detailed study/ report on the total revenue generated from alcohol sale across the country and the expenditure/amount spent on treating various diseases caused by consumption of alcohol across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to commission such a detailed study so as to make a comparative assessment as drinking especially among young people is one of the single biggest public health issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 77 FOR 12TH NOVEMBER, 2010

Health is a State subject. In the Central Government, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is the nodal agency responsible for implementation of various demand reduction and rehabilitation programmes concerning alcohol abuse in the country. This Ministry has been implementing a Scheme of Assistance for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse for identification, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation of drug and alcohol addicts through voluntary and other eligible organizations.

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is aware of its role relating to health aspects of the alcohol abuse. Accordingly, it has taken an initiative in the direction of evolving a national policy to control the consumption of alcohol and has got the following resolution passed in the meeting of the Central Council on Health and Family Welfare held on the 30th January, 2009:

"Resolved that a national policy be framed to control the consumption of alcohol in order to contain the harmful physiological, social and economic effects on society in general and youth in particular. Further resolved that though alcohol happens to be on the State list (List II) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, the Health and Family Welfare Ministry of India be entrusted with the task to develop such a national policy and to implement the same in consultation with the State Governments in the interest of public health of the nation."

In pursuance of this resolution, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has started consultations with various stakeholders and for this purpose it has also circulated a draft concept document.