

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3042
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
AMENDMENT OF NDPS ACT, 1985
Semmalai Shri S.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has plans to incorporate stringent provisions in the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) and (b): The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 already has stringent provisions of punishment for contravention relating to narcotic drugs & psychotropic substances. Where the contravention in respect of such drugs & substances involves small quantity` the punishment involved is rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both; where the contravention involves quantity lesser than `commercial quantity` but greater than `small quantity` the punishment is rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend up to ten years and with fine which may extend up to one lakh rupees and when the contravention involves `commercial quantity` the punishment is rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than ten years but which may extend to twenty years and shall also be liable to a fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to two lakh rupees. There is no proposal to amend these penal provisions of the NDPS Act, 1985.