

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:954
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011
SETTING UP OF DRUG DE-ADDICTION CENTRES
Mahato Shri Narahari;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

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

- (a) whether there has been an alarming rise in drug addiction amongst youth in the country including bordering States like West Bengal;
- (b) if so, whether any schemes are being proposed by the Union Government to assist the State Governments to deal with this menace by opening drug de-addiction centres in the seriously affected districts; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check infiltration of drugs into the States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(SHRI D. NAPOLEON)

- (a) There is no authentic data to conclusively indicate about the number of addicted youth in the country including bordering States like West Bengal.
- (b) Ministry of Social Justice is implementing the "Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse" under which financial assistance is provided to Non Governmental and other eligible organizations for running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA's), which provide services such as awareness generation, counseling, treatment, rehabilitation & social re-integration of drug dependent persons. At present, 416 IRCA's are being provided financial assistance under the scheme.
- (c) The Government has taken the following steps to check infiltration of drugs into the States: -
 - (i) Organizing various demand reduction activities including awareness campaigns against the menace of drug abuse in association with State Governments and NGOs etc.
 - (ii) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import, export points and known drug routes.
 - (iii) The Border Guarding Forces like Border Security Force (BSF) & Sashastra Sena Bal (SSB) have been empowered under Narcotics Drugs Psychotropic Substance (NDPS) Act, 1985 to check and detect the illicit trafficking of narcotics, drugs and psychotropic substances on borders.
 - (iv) Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.
 - (v) Apex level coordination committee (headed by Chief Secretaries/Senior Secretary) has been constituted in the States to review the drug situation and take necessary steps to enforce the NDPS Act.
 - (vi) Financial assistance is being provided to eligible States for strengthening their anti narcotics units.
 - (vii) Monetary reward for information leading to seizures of Narcotics drugs to informants and officers.