

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1352
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
NDPS ACT
Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to bring more chemicals under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is mandatory for the traders and manufacturers to register with the Narcotic Control Bureau; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Apart from narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 also covers certain precursor chemicals, called `controlled substances` under the Act, which are used to manufacture certain narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Presently, only five precursor chemicals have been declared as `controlled substance` under the NDPS Act, 1985, while the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988, to which India is a party, lists 23 such chemicals. Accordingly, the regulation covering such precursor chemicals is presently under review, to examine the feasibility of extending its scope to more such chemicals, with varying degrees of control.

(c) & (d) Presently, it is not mandatory for traders and manufacturers to register with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). However, in the review of the regulation pertaining to precursor chemicals, it is proposed to bring about varying degrees of control measures, inter alia including, license for manufacture and trading of a limited number of controlled substances to be given by the NCB. The proposed amendments are being explored to ensure balance between the interests of user industry and effective measures to prevent diversion for illicit use.