

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3659

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013

SURVEY ON DRUG ABUSE

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

- (a) whether the findings of the survey carried out by the National Sample Survey organisation did not give a realistic picture of the prevalence of drug abuse in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to conduct an advanced pilot survey on the extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in some States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to check cases of drug abuse in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) & (b) A pilot survey on drug abuse was carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) in the cities of Amritsar, Imphal and Mumbai in March-April, 2010. It was observed from the draft report of the Pilot Survey that it did not give the realistic picture of the prevalence of drug abuse due to the following reasons:-

# Sample size was very small

# The critical age-group viz. 12-18 was missed out

# Respondents were drawn from only four 'frames' viz. (a) who availed of de-addiction facilities, (b) frequenting dens, (c) red light areas and (d) prisons. Potential addicts in several other 'frames' were left out

# Concerned State governments and District administration were not involved

(c) & (d) NSSO has been requested to carry out an advanced pilot survey in the States of Punjab, Manipur and Maharashtra.

(e) To tackle the problem of drug abuse, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse under which financial assistance is provided to non-governmental organizations, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies, Nehru Yuva Sangathan, etc. for running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA) on the basis of the recommendation of State level Grant-in-aid Committee along with satisfactory inspection report furnished by the State Government.

Further, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has undertaken following activities to check the drug abuse in the country through awareness generation:-

I) An awareness generation campaign about the ill effects of alcoholism and drug abuse has been undertaken in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. NYKS through its network of volunteers has created awareness among the youths in 3750 villages of Punjab and Manipur through door to door campaign, wall writings, candle march, poster campaigns, street plays etc.

II) An awareness generation programme in collaboration with National Bal Bhavan, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resources Development has also been undertaken. National Bal Bhavan has conducted a series of activities like poster making, creative writing, lecture, rally, nukkad natak etc at local, zonal and national level among the children of the age group of 12 to 16 years.

III) On 26th June every year International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed to generate awareness against drug abuse. On this occasion special campaign is undertaken to spread awareness through advertisements, SMS messages, workshops etc. State Governments are also requested to observe this day in a befitting manner.

IV) The National Institute of Social Defence in collaboration with Regional Resource and training Centres (RRTCs) and other collaborating partners organizes sensitization programmes in Schools and Colleges.

