

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4183  
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013  
NARCOTICS CONTROL  
Mani Shri Jose K.

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any international body / board on narcotics has made recommendation relating to control of narcotics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by the Government thereon; and
- (c) the efforts being made by the Government for fighting the drug menace in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P.CHIDAMBARAM)

(a) & (b) The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), created under the Single Convention on Narcotics Drugs, 1961, had undertaken a Mission to India in during December 13-17, 2010 and made a few recommendations, inter alia including (i) strengthening the national drug control system, (ii) conducting national survey of drug abuse, (iii) expanding the drug demand reduction activities, (iv) strengthening the supply reduction activities, (v) expanding the scope of national control to more precursor chemicals, (vi) rationalizing access to opioids for medical uses, and (vii) improving the collection of statistics on trade and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. A `Plan of Action` has been drawn to implement the recommendations of the INCB, which has been added to the National Policy on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to counter the drug menace in general. As a part of legislative measures, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 has been enacted, which provides for stringent penalties for illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. A number of agencies of both Central and State Governments have been empowered to enforce the provisions of the Act. To reduce supply of drugs, these enforcement agencies have adopted various measures, inter alia including, (i) intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes, (ii) strict surveillance and enforcement at entry /exit points of the border, (iii) strengthening of the intelligence system, and (iv) bilateral / multilateral cooperation with other countries for sharing of information on illicit trafficking. To reduce demand for drugs, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely, Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse to create awareness and educate people about the ill-effects of drug abuse on the individual, family, workplace, and society at large.