

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:119

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015

PREVENTION OF ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

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

- (a) whether cases of alcoholism and drug abuse, especially amongst the youths, have increased across the country;
- (b) if so, the estimated number of alcohol and drug abusers reported in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether incidents of suicides related to alcohol/drug abuse have also been reported, if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the action plan/scheme being implemented by the Government for prevention of alcoholism and drug abuse including suicides related to such abuse; and
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to revise the said scheme/ formulate a rehabilitation scheme to curb suicides related to alcohol/drug abuse and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI THAWAAR CHAND GEHLOT)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question 119 for answer on 3.3.2015 by SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI and SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA on Prevention of alcoholism and Drug Abuse

(a) & (b) There is no authentic data regarding the current number of alcohol and drug abusers across varied age groups in the country. In a National Survey conducted by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, for the year 2000-2001 (report published in 2004), it was estimated that about 732 lakh persons in India were users of alcohol and drugs. Of these 87 lakh used cannabis, 20 lakh used opiates and 625 lakh were users of alcohol. About 26% of cannabis users, 22% opiates users and 17% of users of alcohol were found to be dependent on/ addicted to them.

(c) No incident of suicides related to alcohol/drug abuse has been reported to this Ministry.

(d) For the purpose of drug demand reduction, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been implementing the Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse since 1985-86. Under this scheme, financial assistance up to 90% of the approved expenditure is given to Voluntary Organizations and other eligible agencies for setting up/running Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCA's). In the case of North-Eastern States, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir, the quantum of assistance is 95% of the total admissible expenditure. The Scheme at present provides financial support mainly for the following items:

i) Awareness and Preventive Education ii) Drug Awareness and Counselling Centres(CC) iii) Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA's)iv) Workplace Prevention Programme (WPP) v) De-addiction Camps (ACDC) vi) NGO forum for Drug Abuse Prevention vii) Innovative Interventions to strengthen community based rehabilitation viii) Technical Exchange and Manpower development programmeix) Surveys, Studies, Evaluation and Research on the subjects covered under the scheme.

The cost norms of this Scheme have been revised w.e.f. 1.1.2015.

(e) Not applicable in view of (c) above.