

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1333

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2015

Drug Addiction

Kataria Shri Rattan Lal

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched awareness campaign to check misuse of alcohol and drugs keeping in view the increasing number of cases of alcoholism and drug abuse in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether the cases of suicides and deaths due to drug abuse has reportedly increased in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has launched an Anti-Drugs campaign to bring back the misguided drug addicts/youths into the mainstream of the society; and
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) (c) and (d): This Ministry implements the Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse under which financial assistance is provided to NGOs /Voluntary organizations for running Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA's), organizing de-addiction camps and conducting awareness programmes, about the ill effect of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse to provide composite integrated services for the rehabilitation of addicts including the youth. The Department has taken the following steps to create awareness in society including the youth about the ill-effects of alcoholism and drug abuse:-

(i) International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking is observed on 26th June each year. As part of this programme, rallies, paintings, campaign, workshops, seminars etc are organized at the National as well as State level.

(ii) The National Institute for Social Defence, under the Ministry in collaboration with Regional Resource and Training Centres and other collaborating partners organizes sensitization programme in Schools and Colleges and skill development programme for its target group.

(iii) Information regarding ill-effects of alcoholism and drug abuse is also disseminated in regional languages through the All India Radio programme "Sanwari Jaye Jeevan Ki Rahen" and also through advertisements in news papers.

(iv) In the year 2011-12, the Ministry had conducted an awareness generation programmes in some districts of Punjab and Manipur through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), and Autonomous Organization under the Ministry of Youth Affairs. In October 2014, the Ministry has again assigned the task of awareness generation in Punjab to NYKS.

(v) This year the Ministry celebrated the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th June, 2015 by holding a function and organizing an exhibition to sensitize the people about the ill effects of drug abuse.

(vi) With a view to sensitize the people in North East and strengthen the drug awareness programme, the Ministry in collaboration with National Service Scheme (NSS) organized a Regional Workshop of NSS coordinators from 15.6.2015 to 17.6.2015 at Shillong. About 500 volunteers participated in the inaugural function and the workshop was attended by approximately 60 participants from North East, Odish and West Bengal.

(b) As per the data received from National Crimes Record Bureau under the Ministry of Home Affairs, a total of 4008, 4591 and 3647 suicides were committed due to Drug Abuse/addiction during 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively showing mixed trend . State/UT wise number of suicides due to drug abuse/addiction during 2012-14 is enclosed as Annexure.