

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:494

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014

DRUG ABUSE

Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Kumar Shri Ashwini

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

- (a) the estimated drug and alcohol users in the country, including the number of de-addiction and rehabilitation centres in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to conduct an advanced survey on the extent, pattern and trend of drug abuse among the citizens in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the action plan prepared/being prepared by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up more de-addiction and rehabilitation centres to eradicate drug abuse in the country, if so, the details thereof including the locations identified and the funds allocated for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question 494 for answer on 12.8.2014 by Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit and Shri Ashwini Kumar on Drug Abuse

(a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) had conducted a national survey on drug abuse in the country in the year 2000-2001. The Report was published in the year 2004 wherein it was estimated that about 732 lakh person in India were users of alcohol and drugs. However, the sample size being small (40,697 males only) vis-a-vis the country's population, the estimates can at best be taken as indicative only. A statement showing the number of de-addiction and rehabilitation centers in country, State/UT-wise is enclosed at annexure-I.

(b) & (c) The Ministry had requested the National Sample Survey office (NSSO) to conduct a nationwide survey on the extent, pattern and trend of alcohol and drug abuse. The NSSO had conducted a pilot survey to test the methodology on 'Prevalence and dependence on harmful drugs' with the support of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The survey was conducted in the three regions namely; Amritsar, Imphal and Mumbai, during March-April, 2010. The National Statistical Commission has set up a Working Group in October, 2013 to suggest a new methodology for conducting a nation-wide drug abuse survey after testing the methodological issues professionally through a fresh pilot survey in two districts each of Punjab and Manipur.

(d) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment provides financial assistance under the 'Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse' to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies etc. for, inter alia, running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitated Centres for Addicts (IRCAs). The proposals of NGOs for release of grant-in-aid are considered on the basis of recommendation of the State Governments/UTs, satisfactory Inspection Reports and completeness of the proposal in all respects as per the norms and guidelines of the Scheme. An amount of Rs 51 crore has been allocated in the Budget Estimates for the financial year 2014-15 for the Scheme.