

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:28
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Jena Shri Rabindra Kumar

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

- (a) the details of the schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Government for prevention of alcoholism and drug abuse along with the funds sanctioned and expenditure incurred in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any authentic data regarding the number of alcohol and drug abusers across varied age groups in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any National Policy for reduction of alcoholism and drugs abuse in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the rehabilitation measures including treatment and counselling of such persons adopted in this regard along with the number of beneficiaries and NGOs involved and the grants provided to them during the said period, State-wise?

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 28 for answer on 25.11.2014 by Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena and Shri B. Vinod Kumar on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

(a) 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 was revised thrice in 1994, 1999 and 2008 and 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 programme
- ix) Surveys, Studies, Evaluation and Research on the subjects covered under the scheme. Details of funds sanctioned & expenditure incurred under the Scheme during the last three years and current year is enclosed as Annexure-I.

(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) Yes, Madam. The Ministry has prepared a draft of the National Policy for Drug Demand Reduction, 2014 which has been uploaded

on the Ministry's website for obtaining comments & suggestions from all stakeholders. Key features of the National policy for Drug Demand Reduction are as follows:

Education & Awareness Building at all levels.

Treatment and Rehabilitation (whole person recovery).

Networking of Service Providers.

Capacity Building & Training of service providers in the field of drug with a view to build up skilled manpower.

Data Collection and Management.

Inter-Sectoral Collaboration and International Cooperation.

The policy also proposes a system of Accreditation of de-addiction Centres in order to standardise the treatment /facilities provided in coordination with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other stakeholders.

(d) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment recognizes drug abuse as a psycho- socio-medical problem, which can be best handled by adoption of a family/community-based approach by active involvement of NGOs/CBOs. The strategy for demand reduction is three pronged with the following:

- i. Awareness building and educating people about ill effects of drug abuse.
- ii. Community based intervention for motivational counselling, identification, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts, and
- iii. Training of volunteers/service providers and other stakeholders with a view to build up a committed and skilled cadre.

For the purpose of treatment and rehabilitation, the Ministry adopts Community based interventions to make positive behavioural changes among the drug addicts. The treatment services include detoxification, therapeutic services, residential facilities, outpatient treatment, etc. The Ministry provides support for the whole range of community based services for the identification, motivation, counselling, de-addiction, after care and rehabilitation for Whole Person Recovery (WPR) of addicts to make a person drug free, crime free and gainfully employed. All these interventions are taken through the Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drugs) Abuse.

The State wise number of beneficiaries under the Scheme during the last three years and the current year is at Annexure-II and the details of NGOs assisted during the said period is at Annexure-III.