

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4898  
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014  
DRUG TOURISM  
Mani Shri Jose K.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether instances of drug tourism have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to stop drug tourism?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): Narcotics Control Bureau(NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that no such instances of drug tourism have been reported. However, Travel for the purpose of obtaining or using drugs for recreational or personal use is often referred to as drug tourism. Drug tourism can also be viewed keeping in relation to use illicit substances while on a tour, at a particular destination in the nation. Drugs can be both legal as Pharmaceuticals and illicit such as Cocaine, Heroin or Hashish/Ganja etc. Tourist spots like Manali, Goa and Pushkar are supposedly drug tourism spots. Travellers supposedly visit Goa to get high at trance-music parties and use illicit drugs.

Ministry of Tourism has informed that specific complaint in this issue has not been received in the complaint cell of the Ministry.

(c): Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the following measures were taken to bring down/reduce crimes related to use of narcotic drugs within the country:

# Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts are taken along known drug routes.

# Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points.

# Improved co-ordination between various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.

# The Border Guarding Forces such as Coast Guard, Border Security Force (BSF) & Sashastra Seem Bal (SSB) have been empowered under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act for effective enforcement.

# Increased international co-operation, for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals.

# Training programmes are being conducted for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug menace.

# Awareness programmes are organized on regular basis for sensitizing the mass.

Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the following Training programmes were organized in Goa and Himachal Pradesh:

State 2011 2012 2013 2014 (upto Nov.)

Goa 2 4 6 10

Himachal Pradesh 1 1 1 31

Apart from the above training programmes, 27 awareness programmes in Goa and 31 awareness programmes in Himachal Pradesh were organized during the year 2014 (upto November).

Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the following efforts, with regard to the destruction of illicit Poppy and Cannabis, were made by various agencies:

In Acres

Himachal Pradesh 2011 2012 2013 2014 (Upto Nov)

Cannabis 2715 397 1763 16

Poppy 80.47 11.50 0.3114 7

Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue has informed the following inputs :

"Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 was framed taking into account India's obligation under the three (3) UN drug conventions viz. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 and the UN convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988 as well as Article 47 of the Constitution of India. This Act prohibit, except for medical or scientific purposes, the manufacture, production, trade, use etc. of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Act provides for stringent penalties/ rigorous provisions for consumption as well as for illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Both Central and State Governments have been empowered to enforce the provisions of the Act". These enforcement agencies have adopted the following measures:

# Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.

# Strict surveillance and enforcement at entry/exit points of the border.

# Strengthening of the intelligence system.

# Bilateral/multilateral cooperation with other countries for sharing of information on illicit trafficking.