

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) Final decision in the matter has not been taken by the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Steps to address problem of alcoholism

1527. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that women from every State and every community, Dalits Adivasis, minorities and so on suffer due to the prevalence of alcoholism which eats its way into precious family income and leads to domestic violence; and

(b) if so, how Government proposes to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the ill-effects of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) abuse on the individual, the family, the workplace and society at large and recognizes it as a psycho-social-medical problem.

This Ministry has been implementing a “Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse” by providing financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies etc. for running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centers for Addicts (IRCAs). This Ministry also undertakes various programmes to create awareness and educate people about the ill effects of alcoholism and drug abuse as stated below:

- (i) National Awards for outstanding services in the field of prevention of alcoholism and substance (drug) abuse are being conferred on 26th June every year, starting from 26th June, 2013 to the Individuals and Institutions to encourage them and recognize their efforts in preventing alcoholism and drug abuse. Further 26th June being the International Day against Drug Abuse, various rallies, painting competitions, campaigns, workshop, seminars etc. are organized at the national as well as at the State level.

- (ii) The Ministry conducted awareness generation programmes two States namely Punjab and Manipur during in the year 2011-12 and 2012-13. This programme was envisaged to cover 3000 villages in ten districts in the State of Punjab and 750 villages in seven districts in the State of Manipur. Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan through its network of volunteers at village level created awareness about the ill effects of alcoholism and substance (Drug) abuse among the rural masses. The addicts were identified and de-addiction camps were organized for these addicts.
- (iii) This Ministry, in collaboration with the National Bal Bhawan an autonomous organization under Ministry of Human Resources Development, had undertaken awareness generation programmes about the ill effects of alcoholism and drug abuse amongst the children of the age group of 12 to 16 years through its network of 155 Bal Bhavans and 77 Bal Kendras across the country through a series of activities like poster making, creative writing, lecture, rally, nuked natak etc. at local, zonal and national level during the last two years.

Central assistance to Maharashtra for scholarship to OBC students

1528. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the status of the proposal for release of central assistance under Post-Matric Scholarship for Other Backward Classes students of Maharashtra which is long pending before the Ministry;
- (b) the action taken on the proposal submitted to the Union Ministry for reimbursement of Rs. 1595.20 crores spent by Maharashtra Government during 2001-02 to 2011-12 under this scheme, as the aforesaid scheme is totally Centrally Sponsored Scheme; and
- (c) by when the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK) : (a) Central assistance under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to OBCs is released to State Governments