

**Female drug users**

1784. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry or any Ministry related agency has conducted any survey to determine the number of female drug users in India;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the survey and action taken in this regard; and
- (c) whether any treatment facilities are available for female drug users and if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment implements a “Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse” which provides financial assistance to eligible Non-Governmental Organisations, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies etc for running Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCAs) to provide composite/integrated services for the rehabilitation of addicts including female drug users.

The IRCAs provide the following services:

- (i) Preventive Education and Awareness generation
- (ii) Identification of addicts and motivational counseling to avail the services of IRCA
- (iii) Detoxification and Whole Person Recovery
- (iv) After care and follow-up
- (v) Care and support to the families of addicts and social re-integration of the addicts.

On an average about 250 IRCAs are assisted each year by this Ministry.

**Legislation on eradication of manual scavenging**

1785. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any plan to introduce a new legislation to eradicate manual scavenging in the country and rehabilitations of manual scavengers and their family members; and