

National level survey on drugs

1554. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made any attempt to assess the prevalence of drug/alcohol use in India;

(b) if so, whether there is any increase or decrease in the prevalence and how has the same been estimated;

(c) when the last survey was conducted by the Ministry regarding number of drugs addicts in the country; and

(d) if not, the reason for not conducting any national level survey on drugs despite Parliament Assurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) to (d) The last National Survey on the extent, pattern and trend of drug abuse was conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in the year 2000-2001 and its report was 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. However, the sample size being small (40,697 males within the age group of 12-60 years both in rural and urban areas) *vis-à-vis* the country's population, the estimates can at best be taken as indicative only. Thereafter, no National Survey on drug abuse has been conducted.

In 2007, the Ministry had requested National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to conduct a nationwide survey on extent, pattern and trend of alcohol and drug abuse. Accordingly, the NSSO had conducted a Pilot Survey in the cities of Amritsar, Imphal and Mumbai in March-April 2010. The report of the pilot survey was received from NSSO on 05.01.2011. On examination of the report of the pilot survey, certain issues relating to under estimation, non-coverage of certain age groups etc. were raised and a more comprehensive and extended pilot survey was suggested. The National Statistical Commission (NSC) in its meeting held on 06.09.2013 has observed that no purpose would be served by conducting the proposed advanced pilot survey and suggested that the methodology and the sampling design may be looked afresh. Thereafter, a Working Group was constituted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, with NSSO as nodal organization to devise the modalities of advanced pilot survey in the States of Punjab and Manipur. The report of the Working Group has been received. However, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme

Implementation has informed that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment can conduct the survey through the help of NGOs on the pattern of earlier pilot survey done in the year 2010. The NSSO would provide all the necessary support if required. The Ministry is in the process of finalizing an agency for conducting the National Survey.

Grants made by NSKFDC

1555. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various grants, subsidies soft loans or advances made under National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) for the last five years, State-wise;

(b) the various State channelizing agencies working under the NSKFDC; and

(c) the grants made by NSKFDC categorically under, education loan, term loan, Mahila Adhikarita Yojana, Mahila Samridhi Yojana, Micro Credit Finance, Sanitation Workers Rehabilitation Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) NSKFDC is an Apex Corporation under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. This Corporation has been providing concessional loan assistance for self employment ventures, education loan for pursuing higher studies and grant-in-aid for conducting Skill Development Training Programmes for upgrading the skills of the Safai Karamcharis, Scavengers and their dependants. The Schemes and Programmes of NSKFDC are being provided through State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) nominated by the States Governments/UT Administrations., Regional Rural Banks and Nationalized Banks across the country.

Details of Year-wise and State-wise release of loan and grant-in-aid during the last five years and current Financial Year 2015-16 (29.02.2016) are given in Statement-I and II (*See bleow*).

(b) The list of State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs), Regional Rural Banks and Nationalized Banks is given in Statement-III (*See bleow*).

(c) NSKFDC has been providing soft loans under these Schemes and not grants.

The Scheme-wise details of cumulative release of loans since inception of the Corporation (1997-98 to 2015-16 as on 29.02.2016) is as under:—