

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 693**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08TH FEBRUARY, 2023/ MAGHA 19, 1944 (SAKA)

UPGRADATION OF NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU (NCB)

693 SHRI JAGGESH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the increasing use of technology has given drug traffickers an edge, where they can receive orders on dark-net and order payments through cryptocurrencies;

(b) whether the prevailing narcotics use is emerging as national threat; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to upgrade Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) across the country to fight new challenges of rising drug proliferation?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a): The use of dark-net and crypto-currency for drug trafficking has been noticed in 38 cases by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in the last 03 years (2020-2022).

(b): As per the survey report of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment published in 2019, the consumption of drugs in India has increased as compared to survey report in 2004, which is a matter of concern.

(c): The Government of India has taken the following steps to upgrade Narcotics Control Bureau:

- (i) 419 new posts at various levels have been sanctioned.**
- (ii) 04 new Regional Offices at Amritsar, Guwahati, Chennai and Ahmedabad have been sanctioned.**
- (iii) 5 new Zonal Offices at Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), New Jalpaigudi (West Bengal), Agartala (Tripura), Pasighat/Lower Siang (Arunachal Pradesh) & Raipur (Chhattisgarh) have been sanctioned.**
- (iv) 12 existing Sub-Zones (Dehradun, Amritsar, Mandi, Ajmer, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar, Imphal, Goa, Mandsaur, Cochin, Madurai and Hyderabad) have been upgraded to Zonal level.**
