

DRUG ABUSE AMONG YOUTHS

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Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Drug Abuse Among Youths

Posted On: 10 DEC 2019 3:38PM by PIB Delhi

A National Survey to collect State wise Data on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use was conducted in the country during the year 2018. The report presents major findings of the survey in terms of proportion of Indian population in the group of 10-75 years using various substances and those affected by substance use disorders. As per the report, prevalence in percentage and estimated number of individuals who are currently users of various psychoactive substances (as per the estimated population in 2018) is given below.

National Crime Record Bureau under the Ministry of Home Affairs have informed that a total number of 874, 750 and 778 people have died during 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively due to drug overdose in the country. Out of which, 543, 493 and 471 people between the age group of 14 and 45 have died during 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively.

The National survey was conducted to generate estimates for eight categories of psychoactive substances: Alcohol, Cannabis, Opioids, Cocaine, Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS), Sedatives, Inhalants and Hallucinogens. As per the report, Alcohol is the most common psychoactive substance used by Indians. After Alcohol, Cannabis and Opioids are the next commonly used substances in India.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated and is implementing a National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) for 2018-2025. The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy. The activities under the NAPDDR, inter-alia, include awareness generation programmes in schools/colleges/Universities, workshops/seminars/with parents, community based peerled interactions intervention programmes for vulnerable adolescent and youth in the community, provisioning of treatment facilities and capacity building of service providers.

The Ministry also implements a "Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse" under which financial assistance is provided to eligible Non-Governmental Organizations based on the recommendations of State Governments/UT Administrations for running Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts to provide composite/integrated services for the rehabilitation of addicts including adolescents.

Substance	C h i l d r e n & Adolescents (10-17 years)		Adults (18-75 years)	
	Prevalence (in %)	Estimated no. of users	Prevalence (in %)	Estimated no. of users
Alcohol	1.30	30,00,000	17.10	15,10,00,000
Cannabis	0.90	20,00,000	3.30	2,90,00,000
Opioids	1.80	40,00,000	2.10	1,90,00,000
Sedatives	0.58	20,00,000	1.21	1,10,00,000
Inhalants	1.17	30,00,000	0.58	60,00,000
Cocaine	0.06	2,00,000	0.11	10,00,000
ATS	0.18	4,00,000	0.18	20,00,000
Hallucinogens	0.07	2,00,000	0.13	20,00,000

This information was given by Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Rattan Lal Kataria in a written reply in Lok Sabha today.

NB/SK/jk/SJ&E-1/10-12-2019

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