

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1246

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY, 2021/ MAGHA 20, 1942 (SAKA)

DRUG TRAFFICKING

1246. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to stop drug trafficking in the country from the infamous golden triangle and golden crescent during the last three years;
- (b) the details of the measures taken to increase the manpower and infrastructure of the Narcotics Control Bureau during the said period;
- (c) the details of the drug trafficking related crimes registered in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the last three years; and
- (d) whether there is an increase in drug trafficking cases during the said period and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Government of India has taken various steps to stop drug trafficking in the country which, inter-alia, are as under:-

- For coordination among various Central and State Agencies, the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) mechanism was set up by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in the year 2016 to conduct regular meetings with these agencies for effective Drug Law Enforcement. This NCORD system has been restructured into a 4 tier scheme up to district level by MHA on 29 July 2019 for better coordination.
- For monitoring the investigation of large seizure cases, a Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) with Director General (DG), Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) as its Chairman was set up by the Government of India on 19 July 2019.
- For digitization of pan-India drug seizure data, MHA has launched an eportal called 'Seizure Information Management System (SIMS)' in March, 2019 for all the drug law enforcement agencies under the mandate of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.
- Financial assistance under the scheme "Assistance to States for Narcotics Control" is provided by MHA to eligible States for strengthening their narcotic units.
- Border Security Force (BSF) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) have been empowered under the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS) for making interdiction of narcotic drugs at international border.

- Illicit cultivation is addressed through use of satellite imagery and subsequent destruction of such crops in coordination with States.
- As a part of International co-operation, India has signed 27 Bilateral Agreements, 16 Memoranda of Understanding with different countries for combating illicit trafficking of NDPS and chemical precursors as well as related offences.
- Director General Level Talks have been organized with neighboring countries such as Myanmar, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh etc to resolve various issues on drugs having international implications.
- NCB, India and Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC), Myanmar regularly holds Field Level Officer (FLO) Meetings on International Border to discuss and resolve the drug related issues pertaining to both countries.
- NCB also co-ordinates with various international organizations such as SAARC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk (SDOMD), Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS), Colombo Plan, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD), Bay of Bengal Initiative For Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Co-Operation (BIMSTEC), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) etc for sharing information and intelligence to combat trans-national drug trafficking.
- Coordination and sharing of intelligence with various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies of Centre like BSF, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Central Excise and Customs and those of state agencies like Police and State Excise.

(b) Government of India has taken measures from time to time to increase the manpower of Narcotics Control Bureau. In April 2017, 330 new posts were created in NCB.

(c) & (d) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is the Central Agency which compiles the data on crimes as reported by States and Union Territories and publishes the same in its annual publication "Crime in India". The latest published report is of the year 2019. No specific information is available with NCRB regarding drug trafficking related crimes in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, cases registered under the Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act during the year 2017, 2018 & 2019 in Delhi are 376, 507 & 712 respectively. Sharp vigil, effective surveillance, public cooperation, source-based intelligence, sensitization of field officials for better enforcement etc. have resulted in gradual increase in registration of number of drug trafficking related cases in Delhi.
