

Title: Regarding prevalence of drug related activities in various universities and educational institutions of Punjab

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH (LUDHIANA): I express my deep concern on the growing menace of drug peddling and drug consumption in the various Universities and other educational institutions of Punjab allegedly engineered by some of the foreign students especially from the African countries studying in these educational institutions. Punjab has been long suffering due to rampant drug abuse which is a grave public health problem, particularly, among the younger generation. Earlier, the border with Pakistan used to be the only route for supply of drugs. Increasingly, heroin and other synthetic drugs are being supplied by using African students studying in various Universities in Punjab for peddling the drug contrabands. I understand that the intelligence agencies had found that these students living in India and especially in Punjab have formed groups on social media. In many cases, it has been seen that conduits start living with these students and they get them into drug trade. I request the Government to counter this problem by development of a comprehensive strategy and increased surveillance on all such drug related activities of African students in Punjab though without unnecessarily creating any hassle for these students or creating any panic among them.