

**Regarding alleged rise in drug manufacturing and trafficking in Sangli district, Maharashtra-Laid**

**SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL (SANGLI):** I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the alarming rise in drug manufacturing and trafficking in Sangli district. Recently, authorities uncovered yet another large-scale mephedrone (MD) racket, the 14th such case in the district, indicating the district's emergence as a hub for this illegal trade. The easy availability of mephedrone poses a grave threat to children and youth. Scientific studies confirm that adolescent exposure to such synthetic drugs severely impairs memory, learning, and concentration. These effects are likely to contribute to a decline in Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) outcomes in the district. This crisis not only endangers public health and safety but also undermines educational progress, particularly in vulnerable communities. I, therefore, urge the Hon'ble Ministers of Home Affairs, Education, and Women & Child Development to launch a coordinated action plan involving strict law enforcement, awareness programmes in schools, rehabilitation initiatives, and targeted academic support for affected children. Such coordinated measures are essential to eradicate the menace, protect our youth, and ensure an enabling, drug-free learning environment.

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