

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2170
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2004
INCLUSION OF CHAPTER ON DRUG ADDICTION IN SCHOOL SYLLABUS
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to include a chapter on Drug Addiction in school syllabus as published in the `Hindustan` dated June 26, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken so far by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a), (b) & (c) Students at the Secondary/Higher Secondary school level are vulnerable to slipping into drug abusing behaviour due to various stress factors, peer influence, hormonal changes etc. It is felt that educating them on the ill effects of drug abuse, through appropriate inputs in the school curricula, can help reduce the numbers succumbing to this vice. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment as the nodal Ministry for prevention of alcoholism and substance abuse is in dialogue with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for including these inputs in the school curriculum. The Ministry also funds voluntary organizations that are running awareness programmes in the area of drug abuse prevention. These organizations cover schools and colleges under these programmes.