

Regarding drug menace in Sangli

SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL (SANGLI): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak. The 2019 National Survey on the Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India indicates that a significant number of people across the country have fallen prey to the clutches of substance abuse involving alcohol, cannabis, opium, and other narcotics. Today, an estimated 1.275 million young people have turned to substance abuse. Crime rates are on the rise; in Dhambi village within my constituency, a group of young men, under the influence of narcotics, murdered an elderly man by striking him on the head with a stone. Through the Union Ministry of Social Justice, I submit the following demand: while de-addiction centers have indeed been established, their current capacity is insufficient; therefore, the number of de-addiction centers in my Sangli constituency must be increased.

Furthermore, as there are currently no dedicated addiction treatment facilities in my district, I request that steps be taken to establish such centers as well. Restrictions must also be imposed on the sale and availability of narcotics within the vicinity of schools. Moreover, if proper guidance and counselling are provided to both adolescents and young children, this menace of substance abuse can effectively be curbed. Thank you.