

THE JURAT INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL**DRUG ABUSE AND IT'S ILLICIT TRAFFICKING*****SANJHALI BAJAJ******DESIGNATION: STUDENT (1ST YEAR BALLB)******POSTAL ADDRESS: 297, SALVATION ARMY ROAD,******CIVIL LINES, BAREILLY******PHONE: 7830357118******EMAIL: bajajsanjhali@gmail.com*****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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ABSTRACT

The knowledge of drugs is as old as man himself. From the beginning of human advancement, man has endeavored to discover cures against various sicknesses whether it's physical or mental. And this urge to find the cure leads to drug abuse and addiction which thereby leads to anxiety, depression, and euphoria. *According to the World Drug Report 2019: 35 million people worldwide suffer from drug use disorders while only 1 in 7 people receive treatment and the drug usage number in India has spiked up by 30%.* This statement proves the fact that Drug Abuse is one of the major social problems in India. And to make people more aware about this social issue is the purpose of this paper.

Drug abuse and its illicit trafficking lead to a negative impact on societies and communities as it causes economic setbacks, social unrest, increased rates of crime, domestic abuse, and

increasing cases of HIV and AIDS and consequences on environment, military, health, and on sovereignty and political stability of India. Rather than providing the addicts with proper treatment society start to deteriorate their quality of life with discriminatory acts and abuses.

This article deals with solutions to such problems and the available remedies which can be applied. The information in this article is based on the studies of various authors and researchers taking into consideration the drug abusers and traffickers in India. The reasons for such a significant rise in its consumption also forms a germane part of this research paper.

By adopting an evidence-based public health approach it's now time to prevent drug initiation or escalation from use to disorder. Thereby Drug abuse is a socio-cultural issue that needs our immediate attention if we want to preserve our social and cultural values.

INTRODUCTION

The Indian civilization has advanced through the ages and developments have taken place in different fields. And with the social reforms comes the socio-cultural issues which are to be tackled and dealt with. **Drug Abuse and Illicit trafficking** is one such issue India is facing.

The first International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was observed by the UN General Assembly on June 26, 1987, which verifies that this issue has lived long. Illicit drug use, additionally called drug abuse or drug addiction, is a sickness that influences an individual's cerebrum and behavior and prompts an inability to control the utilization of a legitimate or unlawful medication or medicine. Substances, for example, liquor, weed, and nicotine additionally are viewed as drugs. When you are addicted, you may keep utilizing the medication in spite of the damage it causes. Such dependency on the drugs is filled with darkness, destruction, and devastation. The risk of addiction and how fast you become dependent on it depends on the drug you are consuming. A few drugs, for example, opioid painkillers, have a higher danger and cause fixation more rapidly than others.

Due to India's geo-strategic location between the two major opium production regions, The Global Crescent and The Global Triangle. Being sandwiched both from the west and the east between the major drugs producing regions, India becomes more susceptible to the trafficking of drugs. This poses a threat to our border and national security. Not only this socio-cultural issue is considered a menace to our youth but also it is a harbinger of HIV-AIDS.

Police have found cases of drugs being trafficked in carrots, coke, and even in kinder joy surprise gifts. Similarly, cases of drugs getting caught were earlier reported in June this year when drums jam-packed with drugs were found floating on the Indian shores. The lockdown

caused due to Covid-19 led to an increase in demand for drugs and thereby the illicit trafficking took another turn. The drug dealers started to take more risks and export it in the guise of various essential commodities.

Drug abuse has several physical and mental health problems like depression, anxiety, liver diseases, kidney problems, heart issues, and so on. The detoxing treatment is even more life-threatening as the addicts lose their conscience and even commit suicides. There have been approximately 7900 suicide cases due to drugs out of which 95% were male. They start suffering financially as they spend their money on buying drugs first and then staying at rehab centers to get a cure which in turn makes them jobless.

The theme for International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, 2020 was “Better knowledge for better care”. This theme promotes the idea to spread awareness among the people. In synopsis, India has found a way to address addictions to drugs. In spite of the fact that the administration has an over-incorporating diagram, committed workforce, and several devoted projects and arrangements, there is a need to improve the current projects (to address the neglected necessities), to have a planned exertion between Ministries, acquiring consistency at the strategy level, to settle on logically educated decisions and to prevent the traffickers from supplying.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Beholding the surge in the usage of drugs in India, Shamani Joshi, 2019 interviewed many people to find the reason behind this. In this survey rising she found out unemployment is one of the reasons which forces people to get engaged in drugs to relieve their stress and as some of them are cheaper in cost it doesn't put financial pressure on addicts. She further added that even people who are unemployed get addicted to it as they are under stress and want to feel euphoric after a busy day. According to her survey, media has played a huge role in its surge as “Smoking weed on-screen is the new smoking cigarette”. She added that more the amount of awareness more will be its usage and seeing the trend in the world India is not going to stay behind.

Enisha Sarin, Luke J. Samson, and Michael D. Sweat, 2020 in their research paper mentioned how the quality of life of addicts is affected in society. These people go through physical and verbal abuse, arrests, imprisonments without proper information, and their families abandoned them. Specifying the injecting drug users they added that how the addicts use the same needles

which serve as a path of causing HIV and also getting engaged in unsafe sexual activity which leads to AIDS.

The book Indian Culture mentioned in Chapter 20 how the people who engage in drug abuse need medical and psychological help. The parents need to be kind and understanding to their children especially during their transition from childhood to adolescence to adulthood as they are curious about exploring the world. They want the support of their elders or friends to come out of this chronic disease but instead, parents start making their life more vulnerable by abandoning them.

The Covid-19 had the same impact on the drug market as the 2008 economic crisis but seeing its rising demand in lockdown traffickers is ready to take risks and sell it at high prices.

In 2009, the estimated 210 million users represented 4.8 percent of the global population aged 15–64, compared with the estimated 269 million users in 2018, or 5.3 percent of the population. These statistics clearly the pattern of population growth according to the United Nations World Drug Report 2020. Drug usage is higher in urban areas as the disposable income of the society allows them to purchase drugs conveniently.

In the report by Current Affairs Review, 2020 narcotic trafficking is termed as a crime that poses a severe threat to the national security of India. India's juxtaposition to the Golden Crescent and Golden triangle which are the two largest opium-producing regions in the world is making India a hub for transit and destination of a drug. The growing smugglers should be a topic of concern for both the state and the central governments. Ministries of Health, as well as Social Justice, should generate more rehab centers with better facilities, generate employment, provide education about it, and should make more people aware of its harm to society.

“Drug abuse is not a victimless crime”, mentioned by John Gillen 2019. He said that drug addicts think that they are not causing any harm to society but in reality, they are hurting their family. He considers drug addiction as a brain illness as they do not want to break the laws but their addiction is far more painful than the laws as it causes trauma, depression, pain, and bereavement. Also, sometimes when patients are prescribed mild drugs for their treatment brings them a step closer to intaking more drugs to cure their pain. They start taking stronger drugs when the mild one loses their effect on them and thereby leads to the purchase of illegal drugs.

“India is one of those places where an addict could easily procure injectable buprenorphine for intoxication, but the same person would find it very difficult to get buprenorphine tablets for the purpose of treatment,” Atul Ambekar said. India spends 3.6 % of its GDP on medicine

which is way lower than other countries. Thus, the issue of drug abuse brings us close to another prevailing problem in the country which should be looked upon.

Mohini Daljit Singh, 2020 said in her interview by the UNODC that approximately one to three percent of the population in most states of India are on drugs in comparison to Europe which is 0.1 to 0.2%, which shows the grave picture of this problem. She mentioned that the greatest challenge in defeating this menace is the 'denial'. The communication gap within the families gives it a platform to flourish where it can be nipped in the bud. Also, if a woman is involved in it then it becomes a bigger stigma. The people start engaging in it when they start feeling a gap which they need to fill be it love or be it hunger.

All these reviews including articles, interviews, journals, research papers, and books agree on the same fact that drug abuse and its illicit trafficking are one of the socio-cultural problems which need to be tackled.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Debasish Basu, professor of psychiatry at Chandigarh's Postgraduate Institution of Medical Education and Research, called injecting drug users the "marginalized of the marginalized," noting that they are often stereotyped as "untreatable, untrustworthy, hopeless, dangerous, petty criminals" even by other drug abusers.

In regards to this comment, we can say that the non-acceptance of this menace and the denial that it could happen to our closed ones too is what which is needed to be rectified. More conversation, communication, and acceptance of the fact are required to lessen the surge of it. Increasing awareness about drugs can also be considered as a reason for an uprise in the number of people consuming it. Movies like Uda Punjab and Kabir Singh showed both the pros and cons of the consumption of drugs. How they are termed as 'guilty pleasure' just because they relieve our busy day stress. When the youth see something virtually their willingness to seek experiences of that pleasure increases which leads to them getting involved in such activities. Its consumption is found more in metropolitan areas as the purchasing power of the people allows them to consume these substances without putting a financial burden on them.

Drug abuse serves as an umbrella to other problems like the relationship between drug abuse and families, health, education, environment, crime, corruption, and dangers for the civil society.

Even though families impact forming the mentalities, values, and conduct examples of youngsters and consequently preventing substance misuse, peer groups regularly demonstrate to have an even more grounded influence. The negative impact of companions seems to increment when guardians surrender their conventional parental jobs.

These drugs impact the health of the person. The substances most regularly connected with drug-related deaths are heroin and other narcotics, cocaine, and, less significantly, barbiturates and amphetamine-type energizers, remarkably methamphetamine. Contingent upon the measurements, substances, for example, benzodiazepines, psychedelic drugs furthermore, cannabis negatively affect wellbeing. These substances don't typically cause demise straightforwardly however they might be related to lethal mishaps.

Even though schooling and drug abuse regularly give off an impression of being in a roundabout relationship, it is by and large accepted that schooling has a significant purpose of intercession for the anticipation of medication misuse. Younger students who use medication frequently experience the ill effects of the impedance of transient memory and other faculties noticed tracking ability and perceptions, distraction with obtaining drugs, unfavorable enthusiastic and social turn of events, and accordingly by and large impeded study hall execution. Diminished intellectual productivity prompts helpless scholarly execution and a subsequent diminishing in confidence. This adds to shakiness in a person's feeling of the character which is probably going to add to additional medication utilization, in this manner making a horrendous circle.

Thereby the drugs have far-reaching effects on a person and society both physically and mentally.

CONCLUSION

This report has summed up the advances in our comprehension of the neuroscience of psychoactive drug use and reliance on it and has considered a portion of the moral issues which are associated with these advances. The advancements in neuroscience have enormously expanded our insight about drug use and reliance, and the new information presents generous difficulties for us to settle on moral decisions in applying the products of this information, both worldwide and locally. Pertinent authoritative and expert bodies should assume the main part in meeting these difficulties at worldwide and regional levels.

Even though extensive advancement has been recorded, there is no space for lack of concern. Drug abuse stays at an unsatisfactory level and keeps on carrying wretchedness to humankind.

It likewise funds criminal and, somewhat, terrorists' exercises. An excessive number of youngsters over the globe pass on consistently on account of drugs, either as an immediate aftereffect of drug misuse or in a roundabout way from the introduction to irresistible infections, principally HIV, sent by sullied infusion stuff.

All psychoactive substances can be harmful to health, depending on how they are taken, in which amounts and how frequently. The harm differs between substances and the public health response to substance use should be proportional to the health-related harm that they cause. The utilization of psychoactive substances happens due to their pleasurable impacts just as peer pressure and the social context of their utilization. Experimentation doesn't prompt reliance however the more noteworthy the recurrence and measure of substance utilized, the higher the danger of becoming dependent.

As written in Article 47 of the constitution and being one of the signatories of the United Nation's International Conventions, India had the onus act to wipe out the utilization of unlawful drugs, to create measures to forestall drug abuse, and to guarantee the accessibility of treatment for individuals with drug abuse problems.

It is thereby concluded by emphasizing the need for research more on topics which poses socio-cultural threats to the society and besides more research, it should lead to creating an impact on the people of the country. While it is inevitable to control or lessen it on a large scale and even it might not impact some of the drug addicts but through this kind of researches, the Government can develop the drug policies in a better way.

The Jurat

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