

**Topic: A balanced strategy to counter the world drug problem**

**Drug use; its health and social consequences:**

**History:**



The usage of drug is considered to have started from the time of Egyptian civilization. At that time it was used in form of wine but it is estimated that there was no extraction of active minerals like Morphine, laudanum, cocaine, opium till 19<sup>th</sup> century. Before this time it was used in the form of narcotics, marijuana; Later on the American civil war provided it self to be the biggest cause of the rapid growth and production of these active drugs. It was used by the physicians, were bought & sold by the landlords even every wounded American veteran returned home with their bags full of opium and hypodermic needles. It all resulted in a huge mass about 250,000 users turning in to drug addicts.

The problems of addiction were recognized gradually. In 1875 legal measures were taken against drug abuse. The first ever national drug law of food and drug was implemented in 1906. In 1914 Harrison Narcotic act forbade sale of drugs except by licensed doctors and pharmacies. Further it was made illegal for doctors to prescribe any narcotic to addict. Many doctors were jailed for it. All these measures and laws result in diminishing of narcotics and cocaine use by 1920s.

In 1930 most states require anti drug education, but it was feared that it would lead to the experimentation causing it to be abandoned in most places. The U.S federal Bureau of narcotics began campaign to portray marijuana as powerful addicting substance that will lead the user to narcotic addiction but it proved had a reverse effect. In 1950s, use of marijuana increased again.

1960s brought with it a huge increase in the usage of marijuana due to the social acceptance of some states. In 1980s, the military became involved in border patrols, troops invaded Panama and brought its de facto leader, Manuel Noriega, and to trial for drug trafficking and it resulted in the rapid decrease in the use of marijuana and other drugs.

People awareness about drugs and their devastating effect increased. The surgeon general's warning labels on danger causing drugs made people aware of the addictive nature of nicotine. Number of preventive measures and drug laws came into act. The Anti-Drug Abuse Acts of 1986 and 1988 increased funding for treatment and rehabilitation. The biggest and the latest of which is 1988 act, which created the office of national drug control policy and the director often referred to as the drug "czar" is responsible for coordinating national drug control policy.

### **Current Situation**

In 2009, political declaration, international co-operation groups and treaties come forward to integrate and balance strategy to counter the world drug problem. Member states also renewed their commitment to strengthen the drug and control capacity according to international drug control treaties. Treaties set out minimum requirements for ensuring availability of specific substance for medical and scientific use while preventing their diversion to illicit channels, trafficking and abuse.

Governments, general assemblies and councils have contributed to prevent and stop, almost completely diversion from licit to illicit international trade. But despite these efforts the diversion still occurs giving rise to other challenges, particularly with regard to universal application of the international drug control treaties, newly emerging substances of abuse, illegal internet pharmacies, abuse of prescription drug containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Drugs continue to exact a significant toll, with valuable human lives and productive years of many persons being lost. An estimated 183,000 drug-related deaths were reported in 2012. That figure corresponds to a mortality rate of 40% deaths per million among the population aged 15-64. Globally, it is estimated that in 2012, between 162 million and 324 million people, corresponding to between 3.5 % and 7.0 % of the world population aged 15-64, had used an illicit drug at least once in the previous year. The extent of problem drug use by regular drug users is due to the reasons that there is no standard definition of problem drug use. The definition differ from country to country and person to person who is engaged in the high-risk consumption of drugs, for example people who use drugs on a daily basis as a treatment to disease or people diagnosed with drug-dependence based on clinical criteria of American psychiatric association, or any similar criteria or definition that may be used.

However, there continues to be a gap in service provision, as in recent years, only one in six problem drug users globally have had access to or received drug dependence treatment services each year. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of persons seeking treatment for cannabis use disorders over the past decade, particularly in the Americas, Oceania and Europe.

### **TYPES of Drugs:**

#### **1<sup>st</sup>, Legal Substances:**

Legal substances, approved by law for sale over the counter or by doctor's prescription, include caffeine, alcoholic beverages, nicotine and inhalants (nail polish, glue, inhalers,

gasoline). In many cases, new drugs prescribed in good conscience by physicians turn out to be a problem later. For example, diazepam (Valium) was widely prescribed in the 1960s and 70s before its potential for serious addiction was realized. At the same time, readily available herbal medicines have grown in popularity raising questions of quality and safety; the Food and Drug Administration and the Drug Enforcement Administration regulates the prescription drugs.

## **2<sup>nd</sup>, Illegal Substances:**

Prescription drugs are considered illegal when diverted from proper use. Illegal substances include morphine, opiate, and synthetic opiates (fentanyl), cocaine and crack, marijuana and hashish, heroin, hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD, PCP (phencycline or "angel dust"), "designer drugs" such as MDMA (Ecstasy), and "party drugs" such as GHB (gamma hydroxyl butyrate). The major devastating illegal substances are as follows:

### **Cannabis:**

Although the general public may perceive cannabis to be the least harmful illicit drug, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of persons seeking treatment for cannabis user. Cannabis Cultivated and produced in cannabis herb ("marijuana") and cannabis resin ("hashish"). Afghanistan is one of the major cannabis producers in Asia but is also cultivated in Europe and America. It is too early to understand the impact of the changes by problematic use of cannabis. It will take years of careful monitoring to understand the broader effects of it in order to inform future policy decisions. Tax revenues from retail cannabis sales are expected to provide public revenue. However, expected revenue will need to be cautiously weighed against the costs of prevention and health care.

### **INJECTIONS:**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Joint United Nations Programmed on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO), jointly estimate that the number of people who inject drugs is 12.7 million that corresponds to a prevalence of 0.27 per cent of the population aged 15-64. In Eastern and South-Eastern Europe; the rate of injecting drug use is 4.6 times higher than the global average. The sharing of used injections makes people vulnerable to HIV and hepatitis C. It is estimated of the number of people who inject drugs living with HIV are 1.7 million persons. That situation is alarming in South-West Asia and Eastern/ South-Eastern Europe, where the ratio is 28.8 and 23.0 per cent, respectively. More than half of the people who inject drugs are estimated to be living with hepatitis C.

### **Opiates:**

Opiates and opioids top the list of problem drugs that cause the most burdens of disease and drug-related deaths worldwide. Afghanistan has the world's largest opium poppy cultivation about 209,000 hectares in 2013. In addition, there is evidence that Afghan heroin is increasingly reaching new markets, such as Oceania and South-East Asia. The heroin is being smuggled through the area south of Afghanistan reaching Europe, via the near and Middle East and Africa, as well as directly from Pakistan. The emergence of potentially more harmful behaviour, including the abuse of opioids such as fentanyl, has been noted among opioid-dependent persons in Estonia, Finland and the United States. It has been observed that opioid users may alternate between pharmaceutical or prescription opioids and heroin, depending on which substance is

more available, accessible and cheaper in the market.

### **Cocaine:**

While cocaine manufacture and trafficking have had a serious impact in the Western hemisphere, there are indications that overall global availability of cocaine has fallen. There is no conclusive evidence of cocaine use in Africa and Asia; expert opinion indicates that there may be pockets of emerging cocaine use in those two regions. The most problematic use of cocaine is in the Americas. In Western and Central Europe, the second largest market after the Americas, indicators of overall supply suggest a possible rebound in the availability of cocaine. The market has expanded in Oceania in recent years, but the region has a different pattern of use compared with other consumer markets because it has a large body of users who use the substance with low frequency.

### **Amphetamine-type stimulants:**

It is difficult to quantify the global manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants, the number of dismantled laboratories manufacturing amphetamine-type stimulants continued to rise. Of the total of 144 tons of amphetamine-type stimulants seized globally, half were seized in North America and a quarter in East and South-East Asia. Central and South-West Asia are emerging as new markets, with low levels of methamphetamine seizures and use being reported by two countries in those sub regions. South West Asia has also emerged as a significant production area for methamphetamine. Production in West and Central Africa is also emerging. The misuse of prescription stimulants or medications for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is not uncommon, although only a few countries report any prevalence of misuse among the general and youth population.

### **CARTELS:**

It should come as little surprise that the five most famous drug cartels are centered in Mexico. After all, Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, known as “The Godfather” started it all with the Guadalajara Cartel in the 1980s. Along with it the Guadalajara Cartel, the Sinoloa Cartel, Tijuana Cartel, Juarez Cartel, and Gulf Cartel are among the largest and most famous drug cartels in the world.

#### **1. Guadalajara Cartel**

Founded by Miguel Angel Félix Gallardo, Ernesto Fonseca Carrillo, and Rafael Caro Quintero. It was among the first to work with and significantly prosper from the cocaine trade started in Colombia. Though his colleagues were arrested early on, Félix Gallardo was smart enough to privatize the Mexican drug trade He was eventually arrested and the Guadalajara Cartel split into two other powerful cartels, both mentioned below.

#### **2. Sinoloa Cartel**

The Sinoloa Cartel is led by the most wanted drug trafficker in Mexico, With an estimated net worth of \$1 billion, Guzman is extremely powerful and so there is no doubt why the Sinoloa Cartel won a bloody battle against its former partner, the Juarez Cartel. The Sinoloa Cartel employed gangs such as the Artist Assassins, Genre Nueva, and Los Mexicles to attack the Juarez Cartel in its attempt to gain control over drug trafficking routes.

### **3. Tijuana Cartel**

The Tijuana Cartel was considered by the police in the 1990s and early 2000s to be one of “the biggest and most violent criminal groups in Mexico,” it was the other half when the Guadalajara Cartel split and was led by Félix Gallardo’s nephews, the Arellano Felix brothers. Although it is now much smaller due to deaths and arrests of its members-the results of an internal war-the Arellano Felix brothers’ nephew Luis Fernando Sánchez Arellano has helped it continue.

### **4. Juarez Cartel**

The Juarez Cartel controls the three main drug entry points into El Paso, Texas. Worth billions of dollars, it works with two gangs La Linea and the Barrio Azteca to power one of the primary illegal drug shipment transportation routes into America. Despite its casualties resulting from the ongoing battle with the Sinoloa Cartel, the Juarez Cartel continues to be feared, especially for the way it decapitates its rivals.

### **5. Gulf Cartel**

Based in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, the Gulf Cartel is perhaps one of the oldest organized crime groups in Mexico. This cartel’s most prominent period was in the late 1990s when it hired a private army, now Los Zetas.

The Guadalajara Cartel, Sinaloa Cartel, Tijuana Cartel, Juarez Cartel, and Gulf Cartel will be known for a long time as five of the most famous drug cartels in the world.



### **DRUG WARS:**

#### **American Drug War:**

America has been fighting drug abuse for almost century. Four Presidents have personally waged war on drugs. The United States has focused its efforts on the criminalization of drug use. The government has to, spent countless billions of dollars in efforts to eradicate the supply of drugs. Current drug laws need to be relaxed. First surfaced in the United States in the 1800’s. Opium became very popular after the American Civil War. Cocaine followed in the 1880’s. Coca was popularly used in health drinks and other drinks like Coca-Cola and remedies. Morphine was discovered in 1906 and used for medicinal purposes as pain reliever. Heroin was used to treat respiratory illness.

The abuse of opium and cocaine at the end of the 19th century reached epidemic proportions. Local governments began prohibiting opium dens and opium importation. In 1906 the Pure Food and Drug Act required all physicians to accurately label their medicines. The Harrison Narcotics Act, passed in 1914, was the United States' first federal drug policy. The act restricted the manufacture and sale of marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and morphine. The act was aggressively enforced. Physicians, who were prescribing drugs to addicts on "maintenance" programs, were harshly punished; more than 5,000 physicians were convicted and fined or jailed in 1919. America's first federal drug policy targeted physicians and pharmacists.

In 1930, the Treasury Department created the Federal Bureau of Narcotics. Harry J. Anslinger molded America's drug policy. Under his tenure, drugs were increasingly criminalized. The Boggs Act of 1951 drastically increased the penalties for marijuana use. The Narcotics Control Act of 1956 created "the most punitive and repressive anti-narcotics legislation ever adopted by Congress. All discretion to suspend sentences or permit probation was eliminated. Anslinger also used propaganda as a preventative measure. They created myths and horror stories about drugs. The propaganda of the 1940's and 1950's was often so far fetched that people simply didn't believe the government's warnings about drugs, which led to a rebellious movement that popularized drug use. The counterculture made marijuana fashionable on college campuses. Many soldiers returned from the Vietnam War with marijuana and heroin habits. In short, the demand for drugs in America skyrocketed in the 1960's.

The Johnson Administration, in reaction to a sharp rise in drug abuse, passed the Narcotics Addict Rehabilitation Act of 1966. The law recognized that the disease concept of alcoholism also applied to drug addiction. Drug use, however, was still considered a crime. The act did not have a major impact because of the small amount of funding.

### **The Philippine Drug War:**

Officially named Oplan Double Barrel and Oplan Tokhang is a campaign against illegal drugs in the Philippines. The term *tuktok* means "knock" and *hangyo* meaning "persuade". Rodrigo Duterte won the 2016 Philippine presidential election on May 9 promising to kill tens of thousands of criminals, and urging people to kill drug addicts. Later on it was assured that Duterte does not support or endorse the extrajudicial killings of drug suspects & that there will be investigations of any allegations of extrajudicial killings.

In speeches made after his inauguration on June 30, Duterte urged citizens to kill suspected criminals and drug addicts. He ordered police to adopt a shoot-to-kill policy. On July 3, the Philippine National Police said they had killed 30 alleged drug dealers since Duterte was sworn in as president on June 30. They later stated they had killed 103 suspects between May 10 and July 7. On August 3, Duterte said that the Sinaloa cartel and the Chinese triad are involved in the Philippine drug trade. On August 7, Duterte named more than 150 drug suspects including local politicians, police, judges, and military the mean while On August 8, the United States expressed concerns over the extrajudicial killings.

On August 18, United Nations human rights experts called on the Philippines to halt extrajudicial killings, saying that Duterte had given a "license to kill" to his citizens by encouraging them to kill. As the official death toll reached 1,800, On August 25, Duterte released a "drug matrix" supposedly linking government officials. On August 26, the official death total reached 2,000. Following the September 2 bombing in Davao City, Duterte declared a "state of lawlessness",

and on the following day signed a declaration of a "state of national emergency on account of lawless violence in Mindanao". The state of emergency has been seen as an attempt by Duterte to "enhance his already strong hold on power, and give him carte blanche to impose further measures" in the Drug War:

On September 5, 2016, with 2,400 people dead so far, Duterte repeated, "plenty will be killed" in the Drug War. U.S. President Barack Obama cancelled a scheduled meeting with Duterte after Duterte referred to Obama as a "son of a whore".

On October 28, incumbent Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Maguindanao Mayor Samsudin Dimaukom and nine others (including his five bodyguards) were killed during what was described as a shootout by the police. Dimaukom was among the drug list named by Duterte on August 7.

. In the early morning of November 5, incumbent Albura, Leyte Mayor Rolando Espinosa Sr. was killed in what was described as a shootout inside his jail cell "Espinosa was the second official to be killed in the Drug War. On November 28 Duterte appeared to threaten that human rights workers would be targeted.

According to a Pulse Asia opinion poll conducted from July 2 to 8, 2016, 91% of Filipinos "trusted" Duterte. The Chairman of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sergio Ortiz-Luis Jr., quelled fears that foreign investors might be put off by the increasing rate of killings in the country. On the following day the *Wall Street Journal* reported that foreign investors, who account for half of the activity on the Philippine stock exchange, had been "hightailing it out of town", selling \$500 million worth of shares over the past month.

Della Rosa announced on September 16 that the Drug War had "reduced the supply of illegal drugs in the country by some 80 to 90 percent". *Aljazeera* reported that John Collins, director of the London School of Economics International Drug Policy Project, had a different assessment: "Targeting the supply side can have short-term effects. However, these are usually limited to creating market chaos rather than reducing the size of the market. " He said it was a "certainty" that "the Philippines' new 'war' will fail and society will emerge worse off from it."

Gary Song-Huann Lin, the representative of Taiwan in the Philippines, & Lingxiao Li, spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Manila welcomed Duterte's plan to declare a war against criminality and illegal drugs War. The European Parliament expressed concern over the extrajudicial killings after a resolution on September 15, stating: In response, at a press conference Duterte called British and French representatives "hypocrites". Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said "he respect the method undertaken by the Philippine government as it is suitable for their country situation", while stressing that "Malaysia will never follow such example as we have our own methods with one of those such as seizing assets used in drug trafficking with resultant funds to be channeled back towards rehabilitation, prevention and enforcement of laws against drugs". On November 17, Sweden also came into act. Its ambassador to the Philippines, Harald Fries showed his country's deep concerns over the Philippines drug war.

### **Mexican Drug War:**

Since 2006, when intervention with the Mexican military began, the government's principal goal has been to put down the drug-related violence. Additionally, the Mexican government has claimed that their primary focus is on dismantling the powerful drug cartels, rather than on preventing drug trafficking which is left to U.S. functionaries. Mexican drug cartels now

dominate the wholesale illicit drug market and in 2007 controlled 90% of the cocaine entering the United States. Arrests of key cartel leaders, has led to increasing drug violence as cartels fight for control of the trafficking routes into the United States.

Estimates set the death toll above 120,000 killed by 2013, not including 27,000 missing. Given its geographic location, Mexico has long been used as a staging and transshipment point for narcotics and contraband between Latin America and U.S. markets. During the 1970s and early 1980s, Colombia's Pablo Escobar was the main exporter of cocaine. The Colombian organizations formed partnerships with the Mexico-based traffickers to transport cocaine through Mexico into the United States. At first, the Mexican gangs were paid in cash for their transportation services, but in the late 1980s, the Mexican transport organizations and the Colombian drug traffickers settled on a payment-in-product arrangement.

Organizations from Mexico became involved in the distribution, as well as the transportation of cocaine, and became formidable traffickers in their own right. Currently, the Sinaloa Cartel and the Gulf Cartel have taken over trafficking cocaine from Colombia to the worldwide markets.

#### **Solutions delegates must address:**

**Q1:** Can present anti drug laws prove it self-effecting or it needs to be replaced?

**Q2:** What are the steps to be taken by the social organizations other than laws enforcement agencies to be carried out to control the wide spread of drugs?

**Q3:** What kind of attitude UN must adapt with respect to these circumstances? Very strict or lenient policy should be adopted?

**Q4:** What kind of role the Human rights commission can play or is the present role of Human Rights commission needs to change?

**Q5:** American imperialism has always played key role in any international issue. Do you think that its imperialism can find the solution or American imperialism itself is the cause of this issue?

**Q6:** There are some legal medical and scientific drugs, which after misuse changes into dangerous, fatal illegal drugs. Point out the main steps, which can eliminate the misuse of it?

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