



ISSN: 0975-833X

Available online at <http://www.journalcra.com>

International Journal of Current Research
Vol. 13, Issue, 01, pp. 15793-15799, January, 2021

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24941/ijcr.40530.01.2021>

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
OF CURRENT RESEARCH**

RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE DRUG ABUSE AMONG YOUTH IN INDIA

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 10th October, 2020

Received in revised form

11th November, 2020

Accepted 28th December, 2020

Published online 30th January, 2021

Key Words:

Drug abuse, Parental Care,
Psychological Problem, Syndrome,
Deterioration.

ABSTRACT

The twenty first century witness the trait by substance and illicit drug abuse consider as a global challenging problem. According to the drug and crime (UNODC) estimated about seven percent of the global population between the 15-64 age group has been using an illicit substance almost in all developing and developed countries suffering with the greatest burning problem of drug users among youth. The risk factors for the illicit drug abusers may be having biological pre-disposition to drug abuse personality traits the reflect a lack of social bonding, low status of family, family relations, parental care, neglected defective emotional and psychiatric problems, stress and other problems among the youth in the world and particularly in the country like India. The concept of illicit drug abuse, drug addictions and abstinence syndrome need some clarity. In the sociological context drug is a term of habit-forming substance which directly effect upon the human body. So, illicit drug and substance abuse leads to physical and psychological health problems and effect on the youth in all over the world. Those using the drugs are just doing it for crazy experiment and for showing social status using while they are in the youth stage and sometimes it is very common to take some local drugs to relieve stress and to get rid of the psychological problems. It is a high to raising awareness about the consequences of substance use and the problem of health deterioration among youth.

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Citation: Chappidi. Divya Sreedevi. 2021. "The drug abuse among youth in India", *International Journal of Current Research*, 13, (01), 15793-15799.

INTRODUCTION

The world is beset with so many problems like corruptions, terrorism, poverty, human trafficking, cybercrime, youth crimes, beggary and use of substance and illicit drugs among adolescents as well as youth in the world. In the contemporary world youth is consider as the back bone and reservoir of every society, but regrettably mounting of illicit drug abuse among in the foremost imperative problems and threatening people in almost all spheres of ages in their socio-economic conditions, regional, racial, and educational levels in modern-day times in the world. It is high time to alarming for slowly change from communal diseases into a family companion in many societies where the people regard its presence as normal thing in the contemporary world. It is known that the most popular inception of world-wide trends that the availability and emerged various kinds of illicit drugs and the prevalence of substance and drug abuse among the present youth. The world statistical reports indicated that the drug abuse among the youth became very popular and also it increased in the different stages. It is highly expanded the use of drugs among younger generation and it will be wide segment of the youth population.

Many illicit drug reports explained that the millions of youths are attracting and crazy of using prohibited illicit drugs almost in every country. Especially the age of drug abusers is mostly who enter into the adolescences stage that is the thrilling age of 17-28years and majority of them are male drug abusers compared with the female drug abusers due to the various reasons in social stigma and environment. Man Wong (2002) stated that the freshers of men and particularly the youth in the society falling the use of illicit drugs. The UNODC report of 2018 revealed that the worldwide scenario approximately 269 million people used illicit drugs frequently. The drug users rapidly increased in developing countries rather than the developed countries during the period of 2000-2018. It is surprising that the number of people of adolescents and youth addicted using drugs due to their social and psychological conditions. It shows that the present youth is highly vulnerable to the effect of the illicit drugs. The UNODC stated that the reasons like unemployment, poverty, intellectual disabled, fun and crazy influence of peer group and lack of opportunities leads to the effect of the poorest to the poor attracted them and became more vulnerable to use of the drugs. Drug trafficking and participating in cultivation of drug plants to earn the easy money but unfortunately the vulnerable marginalized groups including youth, women and poor section of the people pay the price for the drug problems in society.

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The drug trade finances organized the crime and terrorism arms development and deepens the vulnerability of our states. The 2017 year witnessed that more than half a million people died as a result of illicit drug users and nearly 35 million people are suffering from drug use disorders that they are seeking for required treatment and de-addiction services. The 2018-year report of national survey revealed that illicit drug users are 20.3 million people above the age of 14 years and that illicit drug abuse effects on their day-to-day life in many different perspectives including their carriers, relationships, and education etc.

It is noted that the people who injected illicit drugs are 23 types more are likely to acquire HIV in the adult than in the general population. It is estimated that in the year 2018 more than 192 million people addicted to the very dangerous illicit drugs and highly used of cannabis or marijuana substance in the world wide. The other drug users nearly 53 million people are using the most danger and harmful substance like opioids and due to that many of the youth suffered and number of deaths occurred in 2017. These kinds of substance used leads to disorders and increased up to 71 per cent level, in this level 92 per cent women is more when compared with 63 per cent men.

The UNODC expected support and cooperation of various governments of all the countries in the world to control, prevent and tackle illicit drug trafficking and drug users among youth. The drug addiction is a major preventable cause of morbidity and mortality throughout the world and there is no any society in this exception to abuse and effect on large population of youth in the countries. The drug addiction is also considered as substance use disorder is based on illegal drug or medication.

The most of the drugs popularly used by the different sections of the people basing on their availability in their localities and the most popular drugs are like narcotic, analgesics, morphine, opium, sedatives, inhalants, heroin, brown sugar, cannabis or marijuana, MDMA, LSD, ATS, cocaine, hallucinogens, methamphetamine, amphetamine, stimulants, depressants, barbiturates, mescaline, hash, and so on are most frequently used among people particularly youth in the world. It surprising that there are some estimations about illicit drug scenario in marketing nearly 500 billion dollars turnover in the world trade market and it is truly resulting that third largest business marketing in the world next to the petroleum and arm trade business. It is evident that the entire globe is burning with the greatest annihilate but it is financing for the human demolish.

Aim of the study: The aim of the study is proportion of Indian adolescence and youth using and abuse various illicit drugs and finding how many of those are affected and suffer from by the substances use dishonors. The present study is based on MOSJE and UNODC reports and the data collection was managed by the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD). The main objective of the study to provide information at national and state level estimations, the prevalence in the population and the number of youth and adolescence using drugs. It is estimated and considering that the use of illicit drugs and substance is hidden phenomenon. The report NDDTC (2019) reveals that nearly 854296 people who inject illicit drugs in India and predominantly 69916 population in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Objectives

-) To find out the substance of the drug abuse used by people in India.
-) To find out the drug abuse among adolescences in India.
-) To find out reasons for illicit drug users among youth.

Indian scenario: The Indian country is not exception and caught in this vicious circle of the illicit drug use and abuse, it is shocking to the nation the illicit drug users are increasing day by day and according to recent statistics more than 10 million people addicted to heroin are registered in the country and unofficially the number may be more than that. The climatic and geographical conditions are proximately has encouraging very crucial role for the production, cultivation, trafficking and promotion of illicit drug abuse in India as well as in the world regions. For the most of the countries supporting the trade of illicit drugs for the economic considerations and approximately more than 500 billion revenue increased for the last three decades of the global illegal drug industry. The World Health Organization (WHO) clearly avowed that the illicit drugs or substance use growing like population explosion and the greatest burning problem of the developed and developing nations.

The UNO reports revealed that there are more than 10 per cent of the world population consuming illegal drugs between 15 – 64 age groups. The drug addiction of any illicit drug that makes youth craves it when they started using as an addictive agent. Many people feeling that it needs for the physical growth or psychological craving for the illicit drug and drug addiction involves compulsive desire to use a substance regardless of the potentiality, negative, social, psychological and physical consequences. The twenty first century is witnessed and characterized by illicit drug or substance abuse as a global public health challenge (Owoaje.E Beiloj 2010). The contemporary youth is very imbalanced and abnormal and not having any clarity of their lives due to various reasons and their age is a crucial time for being an experimentation with new ideas of practices. The condition of drug abuse in youth is becoming a global health problem and it reaches almost high alarming position in India. It is already taken measures to control the substance abuse among youth and paid attention in the country. It is a first attempt of experiment with illicit drugs among youth perceive that and it has much adverse effect over on their lives. The youth even though, known for aware about the effect of using illicit drugs, still they continue the illicit drug use and practice to take regularly as a habitual. The use of illicit drugs leads to the illness, mental imbalance, body shrinking and it is destructive use of substances may lead to the severe other health disorders and problems of social behaviour and conditions. The use of illicit drugs or substances leads to changes the youth personality like their physical, psychological behaviour and disorder of their mood like anxiety, depression, sickness, chaos ideas like schizophrenia and anti-social behaviour etc. The well-known fact that the contemporary youth addicted to the using substance became a major problem to every society in the world. It is witnessed that limited research studies conducted on illicit drug users and their conditions in the world as well as in Indian state. The researchers like medico-psychologists found that use of illicit drugs among adolescences is very much risk to their lives but there are so many controversial in

the researchers' discussions about the illicit drug users' studies, of course a very limited medical studies are examined and conducted medical research on the health effect on youth in India. There are many reviews define and causative factors assess programs for related studies and strategies. This is the soaring time to study and conducting research on illicit drug abuse among youth in India and it is one of the important problems to prevent and control for taking cooperation and association with the international organizations like UNODC etc. In Indian state is a well-known fact that the youth stage is imbalance and uncertainty behaviour in taking decisions and they are showing much more interest on experimentation, explosion and search for challenges to take any kind of risk. The age of adolescences and youth have been exposed by various thrills, stress, change of family, community, new responsibilities as well as including competitions in the field of trade and business, political positions, religious customs, education and employment etc. In their first experiment there are too many drugs are available but especially which are easy to buy, easy to collect them like inhalants, tobacco, liquor and so on. In the case of where the social and peer group pressures are often difficult to resist the youth often follow in use of drugs and finally leads to addictions and it is common practice among the street children, laborer's, drug used families etc. The emotional behavioral problems lead to the youth to a dangerous circumstance in a particularly state. The world health organization (WHO) stated that the illicit drugs and alcohol use is highly burden in the age of 15 to 29 years especially in the low and middle-income countries.

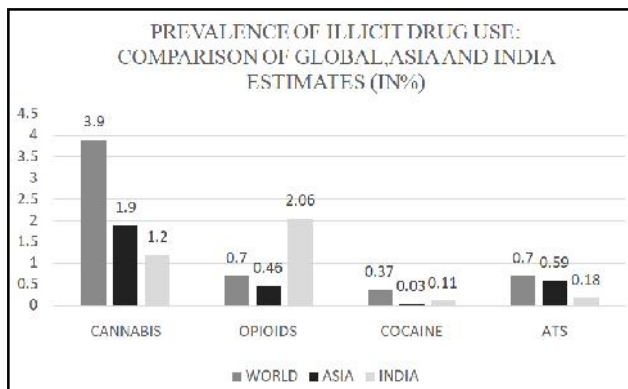
REVIEW OF LITERATURE: Winslow A. Wood (1959) identified that morphine acts at two different receptor sites in a neuronal pathway., Collier H (1966) stated that different explanations for the development of tolerance and physical dependence., Chopra I (1971) stated that psychoactive ill effects of chronic drugs use are more difficult to assess with accuracy., Thacore etal (1971) studied that methaqualone is being used by a cross section of the population., Rao & Vasudevan (1980) their study shows that most of the drug addicts are addicted before the thirty years age., Margoob & Dutta (1993) stated that the most drug abusers are males and they are mostly taking cannabis followed by heroin., Fonseca (1996) stated that the drug abuse among people due to many factors existing in the midst like psychological, social, economic and other factors shared by the users., Sotto (1997) stated that the source of the drugs was available with the help of friends, pushers, drugs stores, private houses and medical clinics. , Siegel (1999) stated that the drug abuse among youth is a factor of prejudice, self-identity, low self-esteem, poor social and economic status., James (2001) stated that the normal waking consciousness, rational consciousness as we call it but one special type of consciousness while all about it parted from it by the filmiest of screens. Their lie potential form of consciousness entirely different., Tremble (2002) stated that the drug abuse and addition is due to the socio-cultural factors. He found the majority of the youth addicts who join the drug culture., Drugs etal (2002) stated that the religion is playing major role in change individuals existential understanding the alcohol, cannabis, nicotine, opium and mushrooms have been used for rites in many cultures., Chuah etal (2003) stated that opium addiction is decreased in common use but abuse of opioids like heroin, cannabis, marijuana, amphetamines and ecstasy are on the highly

increased., Vinluan (2005) stated that drugs and substance use in any society is not a new phenomenon. It is very difficult to explain the real factors for contributing to the epidemic experimentation and involvement with drugs. There are several pressures from associates, curiosity, priceless availability of drugs to the teenagers and youth with their parents., Agcaoli (2005) stated that the peer group pressure influences on youth and not under estimated as one among the cause of drug abuse., Sudan (2007) studied that the youth are at the fore felt of many violent conflicts often fighting without a choice., Iruloh, B N (2008) Studied Psychological perspective of drug abuse, prevention and treatment., Nadeem etal (2009) stated that the changing cultural values increasing economists and dwindling supportive bonds are leading to initiation in to substance use., Hallev and Handley (2010) studied on adolescent substance use disorders., Harakeh & Vollebergh (2011) stated that the impact of peer group influence, young adult in to the smoking. It stated that the effect of young adult smoking rather than active per influence on passive peer group., Kushabik (2012) studied risk and protective factors of drug abuse., Anand V (2012) studied on drug addiction causes and the way out., Bhat Bilal A. etal (2016) A study on awareness of drug addiction., Onukwufur etal (2016) A study on relationship between parent's drug use, peer group influence and adolescent's addictive behaviour.

The psychoactive substances and illicit drugs are used often tends to be considered as problem are menace in the public health for social welfare discourse, the exact dimension of substance use in India have not been assessed adequately so far. The use of various psychoactive substance and illicit drugs such as alcohol, cannabis, opioids, have been observed in India. For the so many years the problem of illicit drug users is not well documented and India is identified the importance of substance and illicit drug users' study and commissioned a national survey on extent pattern for substance use in India. It is reported that the use of substance and illicit drugs in all the population groups especially the youth and adolescence bear the brunt of substance use dishonors. The scientific evidence basic treatment needs to be made available for illicit drug users at an adequate level. It is a fact that number of youth population is affected by substance and illicit drug use disorders and it is towering time to need of urgent help to solve the problem. It is required massive investments and support of the various organizations in enhancing the avenues for treatment in India.

It is an evidence-based, the implementation of prevention and control programs are necessary to protect the youth who indulged with the illicit drugs or substance use. The protecting youth illicit drug users of the nation is of paramount importance, it is very often prevention of substance or illicit drug use is seen as synonymous with spreading the awareness about great life-threatening among youth in India. Preventing and control substance use is ensuring that youth may grow stability in healthy into adulthood enabling them to realize their strength, potentiality will become a great asset and productive members of the family and nation. A conducive legal and policy making is necessary help to control substance and illicit drug problems. The existence of strict illicit drug control laws and multitude of agencies working cooperatively towards illicit drug supply controllers. The few studies are witnessed about illicit drug

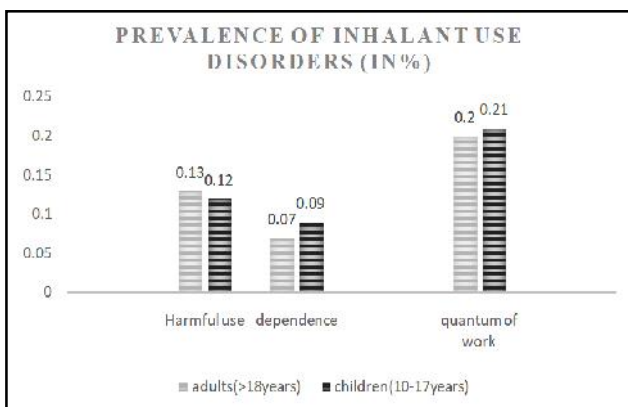
abusers of Indian youth suffer from the addiction to dangerous illicit drugs. It is necessary and important that illicit drug control agency must implement related laws and policies which are aimed to provide health and welfare services for the effected substance youth users. The approach generating and utilizing scientific evidence must be continue the practice and use of mode altering psychoactive substance has been part of human civilization for millennia in India. It is known for variety of psychoactive substances used since many centuries. In modern times however the pattern and dimensions use of illicit drugs or substances as assumed pathological proportions. The only source for the use of substance or illicit drugs in India has been recently available in the (NDDTC-2019) national survey on extent pattern and trends of substance use.



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India.

Table 1.

The source of information about the prevalence of illicit drug users in the world, particularly the scenario of Asia and India indicates as follows. In the world the age of (15-64 years) population uses cannabis (3.9 percentage), opioids (0.70 percentage), cocaine (0.37 percentage), and ATS (0.70 percentage). So also, in Asia the age between (15-64 years) population taking cannabis (1.9 percentage), opioids (0.46 percentage), cocaine (0.03 percentage) and ATS (0.59 percentage). And particularly in India the age between (10-75years) population uses cannabis (1.2 percentage), opioids (2.06 percentage), cocaine (0.11percentage) and ATS (0.18 percentage).

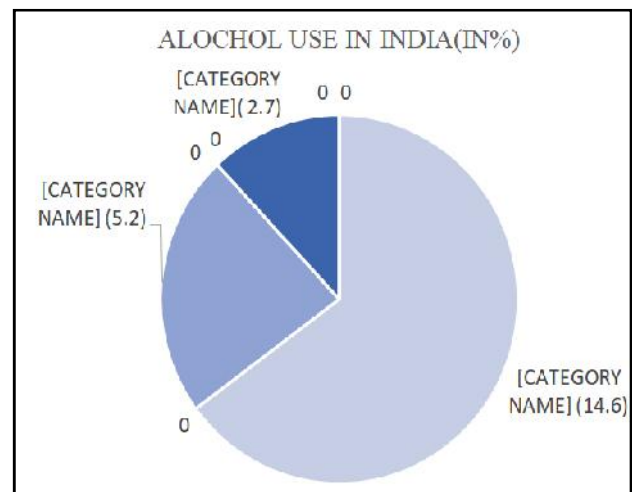


Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India.

Table 2.

The prevalence of inhalant use disorders like harmful use (0.13 percentage), dependence (0.07 percentage) and quantum of work (0.20 percentage) among adults (>18 years). So also, among children age group of (10-17 years)

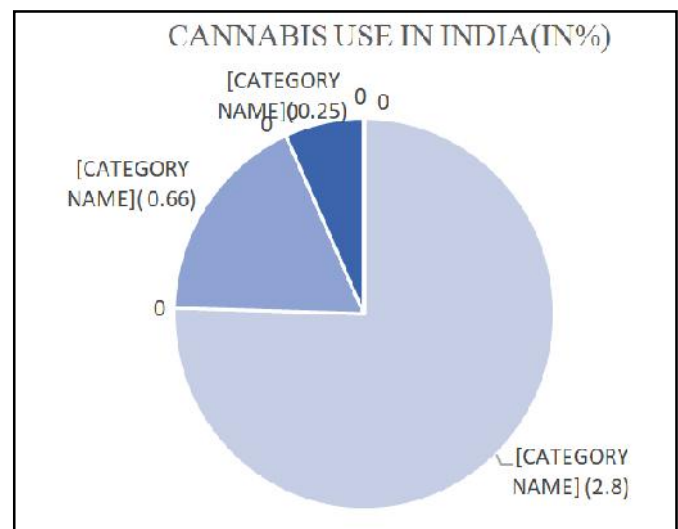
taking harmful use (0.12 percentage), dependence (0.09 percentage) and quantum of work (0.21 percentage) which prevalence is higher in these two categories.



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India

Table 3.

One of the popular psychoactive substance alcohols is used among the Indians. Country wide (10-75) years age population using alcohol of 16 crore users is (14.6 percentage), 5.7crore problem users within (5.2 percentage) and 2.9 crore dependent users (2.7 percentage) population consume the substance.

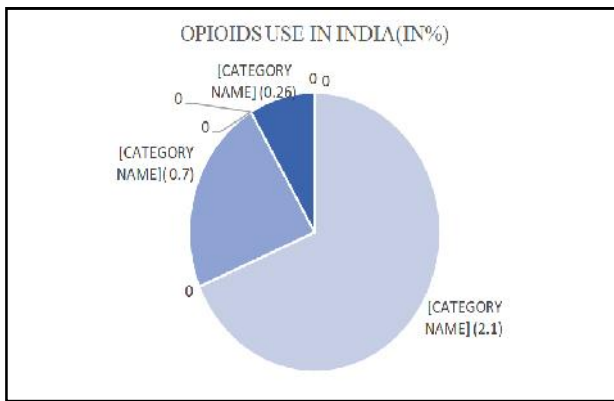


Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India.

Table 4.

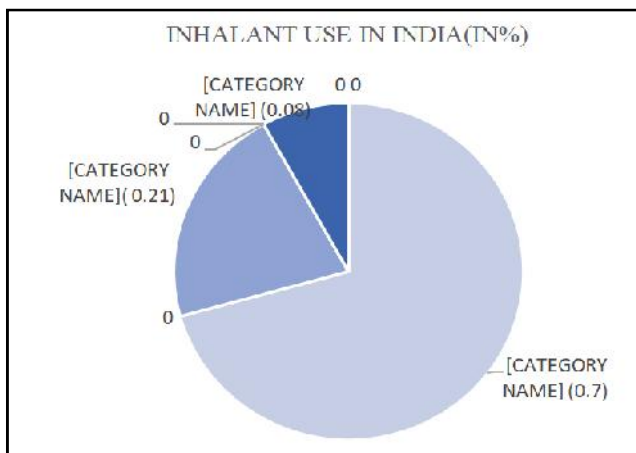
After alcohol cannabis is the next commonly used substance in India about 3.1 crore users (2.8 percentage) of the population taking. 72 lakh problem users (0.66 percentage) population and 25 lakh dependent users (0.25 percentage) of population consuming cannabis.

Opioids very popular used substance in India. About 2.3 crore users (2.1 percentage) population consumed opioids and 77 lakh problem users (0.70 percentage) population and 28 lakh dependent users (0.26 percentage) using the opioids in the country wide. The number of people using other illicit drugs like sedatives and inhalants about 77 lakh users (0.7 percentage) population and 22 lakh problem users



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India.

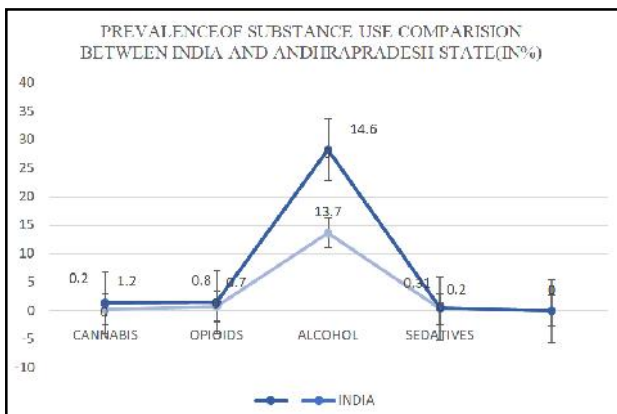
Table 5.



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India

Table 6.

(0.21 percentage) population and 8.5 lakh dependent users (0.08 percentage) population addicted to the inhalants in India.

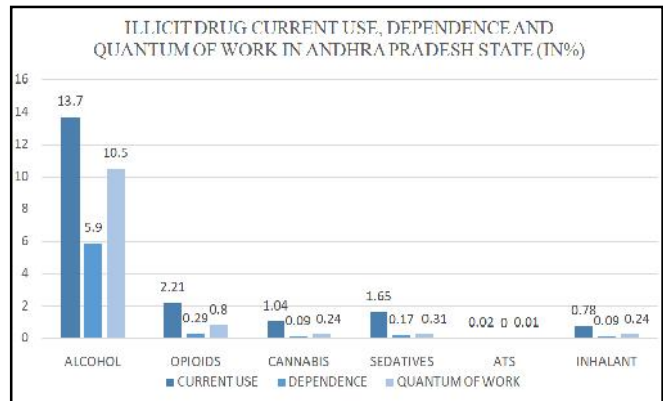


Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India.

Table 7.

The prevalence of current different illicit drug users in India and Andhra Pradesh between (10-75 years) of age recorded according to the report. The alcohol users in India (14.6 percentage) and the state of Andhra Pradesh (13.7 percentage). The other illicit drug mostly used cannabis in India (1.2 percentage) and in state of Andhra Pradesh (0.2 percentage) consumed. The other popular illicit drug consumed by population is opioids in India (0.70 percentage) and the state of Andhra Pradesh (0.080 percentage).

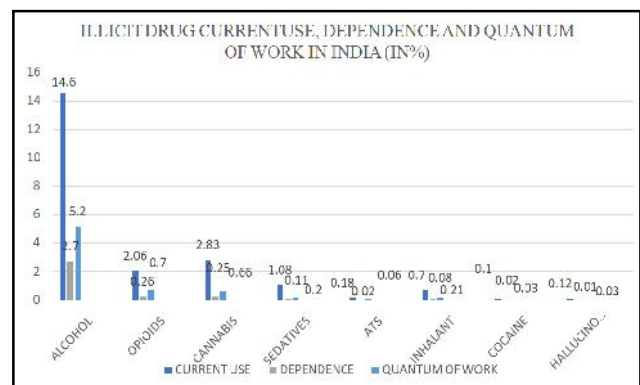
The very common and freely available sedatives used among Indian population in India (0.20 percentage) and the state of Andhra Pradesh (0.31 percentage) consuming very commonly.



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India

Table 8.

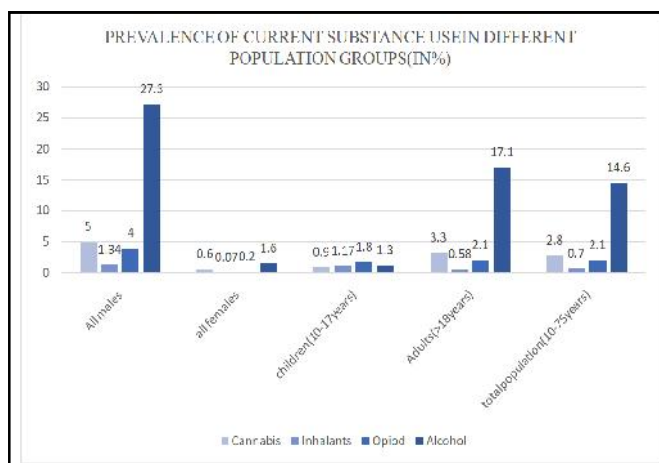
According to National Drug dependence treatment center assess the psychoactive substance use and the extent pattern of illicit drug use in the state of Andhra Pradesh. In Andhra Pradesh the alcohol current usage is (13.7 percentage), dependence (5.9 percentage) and quantum of work (10.5 percentage). The very popular used illicit drug opioids in Andhra Pradesh the opioids current use (2.21 percentage), dependence (0.29 percentage) and quantum of work (0.8 percentage). So also, the cannabis drug consumption in state the cannabis current use is (1.04 percentage), dependence (0.09 percentage) and quantum of work (0.24 percentage). The sedatives in Andhra Pradesh recorded as the current use (1.65 percentage), dependence (0.17 percentage) and quantum of work (0.31 percentage). So also, ATS used in Andhra Pradesh the ATS current use (0.02 percentage) and quantum of work (0.01 percentage). Very commonly used drug are inhalants in Andhra Pradesh the inhalants current use (0.78 percentage), dependence (0.09 percentage) and quantum of work (0.24 percentage).



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India

Table 9.

The data establishes that a substantial number of people use psychoactive substances in India. Particularly the state of Andhra Pradesh indicates that there are wide variations in extent and prevalence of use across the different states. According to the stated data the very popular substances or illicit drugs alcohol, opioids, cannabis, sedatives, ATS, inhalant, cocaine and hallucinogens.



Source: National survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India.

Table 10

In India the alcohol current use (14.6 percentage), dependence (2.7 percentage) and quantum of work (5.2 percentage). The very popular substance cannabis consumed in India current use (2.83 percentage), dependence (0.25 percentage) and quantum of work (0.66 percentage). So also, the opioid drug consumed in India is opioids current use (2.06 percentage), dependence (0.26 percentage) and quantum of work (0.7 percentage). So also, sedatives current use (1.08 percentage), dependence (0.11 percentage) and quantum of work (0.20 percentage).

The illicit drug of ATS in India current use (0.18 percentage), dependence (0.02 percentage) and quantum of work (0.06 percentage). The very commonly used drug is inhalants in India current use (0.70 percentage), dependence (0.08 percentage) and quantum of work (0.21 percentage). The substance cocaine in India current use (0.10 percentage), dependence (0.02 percentage) and quantum of work (0.03 percentage). So also, the drug hallucinogens current use (0.12 percentage), dependence (0.01 percentage) and quantum of work (0.03%).

The report reveals that the current alcohol users in different total population of age group (10-75 years) used (14.6 percentage) and among total population (27.3 percentage) males, (1.6 percentage) females, (1.3 percentage) children of 10-17 years age and (17.1 percentage) adults (>18 years) consuming alcohol substance. The cannabis is popularly used in Indian population in the total population of the country 10-75 years age about (2.8 percentage) population among them (5.0 percentage) males, (0.6 percentage) females, (0.9 percentage) children of 10-17 years age and (3.3 percentage) adults (>18 years) prevalence of cannabis drug used in India. The other popular illicit drug used among different population is opioid. The total population 10-75 years of age (2.1 percentage) consuming the illicit drug. Among the total population (4.0 percentage) males, (0.2 percentage) females, (1.8 percentage) children age between 10-17 years and (2.1 percentage) adults (>18 years) taking the opioid substance with sub categories. Inhalants are chemical products which being used by inhalational route and psychoactive properties used by all the total population 10-75 years of age about (0.7 percentage) population taking. Among total population (1.34 percentage) males, (0.07 percentage) females, (1.17 percentage), children 10-17 years age and (0.58 percentage) adults (>18 years) prevalence of substance used among Indian population.

“To shield the youth is an overwhelming challenge to the world and the nations to accord hale and hearty spawning for the future globe.”

“Drug abuse is a problem that involves communities and much as it does individual users. Drug abuse can increase family stress, crime and significant health problems. Treatment programs, designed to reduce the negative effects of drug addiction within a community, are costly to implement and are not always effective.”
-Withers

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