

## Dehradun Youth against Drug Peddling –

### Causes, Repercussions, Challenges in stopping it and possible solution.

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- Teacher

*“Youth against - to harness , it is of more importance to eradicate youth entangled - in drugs.”*



There is not much need of proving to most citizens of Dehradun that canopy of panoramic mountains and burbling of streams and rivers has made it cosmopolis with the proliferation of some harnessed morbidity.

Atop remains the Drug peddling with incorporation that shatters the fibre of nation – **“The Youth”**.

As drug peddling has spread like wildfire over the years with the tremendous social impacts , taking away the treasure trove of ideal health form the veins of people. From drug peddling to drug abuse creates a chain of illicit, non-medical use of number of substance having the properties of altering the mental state of a being in a ways that is harmful and threatening to life of user and to the society at large. Alcohol, heroin, cocaine, opium, marijuana are some of the drugs abused.

The very crux is that this corrupt institution is the destruction of Grey matter and Musculature of the people which is indispensable to do away with, for the sustainment of any life forms. The glooms of foreseeable future awaits if the concern is not tended with the joined hands of youth & Concerned authorities i.e. Narcotic control Bureau & State authorities with the support of parents,

otherwise surreal reality would be same as of watching Tobacco warning before a movie as a commercial.

### **Causes:**

***“A seed is a plant when it is nurtured – The drug peddling grows with addiction in market - intake is evident.”***



The population of Dehradun is ten lakh approximately, with the increased population unemployed workforce is rising steeply and many gets involved in drug peddling and thus losing their mental fortitude into the dungeons of drug peddling. In attempts to find income and to survive the changing trends in the economy, the youth indulge in drug trafficking, abuse and peddling with drugs in the name of employment. Today, a lot of the youth are involved in this drug trade. Poverty therefore becomes a prime cause for this drug menace coupled with negative attitude of the youth. This attitude is **“Make money quick – get rich early or die trying.”**

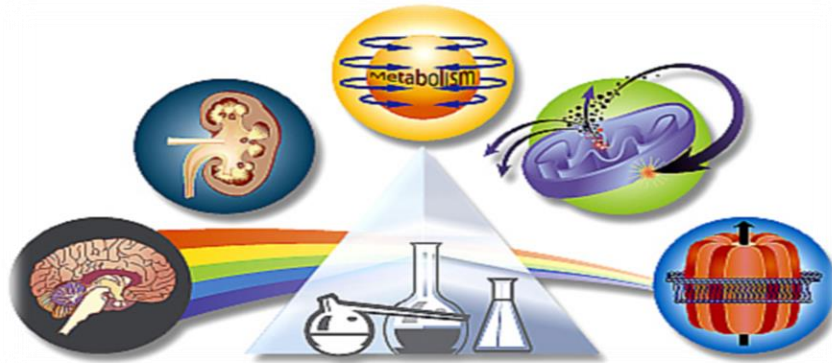
**Mental stigma and Society negligence:** Stress, anxiety, depression, low confidence, Parental and peer pressure are also some of reasons to intake drugs to escape from challenging situation.

**Peer pressure and Rear effect** – The drug abuse among teenager and young adults has streamlined the circulation of drugs. It can be attributed to the peer pressure, some start using drugs at tender age with cluttering conscience and become a bad influence on their friends. It starts with a single use, then another and before the parents get the wind of this, the child would be a serious abuser of drugs. Mostly cases are seen in areas where students reside in majority.

In a nutshell, the teenagers and youth have become **passive drug peddlers** to some extent or more.

## **Repercussions:**

***“Repercussions fluster when the deed maligns.”***



The intake of drug brings about the disruption in mental and physical ability, which consequently affects every other aspect of life of the person addicted to drugs. The term drug not only means medicine, but fatal narcotics with different specifications. These drugs have their evil effects on mind and body cells of the addicts. Despite having full knowledge of its effects on health, addicts use it on a regular basis.

The addict deviates from the chores of life and commits unethical things. Every now a section in newspaper displays the cases of crime for the escapades of drugs with the involvement of various sections of society. Even in some cases of chain snatching and theft ward of well-to-do family are involved in the crimes. This digression of life may dismantle the stature of civilization in many forms.

More over Indigenous production of various drugs and growing demand has added new dimension to problem. Trends and pattern show gradual shift toward synthetic drug. The alarming rate of drug consumption has always been a problem and has detrimental effects on the society. Personal and family problems also lead to drug abuse among youngsters who fail to deal with personal problems. The physiological effects of drug addiction can be difficult to endure and this is why the addict must be treated for their condition.

***“Destroy the seeds , Forget the Harvest.” – Our youth is the future of nation and our youth digressed with drug intake is the destruction of nation.***

## **Challenges:**

***“Stop the foot that pedals or Stop the hand that takes”***



In the present scenario stopping drug peddling has become a herculean task to accomplish. It's a major issue to be stopped as soon as possible but it is also a challenging process. The modus operandi of the peddlers is no longer obsolete, the technological upgradation has provided them a digital platform and ubiquitous access with a nexus to form between drug peddlers, drug addicts.

Dehradun is a renowned education hub and many students embark on here to have quality education. This influx of youth has attracted several drug peddlers to encash it by selling drugs and contrabands. As per newspaper and reports the potential buyer is of age group 15 – 30 years. The deficient security mechanism to put a regular track of activism of drug peddlers has made it more intricate to separate the sheep from the goats.

The upfront causes of drug peddling is coupled with negligence of society that pervades dire consequences. Some families show non admittance and rectification of their own when hooked on drugs under the feign of protecting the family image where prompt addressing could do away with root cause of drug peddling, perhaps making the drug escapades more severe to dealt with.

**Solution:**

***“Understanding problem is imperative before answering solution”***

***- stop the foot that pedals or Stop the hand that takes***



Taking the cognizance from the fact and figures the channels of drug peddling comprises – **Native smuggled contrabands** and **Inter-state smuggled contrabands**.

It is vital to tap the hot spots where either the drugs are produced or smuggled. Some drugs are originally derived from plant sources such as cannabis and opium, the production of drugs should be eradicated for medical use and which is not possible without some other drives of awareness and employment for those whose life is liable to affect overcoming it. Additionally providing helping hand to drug abused with the State Health Department’s assistance by organizing deaddiction program, which can further be augmented by the components of **Rashtriya Kishore Swasthya Karyakaram (RKSK)** and other yojnas.

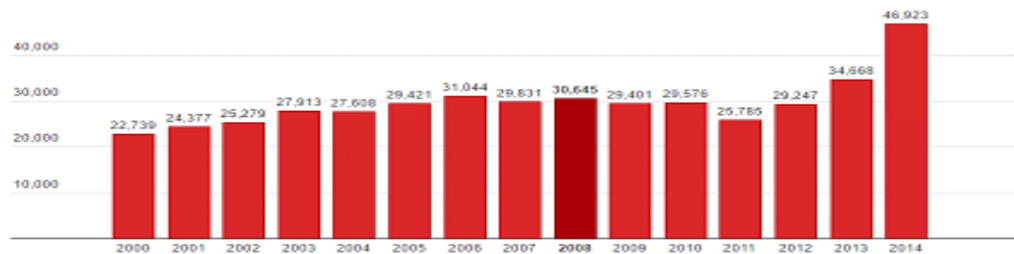


**Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya  
Karyakram  
(RKSK)**



The influx of inter-state smuggled drugs is not to be ignored , for this it's imperative to hold regular coordination meetings with the neighboring states and conduct joint police operations to check inter-state drug flow, besides, necessary amendments is still required to be made in the **Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substance NDPS Act** to make it more stringent. Drug peddlers should be sternly dealt with.

Number of crime cases registered under NDPS act



The voluntary indulgence and Involuntary indulgence in drug peddling and drug abuse are evident as introduced. Even after several articles, innumerable warnings with harmful effects, the rise in drug peddling and drug abuse in city is still controversial and ambiguous. The accountability for it vests in bi-poles *i.e. buyers and sellers*. Stopping drug peddling is a collective battle in which youth, parents and institutions with State government's proactive handling play the most significant part.



But as per reports, which is more evident to the citizens of Dehradun, today more than half of the children in school and colleges are involved in some sort of narcotics. To rectify or to curtail it to some extent, Schools must conduct seminar on drug abuse and mental health with special drive and awareness program to curb drug peddling assisted by narcotic cell and state police. Parents must keep a vigil on their children so that they don't fall prey on drug. During the parent teacher meetings, the parents of students are to be sensitized on the issue.

Counselling session with a move to carry out random checks in and around the educational institutions to identify students who indulge in drug abuse with objective to reach the supplier of drugs.

Even ***community policing scheme*** is to be organized to add helping hand to State government and authorities to curb drug peddling. This amalgamation of coordination from multi segments of society will strengthen the spree to fight the cause and further will enhance transition and decision-making for youth health issues. The potential buyer is youth – to eradicate drug peddling its crucial to take this cognizance to youth with the support of family and coordinated support from society and State government to handle it.

***Family-based prevention programme*** emphasizing parenting skills, training or improving family functioning, communication and family rules regarding substance abuse are to be at home with children.

Hence, the role and performance of educational institutions, ensuring availability of counselling services, making life skills courses a part of curriculum are required for health and welfare of young people.

**In a nutshell - “Nothing will work unless we do.”**

