CHAPTER-VII
CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

CONCLUSIONS

Statistically speaking, it had come on record during this study that in India crime rate under NDPS Act had shown an increase of 161.6% over 1986 and the percentage change in 2013 over 2012 remained 18.5%. India has become a drug traffic and drug consuming country despite enactment of such an exclusive NDPS Act in 1985.\(^1\)

Similarly in Himachal Pradesh the crime under this Act has shown a big jump. The position of HP in 1986 for this crime was 9\(^{th}\) which has gone up to 4\(^{th}\) at all India level in 2013. Against national average of 2.8, it remained 7.7 in Himachal Pradesh in 2013. The crime registration in Himachal Pradesh was 122 cases in 1986 which now had gone to 531 cases in 2013. More interestingly, 349 cases has been registered in HP till 30.6.2014 which means that crime would see a big jump in 2014 in HP. In 2013 Himachal remained at 4\(^{th}\) position in rank in NDPS crime at all India level. Punjab remained first in India during 2013.

The number one contributor in crime increase under this Act in HP was Kullu District. In 1986 in Kullu District the numbers of cases registered were 32 only which has gone upto 103 in 2013. Kullu contributed 19.4% in 2013 in NDPS crime in the state of HP and was ranked 1\(^{st}\). Crime analysis proved that Kullu District contribution remained No. 1 except for the year 2010 particularly from 2000 onwards. In 1986 Kullu seized 12.866 Kgs cannabis in 1986 which went up to 80.069 Kg in 2013. In 2014 it had seized 40.403 kg of charas till 30.4.14.

The crime incidence, seizure, arrests etc. made under NDPS Act had been discussed in detail in Chapter IV which confirmed and concluded that crime under this Act had increased exponentially at all the three levels i.e. at all India level, state level and particularly in the District of Kullu in Himachal Pradesh.

Hypothesis of the study was that no statutory Act or Legislation by itself can completely eliminate drug trafficking and its abuse (demand and supply patterns of drugs) without taking into consideration historical, socio-cultural, economic & religious

\(^{1}\) For more details, pl. see chapter IV.
compulsions. A holistic approach and interventions at various levels are required to change their mindsets and traditionally occupied crop cultivation and style of living patterns by providing them alternatives, education and awareness. Their involvement and participation in this process is must.

The hypothesis was proved true in this research study. The crime under this act was analyzed from every angle and it had shown increase over the years. It fully established the fact that NDPS Act which was legislated to control drug related matters in India could not fully come up to the expectations of the people.

The result of the study has also confirmed it. All the respondents taken from three sources right from students, local people of Kullu District and the actual drug traffickers confirmed that law alone can not eliminate any social problems from society.

Local Kullu respondents when asked specifically about confirmation or rejection of hypothesis, their response supported our hypothesis that law alone was not sufficient to check such problems from society. 57.8% of the respondents supported our hypothesis.

The responses we received from the students showed that Kullu has emerged in the lead role and as ‘Number One’ in the cultivation of opium poppy in the private land as it got 34.3% responses followed by Mandi 14.3% It is interesting to note here is that 13.6%(36)respondents, 27 male (10.2%) and 9 females(3.4%) students out of the total sample size of 265 students, 134 males and 131 females, were not aware of the cultivation of opium poppy in private lands in HP.

Kullu again remained in lead role as far as opium poppy cultivation in govt./forest land was concerned.25.7%(68) of the population,11.3% male and 14.3 female respondents supported it whereas 11.7% population,5.3% males and 6.4 % females voted for Mandi as a second District with regard to cultivation of Opium poppy in Govt. lands. Hence Kullu and Mandi emerged as the major Districts for cultivation of opium poppy in private as well as Govt. lands.

As for as cannabis cultivation in private land was concerned, the result was 21.9 % (58) in favour of Kullu followed by Mandi 11.3 % (30).This finding supported ground reality that it was grown in vast tracts in Kullu and Mandi area.26.4% of the respondents which included 17.4%(46) males and 9.1%(24) females, did not respond to the question which means that they were not aware of it.
In respect of cannabis cultivation in Govt. Forest lands, Kullu emerged as number one followed up by Mandi. 21.5% consisting of 8.7% male and 12.8% females voted for Kullu as number one in cultivation of these contrabands in Govt. and forest lands whereas 10.6% respondents composing of 4.5% males and 6% females supported for Mandi for second position. Hence here again Kullu and Mandi were preferred under this category.

69.1% of the students were aware that cultivation of cannabis and opium poppy is banned. 34.7% (92) males and 34.3% (91 females) knew this fact. However 17.7% (47) were not aware of this fact. 7.9% (21) males and 5.3% (14) females were not at all aware of it and did not respond.

The majority of the respondents were in favour that its cultivation should not be allowed. 57.7% were of this view. 30.2% (80) males and 27.5% (73) supported this view that cultivation should not be allowed. 9.4% (25) males and 7.5% (20) females did not respond. However 10.9% (29) males and 14.3% (38) females were of this view that its cultivation should be allowed.

The reasons cited for allowing cultivation of opium poppy and cannabis was that it was source of income to the people. 17.7% (47) respondents supported it. Other reasons were supported by 6% (16) respondents which were followed by its use on certain religious functions like shivatatri. 4.2% % (11) respondents supported it.

Students start taking drugs in schools from +1 level. 33.6% (89) respondents reported it. 20% (53) females and 13.6% (36) males stated that students starts taking drugs from +1 level. The supply of drugs to these students was being made by drug addicted students. 38.1% (101) responses 20.8% (55) from females and 17.4% (46) male students responded that supply of drugs to students are being made by drug addict students. Drug dealers are also supplying the drugs to the students as 30.2 respondents consisting of 15.1% each (40) respondents provided this information.

Parents and teachers of the students were not aware of drug addiction problem. 38.9% (103) respondents consisting of 20% (53) females and 18.9% (50) males responders supported it. Hence here lies a point for taking remedial measures and suitable policy intervention.

The major reason for drug trafficking and smuggling from Himachal Pradesh was found poverty. 11.7% (31) respondents consisting of 6.4% (17) females and 5.3% (14)
males cited it as major reason. The second reason was availability of customers at farmer’s door steps.6.4% respondents i.e. 3.8%(10) males and 2.6% (7) females supported it.

It was a fact that charas from Nepal was coming to Himachal Pradesh. It was confirmed in the study also. The result shows that only 41.9% of the students were aware of this fact.23% (61) males and 18.9% females (50) are aware of this fact but 26.4% of the students consisting of 9.4% (25) females and 17% (45) males are not aware of it and they did not respond. However 31.7% denied that charas from Nepal was not coming to HP particularly in Kullu. The Districts which received such charas from Nepal are Kullu 6%(16),Kinnaur4.5%(12) and Shimla 1.5%(4) respondents.

In Kullu the reason for continuation of drug trafficking was emergence of Himachal as a major tourist destination as number one reason followed by availability of customers at farmer’s door steps.11.7% and 9.8% respondents respectively supported it.9.8% respondents cited third reason as coming of foreigners as tourists in HP. Thus 21.5% of the respondents cited tourism and tourist as the reason for continuation of drug trafficking from Kullu District.34.3% respondents (91) consisting of 20.4% (54) females. 34.3% respondents said that Kullu was No.1 in Drug Trafficking in the state of Himachal Pradesh. 15.5% respondents said no to it.

Religious and socio cultural reasons also played in role in the production, cultivation and use of opium and charas .This version was supported by 26.8% respondents coupled with again 26.8% respondents who went for economic reason. Thus together, 53.6% respondents contributed for these two factors.

Majority of the respondents did not support its legalization in HP. It was majority view supported by 35.5% of the respondents. NDPS crime showed an increase in HP and Kullu District particularly upto 2013 due to the reason that it gave better price to the drug traffickers as compared to other crops.34% majority of the respondents supported it.10.9% said that it was due to the fact the police was also involved with drug smugglers. It was cited as the second preferred reason. It was further contended by the respondents that police nabbed only the carriers of charas and Afin.29.8% majority of the respondents said it. The second category of carriers as cited by the respondents was Nepalese.14.7% of the respondents opted for it. In other words it was inferred that big smugglers were not arrested and caught by the Police in HP. The majority of the
respondents supported this contention. 54.3% of the respondents supported this version that big smugglers were not arrested and caught by Police in HP.

The second group of respondents was people taken from Kullu District itself. They also supported our hypothesis and many of the conclusions drawn from the data collected from students.

Students confirmed that they knew that Kullu was known for the cultivation and drug trafficking of charas and afim in Himachal Pradesh. The students also confirmed that Kullu and Mandi were number one and two in this respect. Both Kullu and Mandi were known for cultivation of cannabis and opium and poppy in Govt. as well as forest lands as number one and number two Districts in Himachal Pradesh. The local Kullu respondents also confirmed and responded that in Kullu it was cultivated and grown in both kinds of land Govt. as well as private. 37.8% (340) responded confirmed this fact. It is very interesting to note that even the Forest Department was not found aware of the fact as to what and where the area under its cultivation was.

On the question of Nepalese being engaged for its cultivation in Kullu District, the respondents denied it. 55.6% of the respondents were of this view. But it remained a fact that 11% Nepalese were arrested in Kullu District from 1.1.2000 to 30.6.2014. Similarly on the question of foreigners involved in cultivation of land taken on lease was concerned, the same situated was found that no foreigners were involved in its cultivation. But the crime data showed that 12% of foreigners were involved in drug trafficking in Kullu District. 201 foreigners were arrested in Kullu during the period 1.1.2000 to 30.6.2014

Further 55.6% of the respondents of Kullu District responded that coming of foreigners to Kullu in larger number was found responsible for drug trafficking. However the Kullu District respondents, 54.4%, were not aware about involvement of Post offices for sending of contraband to their countries through parcels.

The majority of the student respondents were aware that the cultivation of afim and bhang was banned and they favored that its cultivation in future should not be allowed. The response from girl students was encouraging and more girl students opted for it. They even did not favour its regulation or legalization by Govt. also. Even the local Kullu people were not in favour of its legal cultivation. Majority of the respondents 54.4% said that even its legal cultivation should not be allowed in Kullu. Majority of
Kullu people .55.6%, supported the view that its cultivation should be stopped forthwith. Hence both the students and local Kullu people both supported it which was a positive sign for the state of HP where cultivation and drug trafficking has increased tremendously.

The afim and Bhang was used in Kullu since long. The majority opined that it was used for the purpose of manufacturing of ropes and pules. Shoes were also made from cannabis. Medicines were also cited as one of the reason for its cultivation for use as such. It was a medicine for cough. It was also used in Dal and Subji. Of late Nasha has also been cited as reason of drug trafficking by many respondents. It was also used in food items. Siddu was one of the local dish where it was used in a larger scale. Some of the respondents told that it was used to get heat particularly during winter months. It was also given to animals so that they may not get ill and may also survive from cold in winter months.3.3% of the respondents cited its for ‘Nasha’ as a single reason. 8.9% of the respondents cited its use for manufacturing of ropes and for pule and 6.7% respondents cited it use for manufacturing of ropes, pule and also for taking it with food.

50% Kullu respondents said that they used the income earned from drug trafficking for taking care of their families. 17.7% Students also said that it was a source of income of the Himachal People also. Local Kullu people in reply to the question on destruction and even then its continuance responded that it was because of unemployment that people are doing it.7.8% majority view of Kullu respondent supported it.

Local Kullu respondents came to the conclusion on question No.1 that greed to earn money and poverty were the two major reasons for indulging in production and trafficking of Afim and bhang in Kullu district. 16.7% supported it. The second reason was poverty 14.4%. 24.5% of the prisoners also said that poverty coupled with unemployment was the major reason for indulgence in drug trafficking. The second reason cited by prisoners was greed to earn money. Hence here the finding corroborated each others view points. The student respondents 11.7% responded poverty as the reason for continuation of drug trafficking and smuggling from Himachal Pradesh.11.7% of students respondents cited emergence of Himachal as a major tourist destination as number one reason of continuation of drug trafficking from Kullu District.

In Kotkhai area cultivation of bhang and afim was done in a big way during British and earlier days but now it is not there. So we wanted to know the reason for that. The
majority of the respondents 35.6% said that it was due to the fact that it was made possible because Govt. helped in creation of infrastructural facilities like roads to such remote areas. Hence here in Kullu such things are also required to happen at least in far-flung areas where even today no road connectivity is there.

There is a huge administrative legal and other infrastructure for fighting and checking the drug abuse and trafficking problem at international, national and local levels. In India NDPS Act is the major Act responsible for taking action against drug abusers and traffickers. But seizure and crime rate data has shown that the problem has not been checked to the desired level and the Act has failed in achieving its objective to a greater extent. This fact has been established by crime data and also by the three time amendments in this Act. This is reported to be a very stringent act with stringent provisions of punishments which is 10 years imprisonment and fine of Rs.2 lacs depending upon the seizure quantity and other facts and circumstances of the case. Even then the crime increased as per finding of this research study. NDPS Act is a very stringent Act but even then cases are being registered and the crime has not been checked. On this question the people of Kullu, 21.1 %, cited the reason that people got more money in drug trafficking in cannabis and opium poppy and thus they even took risks to indulge in it. It was also reported that police did not implement the Act properly and also because the people got more money in drug trafficking. In reply to question No.8 by the students respondents, 34% of the respondents said that NDPS cases had increased because it gave them better price as compared to other crops.10.9% cited that police was also involved with drug smugglers.

The next point for consideration was as to what kind of people were indulged in drug trafficking and were caught by police. In question No.9, students respondents, 29.8%, said that it was the carriers of charas and afim only who are caught by police and other agencies in HP and Kullu in response to the question on the kind of category of people who were caught by police. In response to the question that big smugglers were not arrested by police, 54.3% respondents affirmed that instead of arresting big smugglers police arrested only carriers.

The respondents of Kullu in reply to Q.No.20 also confirmed that the police involved themselves up to the arrest of carriers only. 26.7% Kullu respondents responded that the police confine itself upto the arrests of carriers only. Hence both respondents i.e. students and general people of Kullu corroborated the result of the study. In other words
it was asked whether it was a fact that big smugglers were not being arrested and caught by Police. The majority of the students said yes. Majority of the students were of this view that police did not apprehend big smugglers and it was corroborated and confirmed by Kullu respondents also. The prisoners respondents 38.5% also confirmed that it was because of police connivance that big smugglers were not arrested but small time carriers are arrested in drug trafficking.

Now coming to its unintended consequences, one of its unintended consequences was drug addiction. 33.6% student respondents themselves confirmed that they took drugs from +1 level. Majority of both males and females were of this view. However the girl students were found more vocal whose number was more than the male students. They were more aware about it. They, 38.1%, further confirmed that the drugs were made available to students from drug addicted students. Here also more female students were more aware about it than their male counterparts. It was also revealed by them that their parents and teachers were not aware of their drug habits. The Kullu respondents 28.9% responded that schools boys were the groups who had shifted taking of harder drugs followed next by college boys.

Drug addiction has increased in Kullu District and as a result even it has affected blood relationships also. The relation between father-mother and drug addicted boys has become worse to the extent that even now the parents are demanding deaths to their wards. One mother in Mandi openly said it before Media and some other parents requested the researcher in Kullu when he remained there as SP of Kullu District. Drug trafficking had affected the blood relation in Kullu which had been corroborated in this study. 65.6% supported this view. 52.2% respondents were of the view that drug trafficking had added to the problem of unemployment and ‘awaragardi’ in Kulu district.

On the unintended consequences, it was confirmed by local Kullu respondents that in Kullu a new concept of ‘Narco Tourism’ was born. Majority supported this view. Narco tourism means where the people involve themselves for providing hospitality to the tourists in their own homes including drugs. 51.1% respondents of Kullu were found aware of this fact that drug trafficking had developed Narco Tourism in Kullu District which is a new concept. This is one of the important finding of the study.

Drug trafficking led to scope for increased corruption in Kullu district. It had also increased commission of crimes also. Majority were of this view. The nature of crime
which has increased was reported to be theft. Some respondents even went to say that
even dacoities were taking place as a result of drug trafficking and drug addiction. 80% of
the Kullu respondents supported the view that drug trafficking was the reason for
corruption in Kullu and they had also come out with the view that crime has also
increased in Kullu. Here also 80% of the respondents supported this view. 35.6%
respondents said that theft cases were increased in Kullu as a result of drug trafficking.

Kullu respondents were fully aware that Malana cream was rated as the best
charas in the world. 62.2% supported this view. But they were not aware that charas
particularly from Nepal was entering Kullu District for the purpose of mixing with
Malana cream and then reselling it in the name of Malana cream. 55.6% of the Kullu
respondents were not aware of it. But seizures made from Nepalese in Kullu District
confirmed this fact.

Our hypothesis said that law to be successful in achieving its objective, like
NDPS Act, has to take into consideration some other religious, social, cultural and
economic factors into consideration. The student respondents were specifically asked a
question on the role of religion, festivals like Shivratri and culture in the production,
cultivation and use of opium and cannabis in various Districts of HP including Kullu.
The results indicated that 26.8% majority view was that it was necessary for such law to
take care of religious and socio cultural factors and economic reasons as well into
consideration to make it successful. Hence against this background also, the hypothesis
stood proved. The second reason cited by them was due to its economic reasons. Hence
economic and social and cultural reasons and factors were duly established in this study.
Social and religious factors of its use are still in existence in Kullu. It is still being used
during Shivratri in Kullu. The cultivation of Cannabis and opium poppy remained a cash
crop in Kullu District and ‘Govt. taxes’ were used to be paid out of the proceeds of it.
Now a day’s even people were found to have indulged in it due to economic reasons as it
was duly proved beyond any reasonable doubt from the prisoners respondents
also. 24.5% prisoners said the poverty and unemployment remained major reason besides
23% prisoners saying that it was because of economic reason also.

On the role of police remaining involved in drug trafficking business, the
respondents were not of this view. They even told that they were not aware of it. Police
role is limited to the extent that drug supplies are restricted to some extent by way of
seizure; destruction of crops etc but the demand aspect has also to be taken care of.
Hence there is need to have a holistic approach of dealing with this problem for which it is strongly recommended that in Govt. policies the integration of schemes relating to demand and supplies reduction are required. People in Kullu were not aware of Govt. policies and any alternative programmes and its funding. 75.6% of the respondents were not aware that any assistance was provided to the people through Narcotics control Bureau, Govt. of India. 66.7% of the Kullu respondents did not know that UNO through NCB Govt. of India provides assistance for alternative development and alternative crops cultivation diversification purposes.

The majority of the respondents 33.3% opted for providing of assistance for apple, potatoes and vegetables cultivation subsidy and providing of marketing facilities also in order to put a stop to drug trafficking like that which happened in Kotkhai area during British regime. In Kotkhai area opium poppy was grown in vast tract of land and poppy used to be supplied to all over India and a special agency was created to regulate its import and export. 35.6% respondents responded that its cultivation stopped because Govt. provided infrastructural support like construction of roads etc and other developmental works.

Prisoners respondents views had also corroborated views put forth by the students and Kullu respondents in many more ways. 100% Gender wise profiling of the prisoners as on 23.5.2014 was that 96.6% under trial males and 3.4% under trial females and 98.1% convict males and 1.9% convict females were found involved in drug trafficking. It corroborated from the response of Kullu respondents, 50%, viewed that the income generated from drug trafficking was used for taking care of their families.

A very interesting finding of the study was that out of 265 convicted prisoners lodged in HP Jail, 165 were from Himachal alone and out of it, 60 (36%) were from Kullu, 34 (21%) from Mandi, 33 (20%) from Chamba, 10 (6%) from Kangra, 7 (4%) each from Shimla and Una, 5 (3%) from Bilaspur, 4 (3%) from Sirmaur, 3 (2%) from Hamirpur and 2 from Solan. Thus maximum prisoners were from Kullu District. 64.6% (210) under trial prisoners out of total 325 were from HP. It is also corroborated from prisoners themselves that Himachal has emerged as a market also for disposing of drugs as most of the carriers replied that they just wanted to dispose and deliver the drugs at various places in Himachal itself. 26.1% of the prisoner respondents sold the contraband at various places of Himachal Pradesh including Kullu. Only 4.5% prisoners targeted Haryana and 3.3% preferred Punjab for drug trafficking.
Young 20 to 45 years old people, constituting 78.2%, were involved in drug trafficking. 48.5% belonged to the general category as number one in drug trafficking in HP. 80% rural background people were involved for drug trafficking in HP.

76.7% unemployed people were involved in drug business. 67.6% were married. Maximum number were from Matric pass category which constituted 22.7%. However, the majority of the prisoner respondents, 73.6%, were illiterate. Thus unemployed and illiterate people were responsible for drug trafficking in HP. They were involved for charas drug trafficking which constituted 79.4%.

Maximum prisoners were carriers of the drugs. 45.2% respondents said that they were carriers only. 7.3% were engaged in retailing of the drug and 1.5% were engaged in whole sale business. In return they got Rs. 100 to Rs. 1,00,000/-. However, the majority of the respondents got somewhere between Rs. 2000 to Rs. 3000/-. The prisoners purchased charas and Afim with lowest range of 1000-2000 and the highest was three lacs rupees. The drug was to be marketed in Himachal only. The outside impression which travels in the public mind is that the drugs are carried from Himachal to various other markets but the majority of the prisoners said that they disposed it off at various places in Himachal only. It was to be sold by them at prices ranging from 15000-3000 per kg. The per gram rate was found in the range starting from Rs. 10 to 15 to Rs. 1000/- per gram.

The prisoners respondents, 13.3%, were of the view that they were neither doing drug trafficking with police knowledge nor paying any amount to them (57.9%).

On the question of continuation of drug trafficking, the prisoners cited poverty coupled with unemployment, greed to earn money and other economic compulsions as reasons for it. It was corroborated with students and Kullu people respondent's views. Hence from the discussion given here above proved our hypothesis fully.

SUGGESTIONS

NCB is the nodal agency and coordinating agency for enforcement of NDPS Act in India and capacity building is one of its roles. Capacity building programmes are required to be initiated in HP State keeping in view of incidence of NDPS crime in HP and Kullu as number one contributor of crime in HP. The crime rate in HP was more than the national average.
HP Govt. has banned tobacco products, its sale, manufacture etc. but had not come forward as yet on the issue of opium and cannabis cultivation in the state of HP. Even the state agencies were not aware of the areas falling under its cultivation. So concrete action plan and policy initiatives are required to be taken at top level.

All countries are affected by the devastating consequences of drug abuse and illicit trafficking; adverse effect on health, the upsurge in crime, violence and corruption, the draining of human, natural and financial resources that might otherwise be used for social and economic development; the destruction of individuals, families and communities; and the undermining of political, cultural, social and economic structures. Drug abuse affects all sectors of society and countries at all levels of development. Therefore drug demand reduction policies and programmes should address all sectors of society. Hence more intervention in HP is required keeping in view of the finding of the study that besides drug trafficking HP has come out as a market for drug consumption also similarly on the pattern that India has also emerged as drug consuming country.

There was no holistic approach as far as the prevention of demand and supply of drugs was concerned in HP State. The state Govt. is taking steps to reduce and check demand by indulging in enforcement measures through police which has failed to check this problem to a greater extent. The NDPS, Act was enacted in 1985 and since its enactment the crime under it has increased to a greater extent. Kullu has emerged as Number one in this state for the purpose of crime under NDPS, Act. From 2000 to 2009, Kullu District contribution remained No.1 in HP state in respect to registration of crime. In the capacity as number one its contribution remained 30.4%, 40.2%, 43.3%, 35.8%, 25.4%, 27.7%, 28.8%, 22.3% 32.4% and 27.5% respectively during the years 2000 to the year 2009. In 2010 its position was reduced to 2nd position and then again from 2011 to 2013 its position again remained number one by contributing 35.1% 30.4%, 19.4% respectively. However one of the interesting finding in respect of Kullu remained in 2014 was that its position was again reduced to third position after Mandi and Chamba District. This is a new and surprising trend. But from it, it hardly gives us an idea that crime in Kullu has been checked by way of better enforcement or due to some other reason. The fact remains that Kullu was and would remain, for the present, the main source from where drugs are trafficked not only to various parts of India but even to international market through foreigners. This fact was confirmed in this research study that tourism and tourist was also a cause of drug trafficking in Kullu.
Even the drug addiction has also seen amongst students in Kullu and other parts of the state. Hence taken together, we could not check the problem even though we have such a stringent Act. The supply line was also not checked as cultivation of both cannabis and opium poppy was still there in Kullu and other parts of HP. Hence need of the hour is to have holistic and coordinated approach to reduce both demand and supplies.

The reasons for not checking supply and demand are various but economic consideration is of prime concerns. The people are poor. They do not have alternative sources of income for livelihood. In Manikaran area, even the students carry small quantity of charas for selling to foreign tourist and others to meet educational and other family expenses. People are not provided alternatives so that they are discouraged from cultivation of these illegal crops. No alternative development programme was enforced under the active supervision of Govt. agencies. They are covered under the general schemes and policies of the Government which are not area and altitude specific, hence they are not being taken up by farmers living in Kullu. Some specific alternative development programme for Kullu is recommended because still there are areas in Kullu mostly suitable for cultivation and growth of cannabis and opium poppy.

In Kullu some of the people they live in far flung areas where we have not provided them road connectivity and the area is more suitable for cultivation of cannabis and opium poppy. Still we could not come out with other alternative crops at such an altitudes and areas so that the farmers get more what they are getting from the cultivation of these illegal crops. It was realized by our policy makers also and was discussed in HP Legislative assembly but still some action plan is required at least for such far flung and high altitude areas falling in Kullu, Mandi, Shimla and Sirmaur districts.

There is no budget provisioning for destruction of crops, for treatment centres and for hiring of psychiatrists to tackle demand and supplies of drugs and its abuse. Himachal Govt. may think of it keeping in view of the crime and drug abuse in the state of Himachal Pradesh which has assumed high proportions of crime rate under this Act. Punjab Govt. has earmarked Rs.109 crore for the first time in 2014-15.2

One column in ACR of officers and officials is recommended to be created and added to enter and assess their performance under NDPS Act in terms of supply and demand reduction initiatives and achievements.

2 Rohan Dua & Vibhor Mohan, “Debt ridden Punjab eyes consolidation,” Times of India Chandigarh, July 17, 14, p.1
In Himachal Pradesh, NDPS Act performance depends upon the posting of honest and upright police officers. It is recommended that senior, honest and professional police officers be posed in the Districts. The researcher’s personal experience and achievements in Kullu and Chamba Districts can be considered as examples and can be selected for doing case studies. The achievements and seizure statistics speaks volumes for this recommendation.

Opium poppy was cultivated in Kotkhai area in a vast tract of land by people and it was also smuggled out in a big way. But now it is 100% out from there. This becomes a case for further research and study which should be initiated to recommend solution to the problem at least for its implementation in Kullu District.

Correct data reporting and publishing is required as on the basis of correct data Govt. and other agencies put forward their cases for initiation of any policy and programme.

Unarmed vehicles fitted with strong cameras like being used by ITBP in curbing and checking insurgency in Jharkhand and other states are not being used for the same purpose of checking the cultivation, hand processing to make charas and also to identify areas involved in the cultivation, processing, storing and smuggling of charas and opium from the state to other parts of India and to foreign countries also. Technology is required to be used and put in place for eradication and detection of cases by Police.

Accountability of Patwaris and Forest Guards is required to be ensured in HP. They are legally bound to take action under NDPS Act but it is not happening in HP

Keeping in view of the crime figures, Narcotics control Bureau for the state is required to be constituted along with separate NDPS courts for trial of NDPS cases.

It was up till now understood that charas is smuggled from Himachal Pradesh to outside the Pradesh but during this study it was found that charas is also transported and marketed in various place of Himachal Pradesh. Hence police is required to sharpen its intelligence and has to come out with concrete action plan. A separate budget head may be created for police department.

No statutory Act or Legislation by itself can completely eliminate drug abuse and trafficking problem from society. Medical & other uses of drug arises due to a number of social, economic and physiological compulsions. Therefore, these areas are of concern
and need to be addressed and tackled through Government and social intervention, support, guidance to the family as well as the individual.

There should be exclusive budget with police Department to undergo continuous research not only on drug issues but also on other issues so that crime is understood from all angles and strategies worked out accordingly.

Coordination & lack of suitable officers Problem was realized as early as 1896 when Special Agency was created to check smuggling of opium from Central India and Rajputana States and it still continued despite heavy claims and creation of various administrative machinery like NCB. Difficulty was complained of in finding suitable officers and in getting the district and railway police in British India to co-operate with the special department during 1896-1900.\(^3\) This problem still exists. Even in the Districts of HP the special cells were created but they have not performed well and their performance remained below average. No extra manpower was provided to those units. Hence extra manpower exclusive for detection of NDPS cases in every District of the state is required.

Police Public Participation is essential to solve any problem from society. Since Public have different kinds of apprehensions about police, hence to gain the confidence of general public, police department has to launch a massive public contact programme. Entire police department has to be mobilized and sensitized about the objectives to be achieved under this crime head and black sheep identified and weeded out.

The recommendation of one of the study conducted by IGMC on Drug abuse among school children in Shimla during 2003-04 which stated that 66.6 % were introduced to the non medical drug use by their friends and confirmed and corroborated by this research study also are required to be implemented.

i) Students should be educated about the adverse consequences of the drug use and the lessons on the subject should be included in their curriculum from 8\(^{th}\) class onwards. Problems of the adolescents should be tackled in a realistic and compassionate manner and emphasis should be laid upon the techniques of stress management so that they don’t take to drugs to relieve stress.

\(^3\) 1333C.S.B., dated 9\(^{th}\) October 1897, to Secretary, Government of India(Finance).-Page 99 of file No.561/274A
ii) Parents should be taught about the good parenting skills—authoritative parenting. They should be educated about how to identify and modify the high risk behaviour of their child.

iii) School authorities should take active interest in addressing the problem. At least one teacher from each school should be trained in drug counseling techniques. They should encourage their students to participate in productive activities like sports, games and other extracurricular activities so that students remain occupied in such activities.

iv) The government should enforce stricter regulations so that the availability of both the licit and illicit drugs is brought under check. Sale of psychoactive substances and other licit drugs, including the cough syrups, should not be permitted without prescription.

v) The government should have an effective prevention and control programme to address the problem. Guidelines adopted and published by National Institute on Drug Abuse, US Department of Health and Human Services, 52 and WHO Substance abuse Department (SAB) should be followed.

Last but not the least, based upon the crime statistics, there is an urgent need to upgrade the skills and knowledge of the police investigating officers so that not only the crime under this act is checked but also the drug traffickers are punished.