



Chakravayuh: The Escape Room | Haryana | 02 May 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the [Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau \(HSNCB\)](#) has launched a pioneering project called '**Chakravayuh: The escape room**' which aims to keep teenagers away from [narcotics addiction](#).

Key Points

- Chakravayuh, meaning **labyrinth**, is an “**anti-drug escape room**” experience designed to **simulate real-life challenges** through immersive and interactive learning environments.
- The **first functional smart classroom** has been **launched in DAV Public School, Ambala**, and the project will be replicated in other government and private schools across the state.
- It is designed to **simulate realistic scenarios in a controlled environment** where participants must use their intellect and moral judgment to navigate the situations.
 - The **setup is equipped with modern technologies** such as [augmented reality \(AR\) and virtual reality \(VR\)](#) to create engaging and captivating scenarios that grab the attention and interest of young people.
 - The activity involves **solving a set of challenges**, each representing a different life scenario, including the urge to take drugs.
- The escape room educates participants about the [consequences of drug abuse](#) and the importance of **good decision-making skills**. It immerses them in scenarios that require **quick thinking and effective communication**, reflecting real-life situations. The initiative enhances teamwork and peer support mechanisms by requiring a collaborative effort to progress through challenges.
- The HSNCB is also working on **digitising this experience** so that the children interested in gaming can also **play this game online and gain knowledge** about the adverse impact of narcotic abuse.

Drug Addiction

- It refers to the **condition of being addicted to a drug**, particularly narcotic drugs.
- These are generally illegal drugs that affect the mood and behaviour of a person.
- **Drug abuse** refers to the **use of certain chemicals for the purpose of creating pleasurable effects on the brain**.
- There are over **190 million drug users around the world** and the problem has been increasing at alarming rates, especially among young adults under the age of 30.
- **Government Initiatives to Tackle Drug Addiction:**
 - It constituted the [Narco-Coordination Centre \(NCORD\)](#) in November, 2016 and revived the scheme of “**Financial Assistance to States for Narcotics Control**”.
 - Narcotics Control Bureau has been provided funds for developing a new software i.e. **Seizure Information Management System (SIMS)** which will create a complete **online database of drug offences and offenders**.
 - The government has constituted a fund called “**National Fund for Control of Drug Abuse**” to meet the expenditure incurred in connection with combating illicit traffic in Narcotic Drugs; rehabilitating addicts, and educating the public against drug abuse, etc.
 - The government is also conducting a **National Drug Abuse Survey** to measure trends of drug abuse in India through the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment with the help of National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre of AIIMS.

- 'Project Sunrise' was launched by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2016**, to tackle the **rising HIV prevalence** in north-eastern states in India, especially among people injecting drugs.
- **The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, (NDPS) 1985:** It prohibits a person from producing, possessing, selling, purchasing, transporting, storing, and/or consuming any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.
 - The **NDPS Act** has since been **amended thrice** - in 1988, 2001 and 2014.
 - The Act extends to the whole of India and it applies also to all Indian citizens outside India and to all persons on ships and aircraft registered in India.
- Government has also announced the launch of the '**Nasha Mukh Bharat**', or **Drug-Free India Campaign** which focuses on community outreach programs.

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