

APWWS hails GoAP's decision

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ITANAGAR, Nov 23: The GoAP's decision to release Rs. 6 Cr to the Deputy Commissioners of districts for establishment of drug de-addiction centers in various districts has been hailed by the Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society (APWWS) as a positive step in the crusade against drugs and opium addiction in the state.

Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister had during the State Development Council meeting on Tuesday last, announced that the Planning Department will release Rs. 6 Cr to concern DCs for establishment of drug de-addiction centers in various districts.

'The APWWS has been persistently taking up the issue with the GoAP and with the recent announcement we hope that the move will give enough impetus to various women-based organizations and NGOs in their fight against drug and opium menace. We, however, strongly urged the GoAP to implement the same at the earliest', said APWWS Secretary General, Kani Nada.

'Though the state has many de-addiction camps, most of them are not functioning due to lack of funds', she informed adding that the APWWS had on various occasion observed that non-functioning of rehabilitation centers makes it difficult for the authorities to rehabilitate addicts.

'Many a times we receive complaints from the police department lamenting the absence of functional de-addiction centers in the state', she claimed adding that the authorities have to admit the addicts to other Assam-based centers which are often expensive.

While stressing the need for proper care and treatment for addicts, she said that the fight against drug and opium addiction will not be inclusive if the state's de-addiction camps and rehabilitation centers are not functioning properly.