

DRUG ABUSERS MORE LIKELY TO COMMIT CRIME

Drug abuse is associated with a higher tendency to engage in criminal behaviour and crime.

VARIOUS OVERSEAS STUDIES DREW A LINK BETWEEN DRUG ABUSE AND VIOLENT CRIMES



- Higher criminal activity during active drug use, with a six-fold increase in the number of crime days in Baltimore, US.
- 40% increase in number of drug-related homicides after decriminalisation of drug use in Portugal.
- Likelihood of committing homicide was nearly 9 times greater for an individual who had used methamphetamine within the month prior to being arrested, in US.

RESEARCH SHOWED THAT DRUG ABUSE IS ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMES LIKE THEFT, ROBBERY & BURGLARY



- Likelihood of an offender engaging in drug-motivated theft is much higher for a heavy drug user.
- Likelihood of offending was about
 3 to 4 times greater for drug users.
- Illegal drug use increased the odds of committing any crime by 6 times.



Source: 'Review of Empirical Evidence on the Link between Drugs and Crime', MHA, 2020.