Daily Mains Practice Question 29-06-2026

GS III - Internal Security

Discuss the key features of the Vision Document on Drug Control (2026–2029). How does it seek to strengthen India's narcotics control framework? ***(10 Marks, 150 Words)***

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Introduction:

The Vision Document on Drug Control (2026–2029), released by the Ministry of Home Affairs, which provides a comprehensive national strategy to combat drug trafficking, dismantle organized narcotics networks, and reduce substance abuse through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach.

Main Body

What are the key features of the Vision Document (2026–2029)?

- **Three-Pronged Strategy** – Detect trafficking networks, disrupt supply chains and financial networks, and dismantle organized narcotics ecosystems through intelligence-led enforcement.
- **Technology-Driven Narcotics Control** – AI, data analytics, drones, GIS mapping, and digital surveillance are used to track trafficking routes and illegal cultivation, while also monitoring dark-web and cryptocurrency drug transactions.
- **Integrated Enforcement Strategy** – Strengthens coordination among agencies like the Narcotics Control Bureau, police, and customs, enabling real-time information sharing and joint operations against drug trafficking networks.
- **Focus on Prevention & Awareness** – Launches nationwide awareness campaigns, de-addiction centres, rehabilitation, and drug-free educational institutions targeting youth, schools, colleges, and vulnerable communities.
- **Targeting Drug Supply Chains** – Emphasizes dismantling organized crime syndicates involved in narcotics trade and strengthens financial investigations and asset seizure under relevant laws.
- **International & Border Cooperation** – Enhances cooperation with neighboring countries and international agencies, while improving surveillance along sensitive borders, particularly those linked to the Golden Crescent & Golden Triangle.

- **Capacity Building** – Provides specialized training for law-enforcement personnel, prosecutors, and forensic experts, while upgrading laboratories for faster drug analysis and evidence processing.

How it strengthens India's narcotics control framework?

- **Integrated Enforcement** – Creates a multi-agency, intelligence-led enforcement system, reducing duplication and improving operational efficiency.
- **Financial Disruption** – Targets the financial backbone of drug cartels through asset seizure, anti-money laundering measures, and financial intelligence.
- **Demand Reduction** – Moves beyond arrests to reduce demand through prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation, addressing the root causes of drug abuse.
- **Border & International Security** – Strengthens border management and international cooperation, helping India respond to transnational narcotics trafficking.
- **Technology and Evidence** – Improves evidence-based policymaking through data collection, analytics, and modern surveillance tools.
- **Whole-of-Society Participation** – Involves families, educational institutions, civil society, and local governments, making drug control a broader social movement rather than only a policing function.

What are the challenges exists?

- Implementation capacity varies across states.
- Shortage of trained personnel and rehabilitation infrastructure.
- Balancing strict enforcement with protection of civil liberties.
- Need for sustained funding and monitoring.

Conclusion:

The Vision Document marks a shift from fragmented law enforcement to an intelligence-driven, technology-enabled, and public health-oriented narcotics policy. Its success, however, will depend on cooperative federalism, sustained capacity building, robust border management, and active citizen participation to realize the vision of a drug-free India.

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