Measures taken for to tackle the illegal drug trade in border areas

Why in News?

Government made various efforts to tackle the illegal drug trade in border areas.

- **Nodal Ministry -** Ministry of Home Affairs.

Narco-Coordination Centre (NCORD)	It is a 4-tier mechanism that ensures better coordination between Central & State Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and other stakeholders in the field of controlling drug trafficking and drug abuse in India.
Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF)	**Headed by** - Additional Director General/ Inspector General level Police Officer. **Established in -** Each State/ Union Territory to function as the NCORD Secretariat for the State/ Union Territory and follow-up on compliance of decisions taken in NCORD meetings at different levels.
Joint Coordination Committee (JCC)	Setup under Chairmanship of Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to monitor the investigation of important and significant seizures.
National Investigation Agency (NIA)	Empowered under *Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985* in the year 2020 for investigation of narco-terrorism cases.
Border Guarding Forces (Border Security Force, Assam Rifles and Sashastra Seema Bal)	Empowered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 to carry out search, seizure and arrest for illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs at international border.
Railway Protection Force (RPF)	Empowered under NDPS Act to check drug trafficking along the railway routes.
Narcotics Control Bureau	Coordinates with agencies like, Navy, Coast Guard, Border Security Force, State ANTF, etc. to conduct joint operations to control the drug trafficking.
National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)	High level dedicated group created in 2022 to analyze the drug trafficking through maritime routes, challenges and solutions.

International steps to combat illegal drug trade

- **Director General Level Talks -** Organized with neighboring and other countries to resolve various issues on drug trafficking having international implications.
- **Countries involved -** Myanmar, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Singapore, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, etc.

- India has signed combating illicit trafficking of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) and Chemical Precursors, as well as related offenses.
- India is closely associated with International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and all its programs viz.
    - PEN (Pre-Export Notification), PICS (Precursors Incident Communication System), and IONICS (International Operations on New Psychoactive Substances Incident Communication System).
- Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) co-ordinates with various international organizations for sharing information and intelligence to combat trans-national drug trafficking.
- NCB India takes part in real-time information sharing with various Drug Liaison Officers of other countries for operational and intelligence information.

Reference

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