

## 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.

<b>Narco-Coordination Centre (NCORD)</b>	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.
<b>Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF)</b>	<b>Headed by</b> - Additional Director General/ Inspector General level Police Officer. <b>Established in</b> - 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.
<b>Joint Coordination Committee (JCC)</b>	Setup under Chairmanship of Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to monitor the investigation of important and significant seizures.
<b>National Investigation Agency (NIA)</b>	Empowered under <i>Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985</i> in the year 2020 for investigation of narco-terrorism cases.
<b>Border Guarding Forces (Border Security Force, Assam Rifles and Sashastra Seema Bal)</b>	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.
<b>Railway Protection Force (RPF)</b>	Empowered under NDPS Act to check drug trafficking along the railway routes.
<b>Narcotics Control Bureau</b>	Coordinates with agencies like, Navy, Coast Guard, Border Security Force, State ANTF, etc. to conduct joint operations to control the drug trafficking.
<b>National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)</b>	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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