Defence & Security · GS - III

The increasing use of drones and clandestine laboratories by drug trafficking networks has added new dimensions to India's internal security challenges. Examine the threat and suggest a comprehensive strategy to counter it.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 10/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Drone-based smuggling, narco-terrorism, synthetic drugs, clandestine laboratories, border surveillance, NDPS Act, intelligence coordination, technology, international cooperation.

Model Answer

Introduction

Drug trafficking has evolved from conventional cross-border smuggling to technology-enabled networks involving drones, synthetic drugs and clandestine manufacturing facilities.

Emerging Security Challenges

1. **Drone-based trafficking:** Unmanned aerial vehicles facilitate the movement of narcotics across difficult-to-monitor border areas.
2. **Narco-terrorism:** Drug proceeds may finance organised crime and terrorist activities.
3. **Synthetic drug production:** Illegal laboratories enable domestic manufacturing and complicate detection.
4. **Digital networks:** Darknet platforms and cryptocurrencies provide anonymity to trafficking networks.

Comprehensive Strategy

- Deploy anti-drone systems, radar and integrated border surveillance.

- Strengthen intelligence-sharing among NCB, BSF, state police and other agencies.
- Monitor precursor chemicals and suspicious industrial facilities.
- Improve financial investigations and digital forensics.
- Enhance international cooperation and community-based prevention.
- Strengthen rehabilitation and treatment for substance dependence.

Conclusion

India needs an integrated approach combining border security, technological capabilities, law enforcement and public health measures to address the evolving drug trafficking threat.

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