# Defence & Security · GS - III

**Drug trafficking networks increasingly operate through interconnected supply chains involving transportation, storage and distribution across state boundaries. Examine the institutional and technological measures required to strengthen India's anti-narcotics framework.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
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| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 15 | ~250 words |

## Answer Hint

**NDPS Act 1985, NCB, DRI, state police, inter-state coordination, intelligence-sharing, financial investigation, darknet and digital payments, border management, rehabilitation, demand reduction.**

## Model Answer

### Introduction

Drug trafficking is a transnational and inter-state organised crime that threatens public health, internal security and economic stability. Recent enforcement operations demonstrate the importance of tracing entire supply chains rather than focusing only on individual carriers.

### Measures to Strengthen Anti-Narcotics Enforcement

1. **Institutional coordination:** Strengthen cooperation among NCB, state police, DRI, customs and border agencies through joint investigations and intelligence-sharing.

2. **Financial disruption:** Trace money laundering, benami assets and proceeds of crime to dismantle the financial foundations of trafficking networks.
3. **Technology-enabled policing:** Use data analytics, digital forensics, surveillance and intelligence systems to identify trafficking routes, storage facilities and distribution networks.
4. **Legal enforcement:** Ensure effective implementation of the NDPS Act, including investigation, prosecution and asset forfeiture, with safeguards against procedural misuse.
5. **Border and transit monitoring:** Strengthen surveillance of vulnerable land borders, transport hubs, warehouses and logistics networks.
6. **Demand reduction:** Combine enforcement with awareness, de-addiction, rehabilitation and community-based prevention.

**Challenges**

Fragmented intelligence, sophisticated trafficking networks, corruption, digital anonymity and lengthy investigations weaken enforcement outcomes.

**Conclusion**

India needs an integrated approach combining intelligence-led policing, financial investigation, inter-agency coordination and public health interventions. Targeting the entire trafficking ecosystem is essential for sustainable drug control.

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