

# Drug Free India

No more Drug Trade

- Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ministry of Home Affairs has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy against Narcotics.
- The Modi government has laid constant emphasis on inter-departmental coordination under the 'Whole of Government Approach', especially towards the fight against narcotics.
- The Modi Government's multidimensional efforts led to increase of more-than 160% in the seizure of Narcotics and 199% more cases have been registered against those involved in its business by NCB.

## Challenge

The increase in drug abuse is a matter of concern for the entire country. Addiction to drugs makes the youth an unproductive burden on society, the earnings from its business strengthen problems like terrorism. The Modi government believes that the problem of drugs is also a big challenge to national security, which can be tackled only with the coordination of all.

## Strategy

In the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence, Hon'ble Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah ji has taken resolve that Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's call for 'Drug-Free India' must be made a firm determination in this Amrit kaal period. The Ministry of Home Affairs formulated a "three-point strategy" adopting a "zero-tolerance" policy against drugs.



# Strengthening the Institutional Framework

Because of Hon'ble Shri Narendra Modi's emphasis on strengthening the system and ensuring its accountability, continuous efforts have been made by the Ministry of Home Affairs to strengthen institutional restructuring and legal provisions for NARCO control as well.

## NCORD

In the year 2019, the four (04) tier NCORD mechanism was strengthened for better cohesion and synergy between the Central and State drug law enforcement agencies. The Apex level NCORD Committee headed by the Union Home Secretary, Executive Level-headed by the Special Secretary (IS), MHA and State Level NCORD Committee State level-headed by the Chief Secretary of the particular State and District level NCORD Committee headed by the District Magistrate were formed respectively. MHA vide Office Memorandum dated March 25, 2022 further strengthened the NCORD mechanism by including additional participants in the Committee at various levels.

## Constitution of Joint Coordination Committee (JCC)

Constitution of Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) in 2019 to trace the various layers involved in drug trafficking and for detailed investigation of cases of major drug seizures. Till 2022, 07 State Level and 07 Central JCC meetings were held.

## Restructuring of NCB cadre

Cadre restructuring of Narcotics Control Bureau was proposed, in the first phase it was proposed to create 682 posts, out of which approval has been given for the creation of 425 posts. Along with this, creation of 05 New Zonal Offices, creation of 04 Regional Offices, up-gradation in 12 sub-zones and Drug Intelligence Wing, Prosecution Wing, Cyber Wing and IT Wing etc. have also been approved.



The Indian government, under Modi's leadership, has taken a strong stance against drug production within the country, as well as the importation and exportation of illegal substances. Such activities are strictly prohibited and enforced to ensure the safety and well-being of the nation's citizens.

- **Shri Amit Shah** (Hon'ble Home Minister)

## SIMS e-portal

SIMS (Seizure Information Management System) e-portal has been developed for trend analysis and database management of Drug Trafficking. SIMS portal is also hosted on cloud server of NIC.

## Disposal Of Seized Drugs

Disposal Of Seized Drugs campaign is being run from June 1, 2022. On the occasion of 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence, a target was set to destroy 75 thousand kg of drugs in 75 days. The target was achieved much earlier. So far, 10,17,523 kg of seized drugs has been disposed of during this special destruction drive, which is worth ₹11,961 crores. Out of this, NCB alone has disposed of 1,53,819 KG of seized narcotics, which is worth ₹3,756 crores.

## Misuse of Prescription for Double use

An IMC on dual use prescription drugs and precursor chemicals was set up and they have given their detailed recommendations to curtail the diversion of prescription drugs and precursor chemicals from legal to illicit channel. The recommendations of IMC in their final report has been circulated to all stakeholders on March 16, 2023 for compliance.

## National Database related to NARCO

Hon'ble Home Minister had instructed NCB to prepare a detailed national database related to Narcotics, NARCO-funding, NARCO-terror cases, analysis of drug trafficking trends and criminals.



## Special operation to prevent smuggling by sea route

About 60-70% of Narcotics drugs are smuggled into India mainly through the sea route, a high-level dedicated task force has been created in the National Security Council Secretariat to analyze drug smuggling through sea routes.

Representative from Ministry of Port Shipping & Waterways, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Coastal Police, Port Trust of Coastal States, and State Maritime Board and Port Authorities have been made member of NCORD mechanism at different level.

100% scanning of suspected containers are being done.

Inter-ministerial committee has been constituted to study the Best Practices evolved by the other countries on the issue of trans-national drug trafficking through Maritime route.

The Ministry of Shipping was asked to take necessary steps while directing the management of container scanners and related equipment.

## Financial investigation

All financial documents are analyzed individually and in appropriate cases financial investigations are conducted and assets created out of drug money are seized. Hawala transactions are also worked out to trace money laundering channels linked to drug trafficking. Relevant information is also shared with FIU-IND, ED and other intelligence agencies for their analysis. Till June 2023, NCB conducted financial investigation in 23 such cases in which property worth ₹74,75,00,531 was frozen.

## Coordination with international institutions

Coordination with international agencies: Proper coordination was made with international agencies like Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Australian Federal Police (AFP), National Crime Agency (NCA), Royal Canadian Mountain Police (RCMP) etc., which is helping a lot in controlling the international drug mafia. Apart from this, Bilateral Agreements / MoUs have also been signed with 44 countries on the issue of drugs.

## NARCO – Canine Pool

Canine Pool The establishment of the Phase-I of National Narcotics K9 (Nar-K9) Pool is almost complete in 10 locations of NCB (Delhi, Chandigarh, Jammu, zq, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Imphal, Guwahati and Bangalore).

To make the Nar- K9 pool more effective, and to enable it to meet the requirements of other agencies with respect to Narcotics Detecting K9s, proposals for further strengthening of the Nar-K9 Pool are being assessed.

These proposals include, sharing of infrastructure of existing DBTS (Dog Breeding and Training School) of CAPFs, developing Nar-K9 pool through PPP (Public Private Partnership) model, setting up of own DBTS by NCB and Consolidation of existing K9 resources under a single authority in Ministry of Home Affairs etc.

## Drug Network Chart and Mapping

The complete drug network chart is prepared and mapping is also done to work out the source and destination of the drugs.



## Coordination with NARCO Agencies



The lack of coordination between various institutions, coordination and accountability between the Center and the states, weakened the system. In order to make the government's performance effective, the Modi government has constantly emphasized on inter-departmental coordination under the 'Whole of Government Approach'. Following this strategy of Modi ji, and the Ministry of Home Affairs has taken many effective steps in this direction too.

### ■ Coordination through a four-tier structure of N-Cord:

- Efforts are being made to effectively coordinate the work of all central, state drug law enforcement agencies and address policy and operational issues related to enforcement of drug laws.
- **NCORD Portal:** This portal provides for quick access to information such as integrated drug data, information management, government orders, related laws, mapping, rules, best practices, standard operating process, court orders and reporting mechanism etc.
- Meeting: The APEX Committee of NCORD met five times on November 19, 2019, October 21, 2020, December 27, 2021 and May 05, 2022 and December 01, 2022.
  - Number of State/UT NCORD Meetings: 127
  - Number of District NCORD Meetings: 2193

### ■ Formation of Dedicated Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF):

As per the instructions of the Hon'ble Union Home Minister, dedicated Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) units have been formed in all States and Union Territories.

### ■ Curbing drugs and dark-net:

The use of Dark-net and Crypto-currency in illegal drugs trade is increasing. In the last 03 years (2020 - 2022), NCB investigated 59 such cases. To control this, the need for an information system was emphasized and instructions were given to develop it as SUBMAC. Although the MAC portal is for issues related to counterterrorism, but inputs of dark-net, crypto-currencies are being shared on the MAC Subgroup in drug cases. The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the sub-group was held on February 20, 2023.

### ■ Coordination among Central level stakeholders:

As per the directions of the Hon'ble Union Home Minister and in view of the importance of coordination in the field of drug law enforcement, the following Central Ministries/Departments have been included as Members in the Central/State level NCORD Committees -

**A Central level:** Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Port, Shipping and Waterways, NCRB, National Investigation Agency(NIA), Indian Coast Guard, DRI, National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC), Enforcement Directorate (ED) and National Technical Research Organization (NTRO).

**At State Level:** Department of Education, Department of Posts, representative of Intelligence Bureau (IB) and representative of Enforcement Directorate (ED) in State level NCORD Committee and representative of MHA / Intelligence Bureau (IB) at District level NCORD Committee.

## ■ **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB): Centralized web-based portal developed:**

- In February, 2023, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved revised proposed out lay of ₹411.59 Crore for improvement of the infrastructural facility of NCB
- Primary and expenditure approval of ₹ 703.75 crore was given by the Ministry of Home Affairs for the projects of Bengaluru, Indore, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Delhi and Amritsar zonal units, out of which the construction work of office buildings of Indore and Bhubaneswar zonal units has been completed. Construction work is in progress in Guwahati, Amritsar and Delhi zonal units.
- From May 31, 2019, to December 31, 2022, a total of 2 lakh 38 thousand kilograms of Narcotics and psychotropic substances were seized, the highest in just 3 years during 2019 to 2022
- Illegal cannabis cultivation and illegal opium cultivation destroyed from May 31, 2019, to December 31, 2022: 26,344 acres of illegal cannabis cultivation and 13,580 acres of illegal opium cultivation destroyed from May 31, 2019 to December 31, 2022

■ **'Drug-free India' pledge campaign:** Online e-pledge launched by NCB against drugs has received huge public support. Along with India's anti-drug campaign, NCB is working to take online e-pledge to the masses with the help of other central and state agencies, universities, social media of the country and so far about 30 lakh citizens have acted against drugs. Oath has also been taken.

- In order to explore and establish the possibility of cooperation in matters related to drugs, digital and allied forensics, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between NCB and NFSU (National Forensic Science University) which will benefit all concerned agencies.

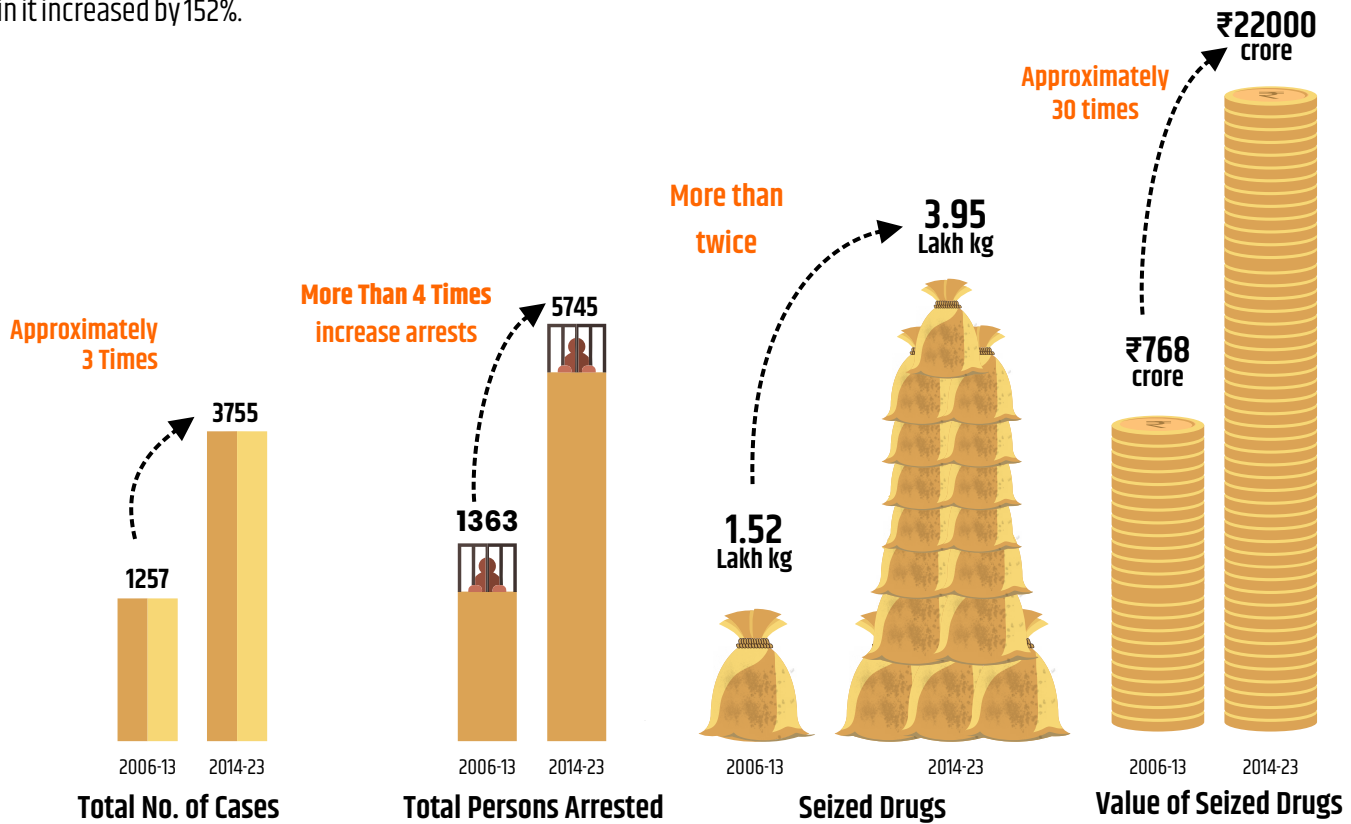
■ **Prevention of cultivation of illegal drugs:** Illegal cultivation of Poppy and Cannabis in remote hilly areas is a major concern for all Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (DLEAs).

- The Ministry of Home Affairs has constituted a study group to analyse the use of drones in mapping and destruction of illicit crops under cultivation in remote areas.
- Suggestions on alternative livelihood arrangements for farmers engaged in cultivation of illegal Narcotics crops have been issued to all the affected states.
- NCB is also sharing satellite imagery with affected states for identification and destruction of illegal cultivation.



# Changes were seen in the Results

The result of the multipronged efforts of the Modi government at the Center is that after 2014, the quantity of narcotics seized by NCB till 2023 (June) increased by almost 100% and the cases registered against those dealing in it increased by 152%.



## Mass Awareness Campaign

**Narcotics Call Centre:** NCB is making efforts for expeditiously setting up a Narcotics Helpline viz. 'MANAS' through Digital Corporation of India. Recently the progress of this work was reviewed by the Home Secretary of India and several guidelines were issued. It is hoped that soon the MANAS helpline will be made operational for use by the public.

### Awareness:

NCB, through its field units, has been organizing year-wise anti-drug awareness programs all over India at places which are vulnerable from the point of view of drug abuse.

NCB is also running campaigns on social media mainly to make the general public, especially the youth aware about the ill effects of drug abuse.

In the recent past, NCB has organised awareness campaigns on a large scale through various awareness programs like marathon, cyclathon, rally etc. Recently NCB has requested the Ministry of Education, educational departments and institutions and other agencies to focus efforts on awareness campaign against drugs through primary and middle school.

**Narcotics Training Module:** In order to ensure uniformity in training courses on drug law enforcement in the country, a core module and 05 training modules developed by NCB, in coordination with DoR, MoS&E, NACIN, BPR&D and CAPT, for officers of various ranks of Central/State law enforcement, were circulated to all Central/State Law Enforcement Agencies, NACIN and BPR&D for conducting training by including the same in the training programs of their respective training institutes. After review of these modules by NCB, NACIN and CAPT in February 2023, some suggestions have been sent by NCB to BPR&D to further update these training modules.

Launch of Nash Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) in 372 most vulnerable districts, under which mass community outreach is being created through more than 8000 youth volunteers. So far, more than 3.12 crore youth and 2.06 crore women have been reached.

340 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres (IRCA) are supported by the government. The Government has also provided assistance to special de-addiction centres for women and children.

48 Community Based Peer Interventions (CPLI) are supported by the Central Government.

71 Outreach and Drop-In centres (ODIC) supported by the government.

The Government also supports setting up of 46 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) in some Government hospitals, which is being implemented through AIIMS, New Delhi.

A toll-free helpline for de-addiction, 14446, is being maintained by the Government to provide first aid and immediate assistance to the persons receiving assistance.

The Government through its autonomous body National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) and other partner agencies such as State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan provides regular awareness generation and sensitization sessions to all stakeholders including students, teachers, parents.

NCB has launched awareness campaigns through audio video messages of eminent personalities from the field of politics, bureaucracy, sports, film, music etc. and also through telecom service providers, FM radio, television channels etc.

Social media is being effectively used to spread the campaign's message online through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The short awareness film about drug use has been made in 9 languages and released on social media and has also been circulated to states to make people aware about the dangers of drug abuse.

## Quantity/value of narcotics destroyed across the country

### Drug disposal

June, 2022 to January, 2023

