Polity & Governance · GS - II

Drug abuse poses challenges to public health, internal security and governance in India. Examine the role of Centre–State coordination in addressing the drug menace and suggest a comprehensive strategy.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 20/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

NDPS Act, 1985, Narcotics Control Bureau, State Police, Article 47, border security, drug trafficking networks, public health, rehabilitation, youth awareness, intelligence sharing, inter-agency coordination and accountability.

Model Answer

Introduction

Drug abuse is a multidimensional challenge affecting public health, social stability, youth development and internal security. Effective action requires coordinated law enforcement alongside prevention and rehabilitation.

Role of Centre–State Coordination

- **Legal enforcement:** The NDPS Act, 1985, provides the framework for controlling narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
- **Institutional coordination:** The NCB, state police and other agencies can share intelligence, investigate trafficking networks and coordinate operations.
- **Constitutional responsibility:** Police and public order fall primarily under the State List, making state-level enforcement essential. Central agencies provide complementary support.
- **Public health:** Article 47 supports efforts to prevent harmful substance use and improve public health.

Comprehensive Strategy

Governments should strengthen intelligence-led investigations, disrupt financial networks, improve border surveillance and ensure accountability in enforcement. Schools and communities should promote awareness, while accessible counselling, treatment and rehabilitation address addiction as a health concern.

Investigations into alleged crimes must remain impartial, evidence-based and consistent with due process.

Conclusion

A balanced approach combining strict action against trafficking, effective Centre–State coordination and compassionate rehabilitation is essential to reduce drug abuse sustainably.