

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1202**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH JULY, 2026/ SHRAVANA 7, 1948 (SAKA)

DRUG TRAFFICKING IN PUNJAB

1202 # SHRI TARUN CHUGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to strengthen coordination among NCB, BSF, Punjab Police and other agencies to combat organized drug trafficking and narco-terrorism in Punjab;

(b) whether the intelligence information-sharing mechanism established under the Narco Coordination Centre has identified inter-State or cross-border drug trafficking networks operating in Punjab, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any special initiative has been taken to strengthen prosecution and conviction in the cases related to drug trafficking and narco-terrorism in Punjab, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) Punjab, owing to its proximity to the international border, remains vulnerable to cross-border smuggling activities, with an emerging nexus involving narcotics trafficking, illegal arms supply and terror financing. Drug trafficking networks are increasingly adopting advanced methods such as the use of GPS-enabled drones for cross-border delivery of contraband and reliance on encrypted communication platforms, virtual numbers and forged

KYC-based SIM cards to evade detection. To address these challenges, following steps have been taken by the Government, which includes: -

(i) To strengthen Centre–State coordination, the Government has established a four-tier Narco-Coordination Centre (NCORD) mechanism for regular coordination among Central Ministries, State Governments, law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders.

(ii) To monitor the investigation of significant and important drug cases including cases of narco-terrorism, Government has set-up a Joint Coordination Committee (JCC). So far, 04 State level JCC meeting have been conducted in the state of Punjab by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to bring synergy in enforcement action by various Central/State drug law enforcement agencies to tackle organised drug syndicate including their links with terror financing, if any.

(iii) NCB has opened Zonal & Regional Office at Amritsar for increased operation and co-ordination with state & other enforcement/border/Intel agencies specifically in border districts of Punjab.

(iv) Strengthening inter-agency coordination through regular meetings, joint operational planning, intelligence sharing, and coordinated enforcement

actions among NCB, Border Security Force (BSF), Punjab Police, State Anti-Narcotics Task Force, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), National Investigation Agency (NIA), Enforcement Directorate (ED) and other concerned agencies.

(v) Strengthening border security through enhanced surveillance, deployment of advanced technological solutions, anti-drone measures, and increased operational coordination between BSF and Punjab Police to prevent cross-border smuggling of narcotics and arms.

(vi) Leveraging financial investigations under the provisions of relevant laws to identify, attach, and confiscate proceeds of crime generated from illicit drug trafficking and disrupt the financial infrastructure supporting organized criminal networks.

(vii) Capacity building of enforcement agencies through specialized training programmes, sharing of best practices, and strengthening of forensic and investigative capabilities for effective detection, investigation, and prosecution of narcotics-related offences.

(b) The identification of inter-State and cross-border drug trafficking networks through intelligence information-sharing under the Narco

Coordination Centre (NCORD) is a continuous process. Networks operating in Punjab, wherever identified, are shared with the concerned agencies for appropriate action.

(c) The Government has taken several measures to strengthen investigation, prosecution, and conviction in cases related to drug trafficking and narco-terrorism, including those in Punjab, some of which are as under: -

(i) The prosecution and trial of offences under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Act and other applicable laws. The Government continues to strengthen institutional capacity and interagency coordination to improve the effectiveness of investigation and prosecution of drug trafficking and narco-terrorism cases.

(ii) Conducting financial investigations to identify, attach, and confiscate proceeds of crime under the relevant provisions of law, thereby dismantling the financial networks of organized drug trafficking syndicates.

(iii) Capacity building of enforcement agencies through specialized training programmes on investigation techniques, collection of evidence, forensic

examination, financial investigation, and prosecution of narcotics- related offences.

(iv) Strengthening forensic support and scientific investigation to improve the quality of evidence and facilitate successful prosecution.

(v) Regular monitoring and review of significant cases through institutional coordination mechanisms to ensure timely investigation and prosecution.

(vi) Facilitating close coordination between investigating agencies and prosecuting authorities for effective presentation of evidence before the courts.
