

# Drug Abuse in India: Causes, Impact and solutions

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**Abstract:** *The problem of drug abuse is one of the major problems nowadays. It affects not only the individual but also its family at large. Nowadays, this type of problem is found among youths or teenagers. It is the primary stage of criminal activities. If a person indulges in drug activities then in future he will also be involved in other crimes like robbery, murder or other type of illicit activities. So if the problem of drugs is reduced then other crimes will also be reduced. So the abuser is given rehabilitation treatment rather than punishment. This problem can only be addressed through education and awareness.*

**Key words:** *Drug abuse, illicit activities, rehabilitation*

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY OF DRUG ABUSE

The history of drugs illuminates the history of human and explores the long relationship between mankind and mind –altering substances. Use of drug is as the history of mankind. Almost all primitive and modern societies seem to have used some mood modifying drugs. Humans have used drugs for thousands of years. The earliest recorded use of narcotics dates back to 4,000 B.C, with medicinal marijuana appearing in China around 2,737 B.C. The extraction of active ingredients from psychoactive drugs did not occur until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Thereafter, the emergence of unregulated and freely prescribed drugs, such as morphine, laudanum, and cocaine, laid the groundwork for modern addiction. People could buy these drugs in patented medicine bottles at local drugstores. During the American Civil War, wounded veterans returned home with their morphine kits. As a result, opium dens thrived. By the early 1900s, an estimated 250,000 morphine addicts lived in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. MEANING OF DRUGS

A **drug** is any substance (other than food that provides nutritional support) that, when inhaled, injected , smoked , consumed , absorbed via a patch on the skin, or dissolved under the tongue causes a temporary physiological (and often psychological) change in the body.<sup>2</sup> In pharmacology, a pharmaceutical drug, also called a medication or medicine, is a chemical substance used to treat, cure, prevent, or diagnose a disease or to promote well-being. Traditionally drugs were obtained through extraction from medicinal plants, but more recently also by organic synthesis. Pharmaceutical drugs may be used for a limited duration, or on a regular basis for chronic disorders.<sup>3</sup>

### 2.1 Types of Narcotic drugs :-

"Narcotic drug" means coca leaf, cannabis (hemp), opium, poppy straw and includes all manufactured drugs.

**1) Cannabis (hemp) means** Resin or charas and its concentrated variant called hashish; dried flowering or fruiting tops of the plant, that is, ganja and any mixture of charas or ganja. Importantly, bhang or the cannabis leaf is excluded (in accordance with the 1961 Convention) and regulated through state excise laws.

**2) Charas means** that is, the separated resin, in whatever form, whether crude or purified, obtained from the cannabis plant and also includes concentrated preparation and resin known as hashish oil or liquid hashish.

**3) Ganja means** that is, the flowering or fruiting tops of the cannabis plant (excluding the seeds and leaves when not accompanied by the tops), by whatever name they may be known or designated.<sup>4</sup>

#### 4) coca derivative means:

(a) crude cocaine, that is, any extract of coca leaf which can be used, directly or indirectly, for the manufacture of cocaine.

(b) ecgonine and all the derivatives of ecgonine from which it can be recovered.

(c) Cocaine, that is, methyl ester of benzoyl-

ecgonine and its salts.

(d) all preparations containing more than 0.1 per cent. of cocaine.<sup>5</sup>

#### 5) coca leaf means:

(a) The leaf of the coca plant except a leaf from which all ecgonine cocaine and any other ecgonine alkaloids have been removed.

(b) Any mixture thereof with or without any neutral material, but does not include any preparation containing not more than 0.1 per cent. of cocaine.<sup>6</sup>

**6) coca plant means** the plant of any species of the genus *Erythroxylon*;<sup>7</sup>

#### 7) Opium plant means:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.morningsiderecovery.com> (visited on 12 march, 2018 at 7pm)

<sup>2</sup> Stedman's Medical dictionary

<sup>3</sup> The American heritage science dictionary

<sup>4</sup> Section 2(iii) of The NDPS Act 1985

<sup>5</sup> Section 2(V) of The NDPS Act 1985

<sup>6</sup> Section 2(vi) of the NDPS Act 1985

<sup>7</sup> Section 2(vii) of the NDPS Act 1985

(a) The coagulated juice of the opium poppy.

(b) Any mixture, with or without any neutral material, of the coagulated juice of the opium poppy, but does not include any preparation containing not more than 0.2 per cent of morphine.<sup>8</sup>

#### 8) Opium derivative means:

(a) Medicinal opium, that is, opium which has undergone the processes necessary to adapt it for medicinal use in accordance with the requirements of the Indian Pharmacopoeia or any other pharmacopoeia notified in this behalf by the Central Government, whether in powder form or granulated or otherwise or mixed with neutral materials.

(b) prepared opium, that is, any product of opium obtained by any series of operations designed to transform opium into an extract suitable for smoking and the dross or other residue remaining after opium is smoked.

(c) Phenanthrene alkaloids, namely, morphine, codeine, thebaine and their salt diacetylmorphine, that is, the alkaloid also known as dia-morphine or heroin and its salts.

(d) All preparations containing more than 0.2 per cent. of morphine or containing any diacetylmorphine.<sup>9</sup>

#### 9) Poppy straw means:

All parts (except the seeds) of the opium poppy after harvesting whether in their original form or cut, crushed or powdered and whether or not juice has been extracted there from.<sup>10</sup>

#### 10) Heroin means

Heroin is a highly addictive, illegal drug. It is used by millions of addicts around the world who are unable to overcome the urge to continue taking this drug every day of their lives—knowing that if they stop, they will face the horror of withdrawal.

Heroin (like opium and morphine) is made from the resin of poppy plants. Milky, sap-like opium is first removed from the pod of the poppy flower. This opium is refined to make morphine, then further refined into different forms of heroin.

### 3. DEFINITION OF DRUG ABUSE

#### (i) According to business dictionary

‘compulsive, excessive, and self-damaging use of habit forming drugs or substances, leading to addiction or dependence, serious physiological injury (such as damage to kidneys, liver, heart) and psychological harm (such as dysfunctional behavior patterns, hallucinations, memory loss), or death. Also called substance abuse.<sup>11</sup>

#### (ii) According to Medical dictionary

The use of any drug, for recreational or pleasure purposes, which is currently disapproved of by the majority of the members of a society. ‘Hard’ drugs are those liable to cause major emotional and physical dependency and an alteration in the social functioning of the user.<sup>12</sup>

#### (iii) According to national institute on drug abuse (NIDA)

Addiction is defined as a chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences. It is considered a brain disease because drugs change the brain—they change its structure and how it works. These brain changes can be long-lasting, and can lead to the harmful behaviors seen in people who abuse drugs.<sup>13</sup>

#### (iv) According to WHO

Substance abuse refers to the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs. Psychoactive substance use can lead to dependence syndrome - a cluster of behavioural, cognitive, and physiological phenomena that develop after repeated substance use and that typically include a strong desire to take the drug, difficulties in controlling its use, persisting in its use despite harmful consequences, a higher priority given to drug use than to other activities and obligations, increased tolerance, and sometimes a physical withdrawal state.<sup>14</sup>

### 4. IMPACT OF DRUG ABUSE

Following facts which affects drug addicted person such as:

The most major impact of drug abuse is on the brain, which consequentially affects every other aspect of life of the person addicted to drugs. Drugs are primary chemicals that affect the communication system of the human brain. Drug disturb the ways in which nerve cell send, process and receive information. there are a couple of ways in which drugs achieve this – they copy the natural chemical messengers of the human brain and they overstimulate the brains reward circuit. drugs such as heroin and marijuana are structured in the same way as chemical messengers known as neurotransmitters.

Drugs can impact your teen in countless ways. While some of these effects can be remedied when the substance abuse stops, many are permanent. Each drug carries its own set of side effects, but some consequences are prevalent among multiple substances.

Drug abuse and addiction also affects broken families, destroyed careers, death due to negligence or accident, domestic violence, physical abuse, and child abuse.

### 5. SYMPTOMS OF DRUG ABUSE

Depending upon your drug of choice, the symptoms that suggest the presence of an addiction that requires treatment will vary. Different classes of drugs have different telltale signs that signify usage.

<sup>8</sup> Section 2(xv) of the NDPS Act 1985

<sup>9</sup> Section 2(xvi) of The NDPS Act 1985

<sup>10</sup> Section 2(xviii) of The NDPS Act 1985

<sup>11</sup> [www.businessdictionary.com/definition/drug-abuse.html](http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/drug-abuse.html) (visited on 14 march, 2018 at 2pm)

<sup>12</sup> <https://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/drug+abuse> (visited on 14 march, 2018 at 2pm)

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.drugabuse.gov/> (visited on 14 march, 2018 at 2pm)

<sup>14</sup> [www.who.int/topics/substance\\_abuse/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/substance_abuse/en/) (visited on 14 march, at 3pm)

In general, however, there are a number of signs that drug abuse or alcohol abuse is a serious problem. If you recognize some or all of the following things happening to someone you care about, or happening in your own life, drug abuse may be an issue that needs to be addressed in treatment:

- Isolating from family and friends who don't use drugs
- Spending time with new friends or friends who get high or drink
- Never having money or often asking to borrow money, even for small items
- Showing up late to work/school or not showing up at all
- Losing a job
- Doing little to find a job if out of work
- Paying less attention to basic hygiene

## 6. CAUSES

While addiction affects men and women and even children in every age and economic group, some factors have been shown to increase the likelihood of drug use and addiction.

### (i) Due to low self-esteem

When a person has low self-esteem, they may be more influenced by the world around them and their resulting actions. For example, a person with low self-esteem may have trouble overcoming negative thoughts or feelings and therefore turn to outside experiences or activities to change those negative thoughts into positive ones. Drugs can be one of the outside activities they turn to in a negative situation or state of mind.

### (ii.) Lack of parental control

Parental control is not only beneficial but necessary and has immediate negative effects when not present that can put a child in danger. Students who remain far away from parents and guardian and live in hostels become victim of addiction. They take advantage of freedom of supervisory control.

### (iii) Enhanced Experiences

Drugs are often used to enhance certain experiences. Cocaine are commonly used to enhance energy and focus when we feel like we can't do something on our own and need a little help. Ecstasy can be used for a lack of inhibition and enhanced sexual experience. Marijuana and alcohol are often used to relax and be more comfortable in social situations.

### (iv.) Depression

Some teens turn to drugs and alcohol as a form of escapism. When we are sad or depressed we see these substances as a way to forget and feel happier. It's our attempt to self-medicate. You may see a sullen attitude as "just being a teenager," but there may be a deeper depression within.

### (v.) Curiosity

Curiosity is a natural part of life and teenagers are not immune to the urge. Many teens begin experimenting with drugs and alcohol simply because we are curious and want to know what it feels like. As teenagers, we have the delusion that we are invincible. Even if we know that drugs are bad, we don't believe that anything bad can actually happen to us. Educating your child on the repercussions of drug and alcohol abuse may extinguish this curiosity.

### (vi) Genetics

While some believe the roots of addiction may lie deep within you at the cellular level, there are as many variables as our individual DNA. This is why siblings often follow very different paths, some leading to addiction and some not. That being said, genetics do play a role by predisposing you to developing an addiction.

Genetic factors contribute to about half of a person's tendency to become addicted. Our genes have been linked to:

- a quicker reaction to drugs
- a decreased ability to feel any negative effects
- an increased euphoria
- a quick involvement with repetitive behaviors, i.e., an addictive personality

These genetic factors can cause experimental drug use to quickly spin out of control and make it difficult to stop.

### vii) Environment

Studies have shown that genetics alone does not an addict make. Like so many others, the home that you and your siblings grew up in also plays a significant role in your addiction. There are several factors that play into this:

- divorce
- frequent arguments
- mental illness
- drug or alcohol abuse

Perhaps, your parents stayed together but fought frequently and intensely. Experts believe the stress level that this type of behavior generates in us can predispose us to becoming addicted to kill the pain. They also feel that some children grow up to mimic their parents' drug and abuse.

The environment right outside an addict's front door also plays a part. If one lives in a neighborhood where drug use is normalized, he begins to see it as normal, and the everyone-is-doing-it rationale comes into play. It can also be stressful to live in that type of environment, which can lead to addiction by way of numbing the fear and worries one might experience.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> <https://anaheimlighthouse.com/blog/5-factors-that-contribute-to-drug-addiction/> (visited on 17 march ,at 3pm)

**viii) Trauma**

Traumatic events can leave a scar on the mind, and over time, victims choose to dull their pain with their drug of choice. These events include:

- neglect
- verbal abuse
- physical abuse
- sexual abuse
- physical altercations
- natural disasters
- accidents
- terrorism

The link behind this kind of childhood trauma and adult substance abuse is striking. Studies show that one in four of American children experience at least one of these traumas during childhood. Other exposure to trauma, even after becoming an adult, has been shown to be correlated with an increased chance for addiction as well.<sup>16</sup>

**ix) Mental Illness**

A strong relationship exists between mental illness and addiction. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, more than one half of substance abusers are also dealing with a mental illness. For some addicts, it is a matter of doing something to relieve the stress and pain associated with that illness. For others, the drug abuse sets off a series of events that cause a mental illness diagnosis.<sup>17</sup>

**x) Prescription Drugs –**

Prescription drugs present a very high risk factor for drug addiction, simply because many of them are highly addictive. Prescription painkillers, sedatives, antidepressants, and many other types of prescription drugs can easily lead to physical and mental dependence by flooding the dopamine receptors in the brain. If not monitored appropriately, prescription drugs could lead to long-term drug addiction.<sup>18</sup>

**7. Legislative Policies In India in Drug Related Matters**

The broad legislative policy in the issue is mentioned in the three Central Acts-

- (i) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
- (ii) Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988
- (iii) Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940

**7.1 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985**

India is a party to the three United Nations drug conventions – the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961 Convention), the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971 Convention) and the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988 Convention). Domestic legislation to give effect to these treaties was introduced only in the 1980s when the ‘grace period’ for abolishing non-medical use of cannabis and opium under the 1961 Convention expired. Exercising its powers to make law for the country for implementing “any treaty, agreement or convention or decision made at international conference”, the Indian Parliament passed the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) hastily, without much debate. The NDPS Act came into force on 14 November 1985, replacing the Opium Acts and the Dangerous Drugs Act. The 1940 Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, however, continues to apply.

The official record states that the NDPS Act was enacted in order to provide adequate penalties for drug trafficking, strengthen enforcement powers, implement international conventions to which India was a party, and enforce controls over psychotropic substances. The Act was amended in 1989, 2001 and more recently in 2014.<sup>19</sup>

The NDPS Act prohibits cultivation, production, possession, sale, purchase, trade, import, export, use and consumption of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances except for medical and scientific purposes in accordance with the law. Preparation to commit certain offences is punishable as is attempt. Accessory crimes of aiding and abetting and criminal conspiracy attract the same punishment as the principal offence.

This act covers three broad classes of substances:

- (i) Narcotic drugs covered under the 1961 convention.
- (ii) Psychotropic substances or those covered under the 1971 convention as well as other psychoactive substances such as ketamine .
- (iii) Controlled substances that are used to manufacture narcotic drugs.

**7.2 Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988**

An Act to provide for detention in certain cases for the purpose of preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and for matters connected therewith. Whereas illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substance poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of the people and the activities of persons engaged in such illicit traffic have a deleterious effect on the national economy, and where as having regard to the persons by whom and the manner in which such activities are organized and carried on, and having regard to the fact that in certain areas which are highly vulnerable to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, such activities of a considerable magnitude are clandestinely organized and carried on, it is necessary for the effective prevention of such activities to provide for detention of persons concerned in any manner therewith, be enacted by Parliament in the Thirty-ninth Year of the Republic of India

<sup>16</sup> <https://anaheimlighthouse.com/blog/5-factors-that-contribute-to-drug-addiction/> (visited on 17 march ,at 3pm)

<sup>17</sup> ibid

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.omicsonline.org/.../factors-affecting-tendency-for-drug-abuse-in-people> (visited on 27 march ,at 4 pm)

<sup>19</sup> Tripti Tondon, Drug Policy in India”2015

### 7.3 The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940

The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 is an Act of the Parliament of India which regulates the import, manufacture and distribution of drugs in India. The primary objective of the act is to ensure that the drugs and cosmetics sold in India are safe, effective and conform to state quality standards. The related Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 contains provisions for classification of drugs under given schedules and there are guidelines for the storage, sale, display and prescription of each schedule.

## 8. PUNISHMENT FOR OFFENCE

### In NDPS act 1985

NDPS Act considers drug offenses as very grave and serious in nature and so, punishments for them are very stiff. Offenses under this Act are cognizable and non-bailable. The quantum of sentence and fine differs with the offense. For most of the offenses, the punishment relies upon the quantity of drug included – little amount, more than little however not as much as the business amount or business amount of drugs. Commercial and small amounts are notified for each drug.

Under NDPS Act, criminal conspiracy, abetment and even attempt to carry out an offense pull in the same punishment as the offense itself. Habitual or repeat offenses attracts 1 and half times the punishment and capital punishment in some cases. Since the punishments under this Act are rigid and inflexible, a few procedural safeguards have been given in the Act. A few immunities are additionally accessible under the Act.

### In Drugs and Cosmetic Act ,1940

#### Prohibition of import of certain drugs —

No person shall import any drug which is not of standard quality; any misbranded drug, adulterated or spurious drug.<sup>20</sup>

#### Offences.—

Whoever himself or by any other person on his behalf imports, any drug deemed to be adulterated or deemed to be a spurious drug or shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and a fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.<sup>21</sup>

#### Prohibition of manufacture and sale of certain drugs and cosmetics.

No person shall himself or by any other person on his behalf manufacture for sale or for distribution, or sell, or stock or exhibit or offer for sale, or distribute any drug which is not of a standard quality, or is misbranded, adulterated or spurious.<sup>22</sup>

#### Offences-

Whoever himself or by any other person on his behalf manufactures or sells or distributes any drug or cosmetic in contravention of the provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine which may extend to five thousand rupees.<sup>23</sup>

At the time of independence , gained in 1947, narcotics were a heavily regulated commodity as ‘dangerous’ substances, medicinal products, as well as goods subject to excise tax.

## 9. Drug Law Enforcement Agencies In India

- (i) Narcotics Control Division
- (ii) Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN)
- (iii) The Narcotic Control Bureau (NCB )

The **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** is the nodal drug law enforcement and intelligence agency of India responsible for fighting drug trafficking and the abuse of illegal substances. The Director General of NCB is an officer of the Indian Police Service (IPS) or the Indian Revenue Service (IRS).<sup>24</sup>

## 10. What Is Drug Abuse Treatment?

Substance abuse programs of all types strive to break the cycle of compulsive drug seeking behavior and the damages of continued drug abuse. Treatment setting and type are highly variable and will depend largely on each individual’s specific situation and needs. For some, substance abuse recovery can be achieved with relatively short outpatient programs. Others might benefit more from a longer duration residential rehabilitation.<sup>25</sup>

### Types of drug Abuse Treatment

Those seeking treatment for substance abuse would benefit greatly from an initial assessment or evaluation by an addiction professional. Whether it's from a physician, psychologist, addiction counselor or other qualified individual with addiction treatment experience, the insight offered in terms of recommending an appropriate treatment type will prove invaluable to bolstering chances of a successful outcome.

Since the 1980s, the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) has availed its list of criteria (The ASAM Criteria or ASAM patient placement criteria) that can be utilized in helping clinicians with matching patients with substance abuse problems with 5 broad categories or

<sup>20</sup> The Drugs and cosmetic Act,1940(Act 10 of 1940)

<sup>21</sup> The Drugs and cosmetic Act,1940(Act 13 of 1940)

<sup>22</sup> The Drugs and cosmetic Act,1940(Act 18 of 1940)

<sup>23</sup> The Drugs and cosmetic Act,1940(Act 27(A) of 1940)

<sup>24</sup> Government of India,Report of the International Narcotic control Board( 2006)

<sup>25</sup> Government OF India Report of Drug Laws in India For centre narcotic training (2004)

types of substance abuse treatment. The ASAM criteria emphasizes that treatment exists on a continuum, and that outcome monitoring both during and after treatment can determine whether a patient could benefit from more or less intensive treatment types that fall on the scale. Following types of treatment are:

**(i) Outpatient Treatment** – Can be delivered from a doctor’s office or other clinical setting. Outpatient treatment lies near the “least intensive” end of the treatment continuum, and is typically reserved for those with the least severe substance abuse issues, active employment commitments and a robust set of social support in place. Treatment can range from drug education, sober skills training, to more frequently scheduled counseling and addiction therapy and, even, outpatient detox programs. Treatment length is variable and contingent on recovery progress.

**(ii) Intensive Outpatient Treatment/ Partial Hospitalization / Day Treatment Programs** – Somewhat more intensive than the prior category; still, this consists of many of the services available in regular outpatient treatment, but administered a bit more frequently and/or for longer periods of the day. Additionally, intensive outpatient or partial hospitalization can accommodate patient’s with co-existing medical or mental health issues and allow them access to many of the services that exist for an inpatient population during the hours of the day that the intensive outpatient treatment occurs.

**(iii) Residential Treatment** – For more severe substance abuse issues that require the stability of round-the-clock attention; residents are placed in a 24-hour care situation, with the potential benefit of removing them from contributing situations or factors that exacerbate their addiction to begin with. Daily activities can consist of numerous individual and group counseling sessions. Many residential treatment centers also provide monitored detox and withdrawal, as well as more intense treatment for dual diagnosis psychiatric or behavioral addiction issues.

**(iv) Intensive Inpatient Hospitalization** – Full-time, fully supervised, hospital-based care for those with severe substance abuse issues as well as serious co-existing medical or mental health conditions. Frequently, an intensive inpatient hospitalization will begin a period of substance abuse treatment if the patient has been admitted in a seriously deteriorated medical or psychiatric state, and close monitoring and/or medical intervention to return them to stable condition is in order.

The cost of these programs can vary widely based on a number of factors, including type, length, location, and level of luxury. In general, inpatient programs tend to be more expensive than outpatient programs. Inpatient treatment can cost anywhere between \$200 to \$900 per day, with lower cost per day for longer program duration. Outpatient, specifically intensive outpatient treatment, tends to cost anywhere between \$100 and \$500 per session, so the total price will vary by the length of the program and the frequency of sessions.

## 10. CONCLUSION & SUGGESTIONS

Though there has not been alarming escalations in the supply of drugs in the country in the last decade, most of the terrorist attacks are connected with illicit drug traffickers. Narco-terrorism which is a multi-dimensional phenomenon is a growing menace to the nation. Illegal drug business is having three sides : *production, trafficking and consumption*. The present study has established the relationship between drug production, abuse, trafficking, money laundering and narco-terrorism. To prevent such cultivation, Government may adopt effective means; for example, by providing legitimate sources of livelihood for the farmers in question, in addition to intensifying law enforcement action. Government must be alert against the danger of illicit production of drugs.

Based on this study the following suggestion to be incorporated in the anti-drug policy of India :

- (i) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, coastal areas, airports, major and minor ports, foreign post offices etc.
- (ii) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.
- (iii) Improved co-ordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies in order to Impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
- (iv) Identification of illicit cultivation of the opium poppy and the wild growth of cannabis; and eradication of these sources of supply.
- (v) Strengthening of international liaison to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (vi) The use of opium should be restricted and confined solely for medical and scientific purposes.
- (vii) Non-medical uses of *ganja* and *bhang* may be re-examined throughout the country.
- (viii) Abuse of pharmaceuticals and world network of internet pharmacies may be examined.
- (ix) Stringent controls to be exercised at each stage of the distribution of manufactured drugs from the point of import or manufacture up to the point of their prescription by medical practitioners.
- (x) Machinery may be set up to watch the co-ordination between various Central and State Government agencies in order to ensure that their objectives are properly, speedily and consistently implemented.