

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1166**  
ANSWERED ON- 01/08/2024

**CROSS-BORDER NARCOTICS TRADE**

1166. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) steps taken by Government to hold Pakistan accountable for indulgence in cross-border narcotics trade in India;
- (b) steps taken by Government to check the drug trade through the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle; and
- (c) steps taken by Government with international agencies like the UNODC to check drug trade across the world?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c) Government of India, through diplomatic channels, regularly takes up with the Government of Pakistan, matters related to cross-border narcotics smuggling from Pakistan over land and over sea. India has lodged protests with Pakistan to stop the recurrence of instances of cross border trafficking of narcotics.

Government of India has taken several measures like strengthening of border security, construction of fences, provision of flood lighting, roads, Border Out Posts and deployment of technological solutions to counter the issue of drug trafficking.

The concerned organisations of Government of India engage with India's neighbouring countries to cooperate in countering the menace of narcotics trafficking. India has signed bilateral agreement with 26 countries, Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with 17 countries and Agreement on Security Cooperation with two countries for combating illicit trafficking of narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances. These include bilateral cooperation agreements on mutual cooperation for reducing demand and preventing illicit trafficking of drugs with countries falling in the 'Golden Crescent' and 'Golden Triangle' region.

India regularly apprises the global community of its concerns regarding the drug trafficking in the region and around the world. As part of India's effort to collaborate globally to fight the menace of narcotics trafficking, India cooperates with several regional and multilateral organizations like SAARC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk (SDOMD), BRICS, Colombo Plan, ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD), Bay of Bengal Initiative For Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Co-Operation (BIMSTEC), Shanghai Council Cooperation (SCO), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

India actively takes part in all official sessions and meetings of UNODC and its Secretariat bodies such as Commission of Narcotics Drugs (CND). Using such platforms India has consistently articulated its position and initiatives to counter illegal drug trade and contribute to international efforts in this regard. India closely cooperates with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan on countering narcotics trafficking. India has also partnered with UNODC in Afghanistan to provide assistance and has supplied 11,000 units of hygiene kits, medical aid to UNODC, Kabul since 2022.

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