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Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

09th May 2026



A watershed moment in India's defence posture



CONTEXT: A write up has appeared emphasizing on the shift in India's defence posture.

Background

Operation Sindoor

- Launched at **1:05 a.m. on May 7, 2025.**
- Targeted selected terrorist infrastructure after the **Pahalgam terror attack (April 22, 2025).**
- Marked a **paradigm shift** in India's politico-military doctrine and national security approach.

OPERATION SINDOOR
MAY 7, 2025

“They erased the sindoor from our daughters’ foreheads. India erased them from the map.”

THE STRIKE SHEET

- 9 TERROR CAMPS DESTROYED**
Across PoJK & Deep Inside Pakistan
- 22 MINUTES OF PURE VENGEANCE**
Swift. Precise. Devastating. India came India struck. India left.
- 11 AIRBASES STRUCK**
Making India the first nation to do it against a nuclear nation in a single operation

Notorious nine: Why India hit them

- 1 Markaz Subhan Allah, Bahawalpur**
100km from International Border, **JeM headquarters**, residence of Masood Azhar. 2019 Pulwama attack planned from here
- 2 Markaz Taiba, Muridke**
25km from IB. **LeT headquarters**. 26/11 terrorists trained here. Osama bin Laden gave Pak Rs 10L for its construction
- 3 Sarjal, Sialkot**
6km from IB. Terrorists behind killing of 4 police personnel this March from this camp. Operated from primary health centre
- 4 Mehmoona Joya, Sialkot**
12km from IB. Key Hizbul Mujahideen training camp. Pathankot airbase attack directed from here **PAK-OCCUPIED KASHMIR**
- 5 Barnala, Bhimber**
9km from LoC, training centre for IEDs, handling weapons, jungle survival
- 6 Abbas, Kotli**
13km from LoC, nerve centre for training of LeT suicide bombers
- 7 Gulpur, Kotli**
30km from LoC, base of LeT terrorists operating in Rajouri-Poonch. Behind April 20, 2023 Poonch attack and June 9 attack on pilgrims
- Sawai Nala, Muzaffarabad**
30km from LoC, key LeT training facility
- Syedna Bilal, Muzaffarabad**
JeM staging area. Camp for weapons, explosives training

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A watershed moment in India's defence posture

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Shift in India's Defence Doctrine

From "Reactive Restraint" to "Zero Tolerance"

- Earlier approach relied on restraint and diplomatic responses ("dossier approach").
- Post-Operation Sindoor:
 - Cross-border terrorism treated as an "act of war".
 - India demonstrated willingness for direct retaliation despite nuclear overhang.

FROM REACTIVE RESTRAINT TO ZERO TOLERANCE

A SHIFT IN NATIONAL SECURITY DOCTRINE

REACTIVE RESTRAINT (EARLIER)	VS	ZERO TOLERANCE (NOW)
<p>Earlier, the response was careful, limited, and only after something happened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cautious approach to avoid escalation Delayed or measured response Preference for diplomacy and talks Focus on minimizing retaliation Concern for international opinion Limited retaliation, targeted approach <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p> In the past, a country may have shown restraint after terror attacks to avoid escalation, international pressure, or further conflict.</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 10px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">THE SHIFT</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;">From cautious restraint to decisive action. From reacting to threats to preventing and punishing them strongly.</p> </div>	<p>Now, the response is strict, aggressive, and does not allow any leniency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zero tolerance towards terrorism and threats Immediate, strong and decisive response Offensive strategy to deter future attacks National security above all considerations No leniency, no compromise Action beyond borders if required <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p> With a zero tolerance policy, the country responds strongly and immediately against terrorism or threats.</p> </div>
<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border-radius: 5px;">EXAMPLES OF ZERO TOLERANCE IN ACTION</div>		
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>2016 Surgical Strikes</p> <p style="font-size: small;">India responded to the Uri terror attack by launching surgical strikes across the LoC to dismantle terror launch pads.</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border-radius: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> OPERATION SINDOOR </div> <div> <p>2025 Operation Sindoor</p> <p style="font-size: small;">India's strong and precise military response to the Pahalgam terror attack, targeting terror infrastructure deep inside PoK.</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>Clear Message</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Terror will be met with firm, swift and proportionate action. India will not tolerate threats to its sovereignty and citizens.</p> </div> </div>
<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border-radius: 5px;"> ZERO TOLERANCE IS NOT JUST A POLICY, IT IS A COMMITMENT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND THE SAFETY OF OUR CITIZENS. </div>		



A watershed moment in India's defence posture



CONTEXT: A write up has appeared emphasizing on the shift in India's defence posture.

Key Features of Operation Sindoor

- **Integrated action by:**
 - **Indian Air Force**
 - **Indian Army**
 - **Indian Navy**
- **Nine terrorist targets struck successfully.**
- **Bahawalpur and Muridke in Pakistan targeted.**
- **Demonstrated seamless tri-services coordination.**

Military Measures



India carried out several precise and well-planned military actions to achieve its objectives.

The Indian Armed Forces launched coordinated and accurate missile strikes on 9 terrorist

bases—4 located in Pakistan (including Bahawalpur and Muridke) and 5 in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (such as Muzaffarabad and Kotli). These locations were key command centers of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), responsible for major attacks like Pulwama (2019) and Mumbai (2008).

In retaliation to Pakistani drone and missile attacks on Indian cities and military bases on May 7, 8, and 9, 2025, India deployed kamikaze drones with the objective of neutralizing Pakistan's air defense capabilities, including disabling Lahore's air defense system.

India's air defense systems successfully intercepted all incoming threats, resulting in minimal loss of life or property. In contrast, Pakistan's HQ-9 air defense system was exposed as weak. On the night of May 9 and 10, 2025, India's counteroffensive became a historic milestone when, for the first time, a country successfully attacked the air bases of a nuclear-armed nation.



A watershed moment in India's defence posture

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Key Features of Operation Sindoor



Within just three hours, India targeted 11 military installations including Noor Khan, Rafiqui, Murid, Sukkur, Sialkot, Pasrur, Chunian, Sargodha, Skardu, Bholari, and Jacobabad.



Satellite images before and after the strike on Shahbaz Airbase in Jacobabad clearly show the scale of destruction.



The attack targeted major ammunition depots and airbases such as Sargodha and Bholari, where F-16 and JF-17 fighter jets were stationed. As a result, nearly 20% of Pakistan's air force infrastructure was destroyed.



Over 50 individuals, including Squadron Leader Usman Yusuf and 4 airmen, were killed in the bombing of Bholari Airbase. Several Pakistani fighter jets were also destroyed.



Under Operation Sindoor, India executed precise strikes on several terrorist hubs and military facilities in Pakistan.



After Pakistani artillery and mortar attacks targeted civilian areas in the Poonch-Rajouri sector along the Line of Control, Indian forces retaliated, destroying terrorist bunkers and Pakistani army positions that were targeting civilians.



A half-burnt photograph of Asif Ali Zardari recovered from the smoldering debris of Rahimyar Khan Airbase symbolized the destruction of Pakistan's international image.



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India's Military Response

Air Operations

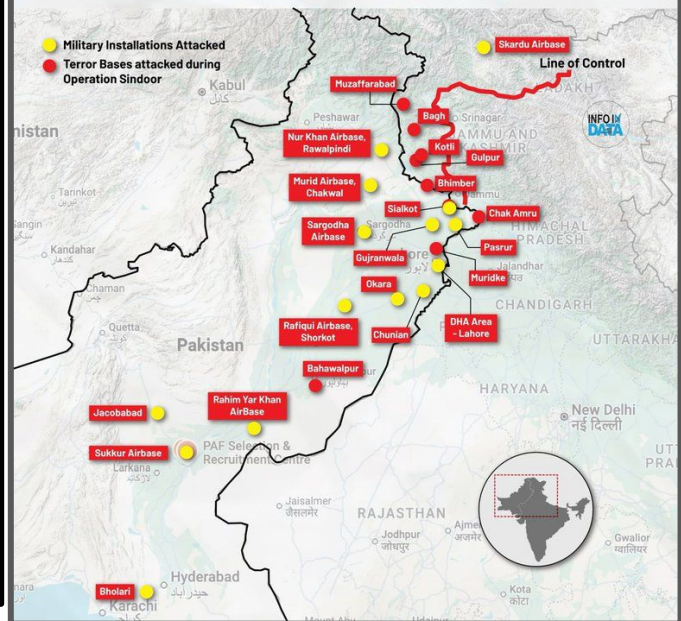
- On May 9–10, Pakistan attempted strikes on Indian military assets.
- India responded with precision airstrikes on:
 - Nur Khan
 - Sargodha
 - Murid
 - Bholari air bases

Air Defence

- Robust networked air-defence system deployed.
- S-400 missile system effectively denied Pakistani airspace access.

Pakistan Decimated

Despite provocation and attacks on civilians by Pakistan, India responded with precision and restraint, targeting terror bases and striking military installations only after Pakistan escalated the conflict



Strategic Significance

- Showed India's capability for:
 - Rapid high-impact operations
 - Escalation control under nuclear conditions
 - Precision targeting
- Pakistan reportedly forced to seek ceasefire quickly.

New Strategic Messaging

- Strong deterrence signal against cross-border terrorism.
- Indicates emergence of a "new normal" in India's security doctrine.
- Highlights India's willingness to impose costs on state-sponsored terrorism.

Key Focus

- "Innovate, Design, and Manufacture" in India.
- Strengthening:
 - Defence manufacturing
 - Aerospace
 - Space
 - Cyber security
 - Artificial Intelligence

Emphasis

- Accelerating Atma Nirbhar Bharat in defence sector.
- Greater role for:
 - DRDO
 - DPSUs
 - MSMEs
 - Startups
 - Private sector

A watershed moment in India's defence posture



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Tech used in Operation Sindoor

Area	Key Points
Guidance & Navigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precision guidance and navigation technologies were a major highlight of Operation Sindoor. • Guidance and navigation identified among the 75 priority technology areas after DRDO's Anusandhan Chintan Shivir (2022). • Advanced satellite systems can identify objects as small as 25–30 cm. • NavIC provides positional accuracy of nearly 10–20 cm. • Strong performance of propulsion systems, warheads, and fuses improved weapon lethality and reliability. • Missile technologies strengthened through the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme led by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
Radars & Air Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian S-400 air defence system received major attention for its operational role. • India used a layered air defence network combining radars and missile systems. Indigenous systems included Rajendra Radar, Rohini 3D Radar, Low-Level Lightweight Radar, and LLTR. • SAMAR and Akash missile systems were used against low-flying aerial threats. • Upgraded Bofors anti-aircraft guns reportedly used to neutralise drones in Jammu & Kashmir. • Upgrades include radar, electro-optical sensors, and auto-tracking systems. • Upgraded systems also deployed near the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
Unmanned Vehicles (Drones)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First major drone-centric India–Pakistan conflict • Deep-penetration drone strikes • Strategic target engagement • Ineffective Pakistani drone swarms • Indigenous drone capabilities • Industry–academia collaboration • Domestic manufacturing ecosystem • Secure critical supply chains



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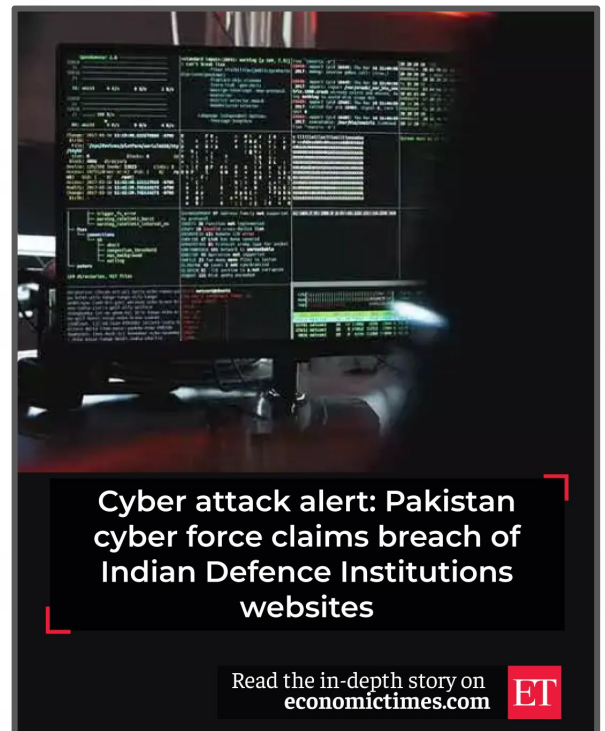
Tech used in Operation Sindoor

Akash Missile System

- Indigenous Akash SAM system
- Short-to-medium-range mobile air defence system, Developed by [DRDO](#)
- Used by IAF and Indian Army
- Defends against aircraft, missiles, drones, UAVs.
- Developed under IGMDP (1980s)
- High indigenous content
- Participation of 250+ Indian industries
- Major contributors: [BEL](#) and [BDL](#)

Existing Fault Lines in National Security

- **Intelligence Gaps** : Real-time, actionable intelligence still inconsistent lack Coordination between civilian and military agencies.
- **Border Management** : LoC vulnerable, difficult terrain and porous gaps. Smart fencing and tech integration not yet fully deployed.
- **Delayed Modernisation** : Procurement bottlenecks and bureaucratic delays, Slow Indigenous defence production
- **Jointness & Theatre Commands** : tri-service synergy still work-in-progress.
- **Cyber & Space Vulnerabilities** : threats from state and non-state actors (China, Pakistan-based groups).
- **Terror Ecosystem in Pakistan** : Pakistan continues to harbour terror groups under nuclear shield. No global pressure or accountability mechanism.



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What needs to be done?

- **Dedicated Cyber Command** : Establish an integrated **Defence Cyber Agency** with offensive–defensive capabilities.
- **Revamp Intelligence Agencies** : Ensure **institutional coordination** between **RAW, IB, DIA, NTRO**, with regular audits & accountability.
- **Border Infrastructure Upgrade** : Accelerate construction of **all-weather roads, tunnels** (e.g. Zojila), **advanced landing grounds (ALGs)** in border zones.
- **Satellite & Space Surveillance** : Launch dedicated **military satellites** for **24x7 ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance)** over LoC/LAC.
- **Secure Communication Systems** : Deploy **quantum-resistant**, encrypted military communication networks for seamless tri-service op

Mains Practise Question

Question : “Despite major security reforms, several fault lines continue to weaken India's national security architecture.” Discuss the key challenges and suggest measures to address them. (10 Marks, 150 words)

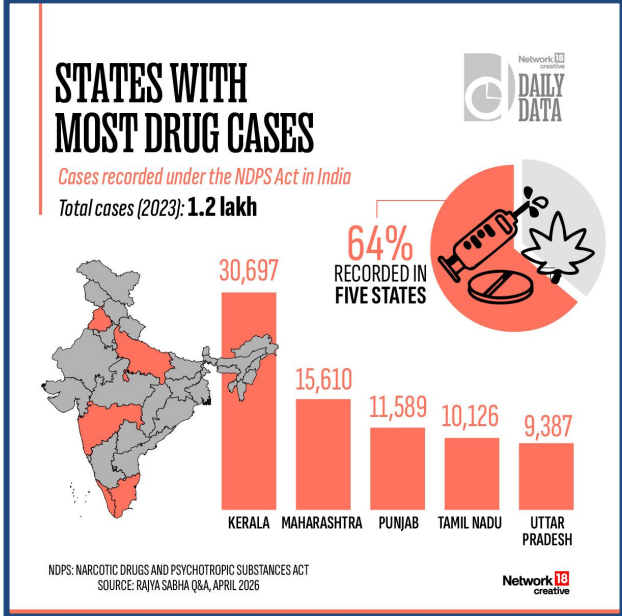
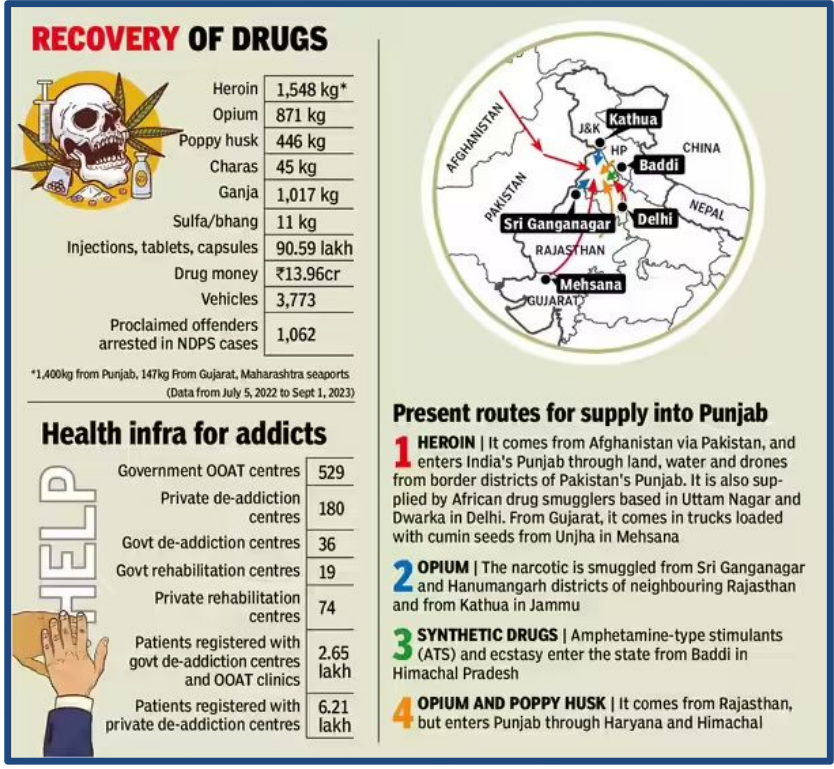
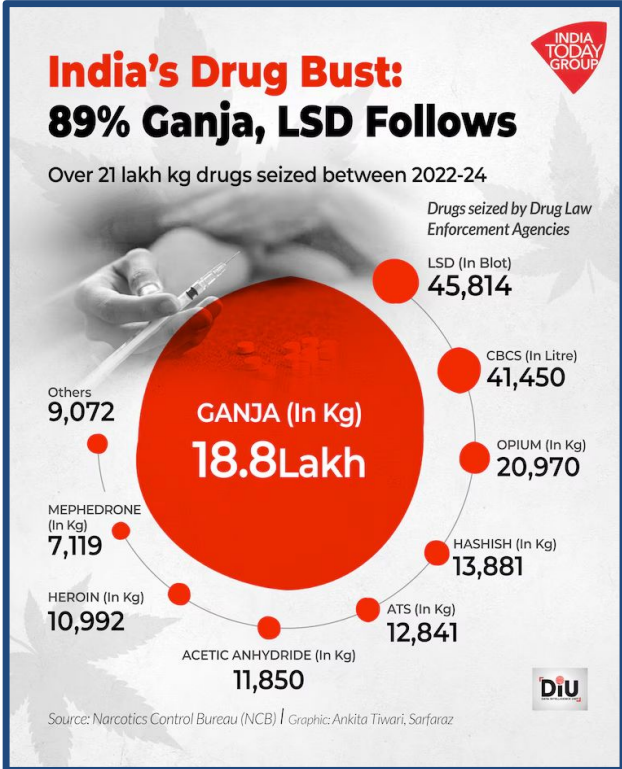


Menace of Drug Abuse

CONTEXT: The Chief Justice of India raises alarm over Punjab drug menace.

Background

- India had the **4th highest opium seizures** globally in 2020 – **5.2 tonnes**.
- India recorded the **3rd highest morphine seizures** globally in 2020 – **0.7 tonnes**.
- India accounted for **7% of global opium seizures** in 2019.
- India accounted for **2% of global heroin seizures** in 2019.
- Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime World Drug Report 2022.



DRUG HAUL IN PUNJAB

Year	Cases	Arrests	Heroin Seizure	Opium
2022	12,380	16,808	593 Kg	862 Kg
2023	11,551	15,871	1349 kg	896 Kg
2024	4276	5832	456 Kg	602 Kg



Menace of Drug Abuse

CONTEXT: The Chief Justice of India raises alarm over Punjab drug menace.

MOST ADDICTS 18-35 YEARS OLD

76% of opioid dependents in Punjab are 18-35 years old

56% live in rural areas, 21% of them are farmers

27% labourers/ unskilled workers, 15% businessmen. 14% are transport workers

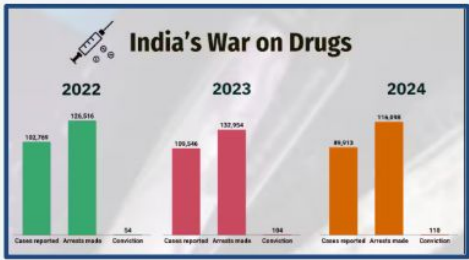
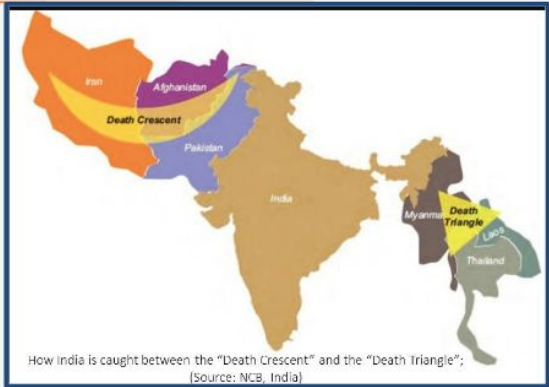
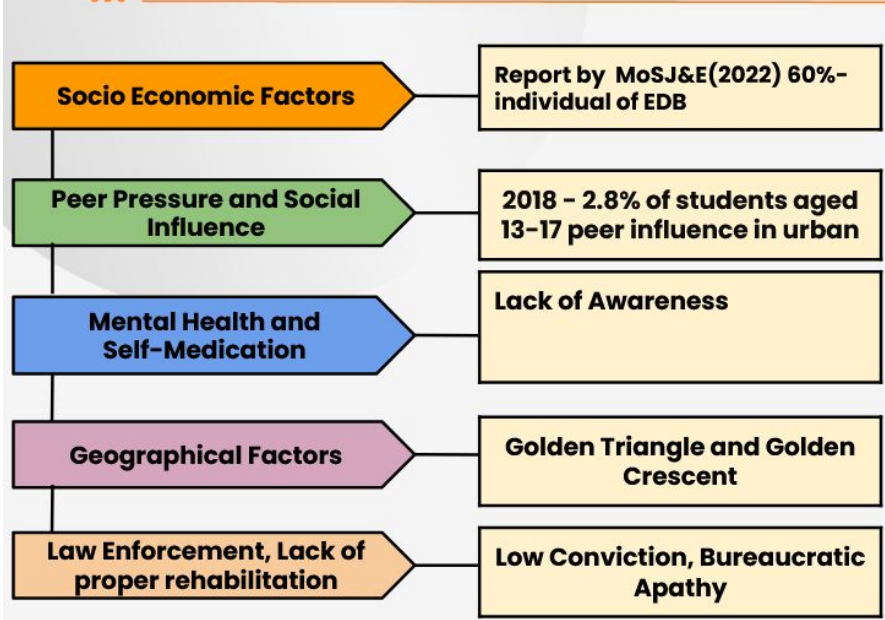
MOST COMMON OPIOIDS USED

53% Heroin

33% raw opium and variants

Survey conducted in 10 districts of Punjab: Bathinda, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Moga, Patiala, Sangrur & Tarn Taran

Reasons for High Drug Abuse



Menace of Drug Abuse



CONTEXT: The Chief Justice of India raises alarm over Punjab drug menace.

Government Initiatives to address drug menace

Specific Government Measure	Purpose / Focus
NDPS Act, 1985	Provides legal framework to control drug production, possession, trafficking, and consumption.
Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)	Apex enforcement agency to combat drug trafficking and coordinate intelligence.
Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD)	Multi-agency mechanism for better coordination among Centre, States, and enforcement agencies.
National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)	Prevention of drug abuse through awareness, treatment, counselling, and rehabilitation.
Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (2020)	Mass awareness campaign targeting youth, schools, colleges, and vulnerable districts.
Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA)	Provides de-addiction treatment, counselling, and rehabilitation services.
Drug Treatment Clinics (DTCs)	Treatment facilities in government hospitals for substance abuse victims.
Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTFs)	State-level specialised units to strengthen anti-drug enforcement.
Seizure & Disposal of Narcotics Policy	Ensures quick destruction of seized drugs to prevent recirculation.
Project Sunrise	HIV prevention and rehabilitation programme for drug users in Northeast India.
Tele-MANAS Initiative	Mental health counselling and psychological support for addiction recovery.
Border Security Strengthening	Enhanced surveillance along Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle routes.
International Cooperation & Intelligence Sharing	Joint anti-narcotics operations with neighbouring countries and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.



CONTEXT: The Chief Justice of India raises alarm over Punjab drug menace.

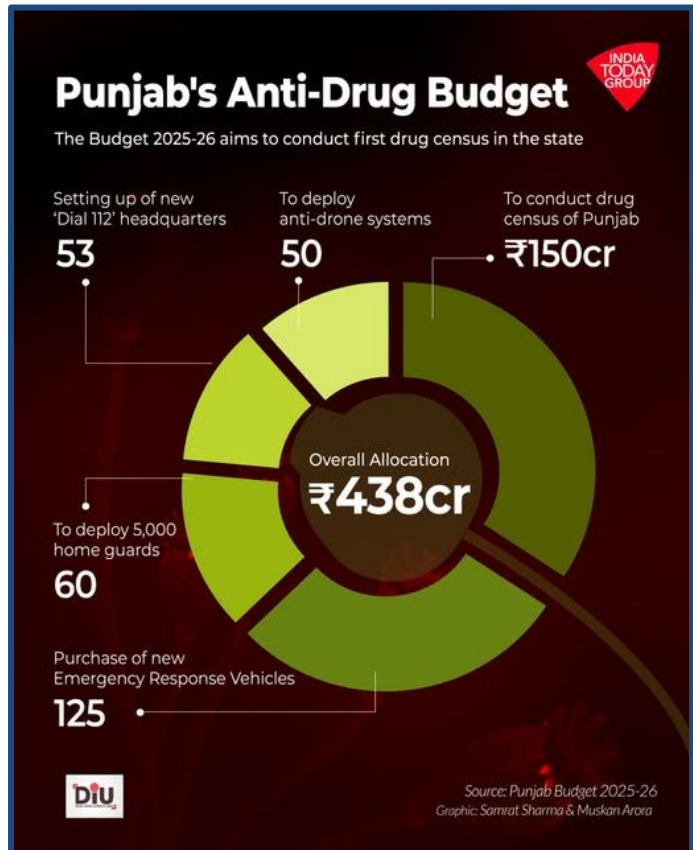
Government Initiatives to address drug menace

Punjab Drug Census 2026: Fighting Drugs Scientifically!

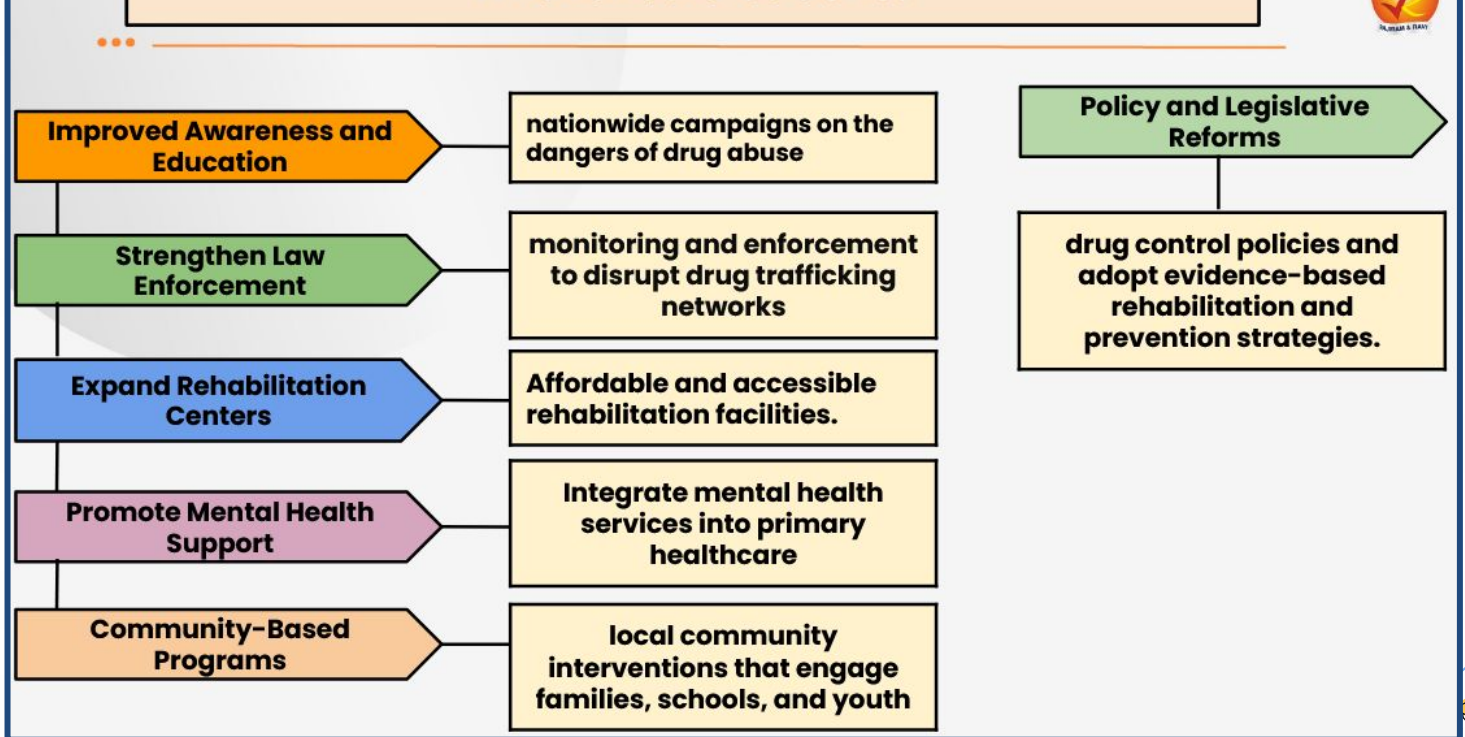
Punjab's first-ever Drug and Socio-Economic Census!

- 65 Lakh Families Surveyed
- 28,000 Staff Deployed
- ₹250 Crore Budget
- 3-Month Timeline

- Maps drug abuse + socio-economic links (poverty, jobs, education)
- Shift: Enforcement → Targeted Rehab



What should be done?



Menace of Drug Abuse



CONTEXT: The Chief Justice of India raises alarm over Punjab drug menace.

Mains Practise Question

Question: "Drug abuse is emerging as a major public health and social challenge in India." Analyze the causes behind its rise and suggest measures to address the issue.



SYLLABUS: GS2: Executive, Judiciary
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 18**

Prelims Pointers

Supreme Court on EC Appointments Law

Supreme Court Observation

- The Supreme Court termed Parliament's decision to replace the **Chief Justice of India (CJI) with a Union Minister in the Election Commissioner (EC)** appointment panel as:
 - "Tyranny of the elected"
 - "Tyranny of the majority"

Background

- A bench led by Justice Dipankar Datta questioned the constitutional validity of the 2023 law on EC appointments.
- The law replaced the CJI with a Union Minister in the selection committee.

Previous Appointment System

As per 2023 Supreme Court judgment (*Anoop Baranwal v. Union of India*)

The EC appointment committee consisted of:

- Prime Minister
- Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha
- Chief Justice of India (CJI)

Objective

- Ensure neutrality and independence of the Election Commission.
- Reduce executive dominance in appointments.

What the 2023 Law Changed

New Selection Committee

- Prime Minister
- Leader of Opposition
- Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the PM

Key Concern

- Executive gets majority control (2 out of 3 members).
- Raises concerns over independence of the Election Commission.

Supreme Court's Concerns

- Appointments should be free from executive influence.
- Excluding the judiciary weakens institutional independence.
- Parliament cannot undermine constitutional principles through ordinary legislation.



Appointment of Chief Election Commissioner



SYLLABUS: GS2: Executive, Judiciary
Newspaper : The Indian Express, Page No : 18

Constitutional Basis

Article 324(2)

- Parliament can make laws regarding appointment conditions of Election Commissioners.
- Until such law is made, appointments are made by the President.

Court's Earlier Observations (2023)

- The Constitution intended the Election Commission to function independently and fairly.
- Institutional credibility is essential for free and fair elections.

Key Issue

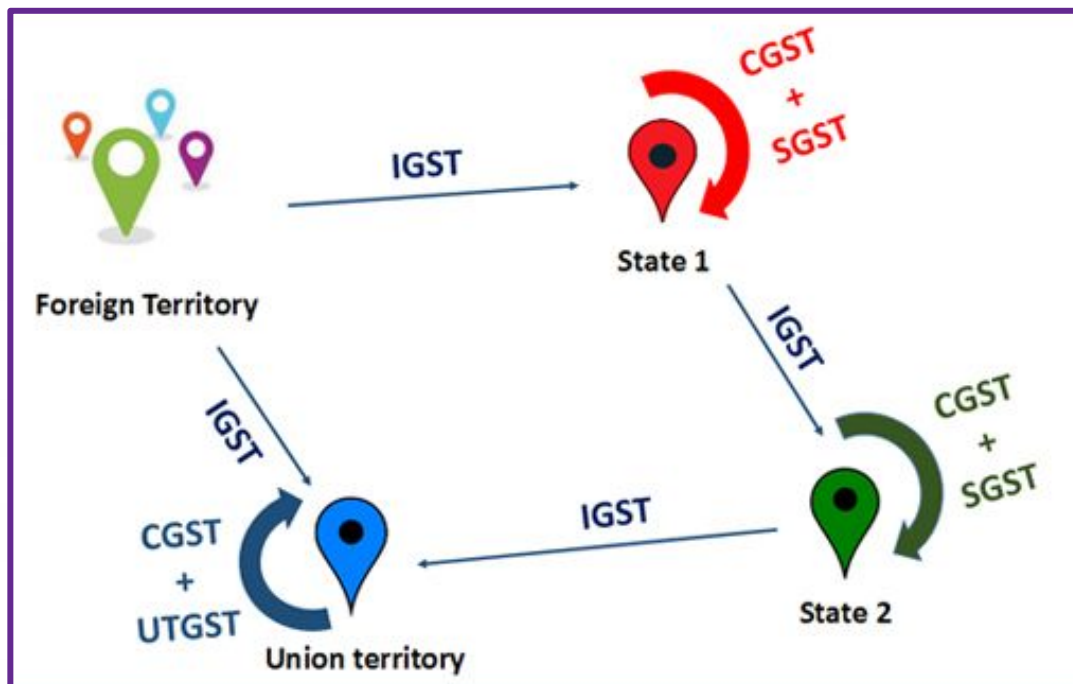
- Balance between:
 - Parliamentary power to legislate
 - Independence of constitutional bodies like the Election Commission.



SYLLABUS: GS3: Growth and Development
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 13**

Prelims Pointers

- **GST Bill introduced in 2014 (122)**
- The Constitution **(101st Amendment) Act, 2016.**
 - **Central GST-**
 - **State GST:**
 - **UTGST**
 - **Integrated GST :** to cover inter-state trade.
- **GST Council**
 - **Article 279A**
 - **Chairman -** FM of India
 - **Members-** nominated by the state governments
 - Centre will have **1/3rd voting power, States have 2/3rd.**
 - Decisions are taken by **3/4th majority.**



SYLLABUS: GS3: Growth and Development
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 13

Key Tax Reforms under GST 2.0

- **Simplified Rate Structure:** Shift from 4 slabs (5%, 12%, 18%, 28%) → **2 slabs:**
 - 5% (merit/essential goods)
 - 18% (standard rate)
 - 40% demerit rate (luxury/sin goods like tobacco, pan masala)
- **Relief on Essentials:**
 - **Nil GST:** Life & health insurance, UHT milk, paneer, Indian breads
- **Consumer Goods Boost:**
 - GST cut **28% → 18%:** small cars, TVs, ACs, cement, auto parts
 - Renewable energy devices: **12% → 5%**
→ Boosts demand, manufacturing & green energy
- **Healthcare Support:**
 - 33 lifesaving drugs: **12% → 0%**
 - Critical cancer/rare disease drugs: **5% → 0%**

- **Agriculture & Rural Push:**
 - Farm machinery: **12% → 5%**
 - Fertilizer inputs: **18% → 5%**
 - Labour-intensive goods (handicrafts, leather): **12% → 5%**
- **Trade Facilitation:**
 - **GSTAT operational by Dec 2025**
 - Faster refunds, better dispute resolution → MSME-friendly



SYLLABUS: GS3: Growth and Development
Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No :18

Prelims Pointers

The war in West Asia has hit the poor more than the rich

Key Argument

- Rising fuel and fertiliser prices due to the West Asia conflict are increasing the cost of living globally.
- The crisis affects poor households disproportionately, creating a **"K-shaped economy"**:
 - Rich households maintain or increase consumption.
 - Poor households struggle to afford essentials.

What is a K-shaped economy?

- A situation where:
 - One section of society progresses economically.
 - Another section faces economic decline.
- Economic inequalities widen during crises.

Impact of Rising Fuel Prices on US Consumers

Low-income households (<\$40k)

- Increased fuel spending by **13.33%**.
- Actual fuel consumption fell by almost **7%**.
- Had to spend more money but consume less fuel.

Middle-income households (\$40k-\$125k)

- Fuel spending increased by **17%**.
- Real fuel consumption declined by **5%**.

High-income households (\$125k+)

- Spending increased by over **20%**.
- Actual fuel consumption barely changed (**-1%**).

Core Insight

- Rich households absorb price shocks by spending more.
- Poor households reduce real consumption despite spending more money.
- Looking only at nominal spending hides deepening inequality.

Why this matters

- Similar patterns emerged during the:
 - 2020 COVID-19 crisis
 - 2022 Russia-Ukraine energy shock
- Energy inflation disproportionately hurts poorer sections and poorer countries.

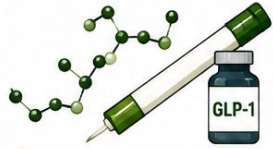
Global Dimension

- Rich countries can sustain consumption despite higher prices.
- Poor countries may be forced to cut consumption even if expenditure rises.



09th May 2026

SYLLABUS: GS2: Health
Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No : 14



GLP-1 DRUGS

Better Blood Sugar Control. Lower Weight. Better Health.



1 WHAT ARE GLP-1 DRUGS?

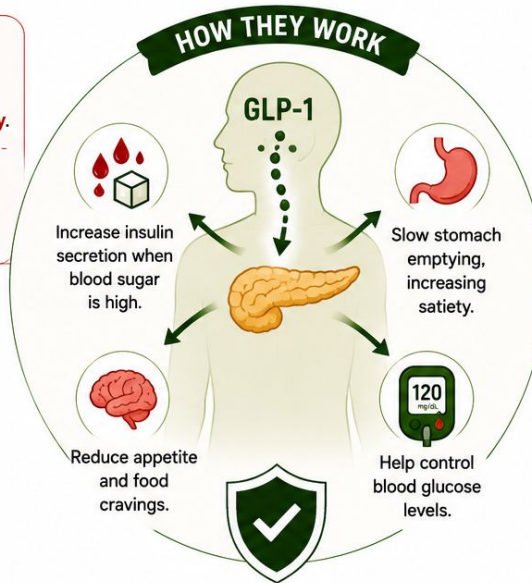
GLP-1 (Glucagon-Like Peptide-1) receptor agonists are drugs used to treat **Type 2 Diabetes** and **obesity**.

They mimic the natural **GLP-1** hormone, which regulates blood sugar and appetite.

2 MAJOR GLP-1 DRUGS

- Semaglutide (Ozempic, Wegovy)
- Liraglutide (Saxenda, Victoza)
- Dulaglutide (Trulicity)
- Tirzepatide (Mounjaro, Zepbound)

HOW THEY WORK



3 BENEFITS

- Effective blood sugar control.
- Significant weight reduction.
- May reduce cardiovascular risks in some patients.
- Available in convenient weekly-dose formulations.

4 SIDE EFFECTS

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation.
- Rare risks: pancreatitis and gallbladder issues.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Improves blood sugar control effectively



Helps in sustained weight loss



Supports heart health and reduces CV risk



Weekly dosing improves convenience & adherence



Use under medical supervision for best results & safety

How Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes Differ

Type 1 Diabetes

VS

Type 2 Diabetes

Body Doesn't Make Enough Insulin



Body Doesn't Respond to Insulin



Caused by Immune System Reaction



Lifestyle Factors and Genetics Contribute



Often Starts in Childhood



More Common in Middle Age



Symptoms Come on Quickly



Symptoms Develop Slowly



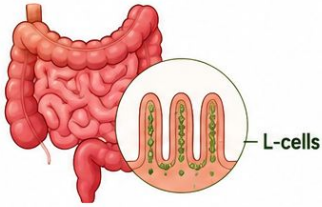
Treated With Insulin Injections



Managed With Drugs and Lifestyle Changes



SYLLABUS: GS2: Health
Newspaper : The Indian Express, Page No : 14



GLP-1 HORMONE (GLUCAGON-LIKE PEPTIDE-1)

The Body's Natural Regulator of Blood Sugar & Appetite



1 WHAT IS GLP-1?



GLP-1 is a natural **incretin** hormone produced in the intestine after eating food.

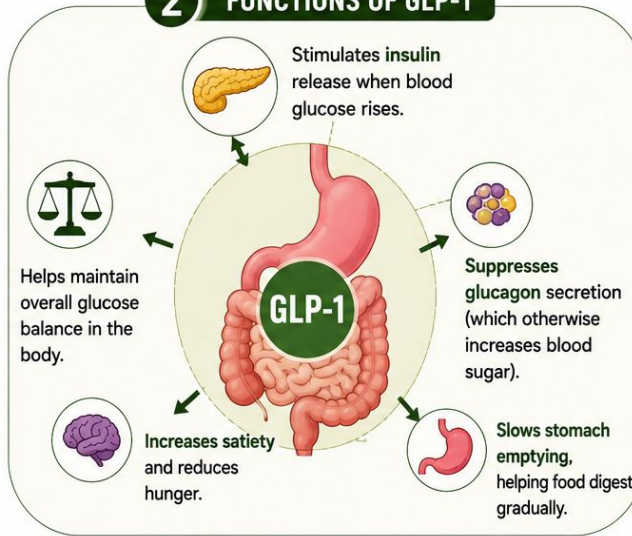


It is secreted mainly by **L-cells** of the small intestine.



Its primary role is to regulate **blood sugar** and **appetite**.

2 FUNCTIONS OF GLP-1



3 IMPORTANCE



Plays a major role in managing **Type 2 Diabetes** and **obesity**.



GLP-1 drugs mimic this hormone to improve **blood sugar control** and promote **weight loss**.



KEY TAKEAWAYS



Natural hormone released after eating.



Enhances insulin, lowers glucagon, controls sugar.



Slows digestion, reduces appetite, increases fullness.



Essential in diabetes management & weight regulation.



GLP-1 drugs = Better metabolic control, better health outcomes.



TARA Glide Weapon



SYLLABUS: GS3: Defence
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 12



INDIA'S LEAP IN PRECISION STRIKE CAPABILITY MAIDEN FLIGHT TRIAL OF TARA BY DRDO & IAF

Indigenous Innovation. Enhanced Lethality. Aatmanirbhar Bharat.



1 MAIDEN FLIGHT TRIAL



DRDO and Indian Air Force successfully conducted the maiden flight trial of **Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation (TARA)** off the Odisha coast on 7 May 2026.

2 WHAT IS TARA?



TARA is India's first indigenous glide weapon system that converts unguided warheads into **precision-guided weapons**.

3 DEVELOPED BY DRDO



Developed by **Research Centre Imarat** along with other DRDO labs.

4 ENHANCED CAPABILITIES



- Enhances **range, lethality, and accuracy**.
- Effective against ground-based targets at **low cost**.



TARA TACTICAL ADVANCED RANGE AUGMENTATION

- GLIDE WEAPON SYSTEM
- PRECISION STRIKE
- LOW COST – HIGH IMPACT
- STRONGER DETERRENCE

5 ADVANCED GUIDANCE SYSTEM



Uses state-of-the-art **low-cost guidance systems** for precision strikes.

6 INDIGENOUS COLLABORATION



Developed with **Development-cum-Production Partners (DcPP)** and **Indian industries**.

7 PRODUCTION COMMENCED



Production activity has already commenced, strengthening India's **defence manufacturing ecosystem**.

8 BOOST TO AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT



A major step towards **self-reliance** and technological leadership in defence.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

First indigenous glide weapon system in India

Transforms unguided warheads into precision guided weapons

More range, accuracy & lethality at low cost

Collaboration of DRDO labs, DcPPs & Indian industries

Strengthens national security and defence self-reliance

“ From Research to Realisation – Powering India's Defence Future.”



SYLLABUS: GS3: Defence
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 12



GLIDE WEAPON: HOW IT WORKS & WHY IT MATTERS

Extended Reach. Precision Impact. Cost-Effective Power.



1 NO CONTINUOUS PROPULSION



Unlike missiles, it does not use continuous propulsion/engine power after launch.

2 RELIES ON AERODYNAMIC LIFT AND GRAVITY



It relies on aerodynamic lift and gravity to travel long distances.

3 EQUIPPED WITH GUIDANCE SYSTEMS



Equipped with navigation and precision-guidance systems for accurate targeting.

4 EXTENDS RANGE ECONOMICALLY



Increases the range of conventional bombs without major cost escalation.

WHAT IS A GLIDE WEAPON?

A glide weapon is a bomb or warhead fitted with wings and guidance systems to glide toward the target after being released from an aircraft.

HOW IT WORKS



Released from an aircraft



Wings provide lift, gravity provides forward motion



Guidance systems ensure accurate hit on target

5 SAFE STAND-OFF STRIKES



Allows aircraft to strike targets from a safe stand-off distance away from enemy air defence systems.

6 LIGHTER, CHEAPER & EASY TO INTEGRATE



Generally lighter, cheaper, and easier to integrate than full-fledged missiles.

7 PRECISION STRIKE CAPABILITY



Used for precision strikes against ground-based targets such as bunkers, radar stations, and military infrastructure.

8 IDEAL FOR MODERN WARFARE



Enhances lethality, accuracy and survivability in modern battlefield scenarios.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Longer Range without Extra Propulsion



High Precision with Advanced Guidance



Cost-Effective Force Multiplier



Stand-off Capability for Higher Survivability



Supports Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Defence Innovation

“Glide weapons bridge distance, deliver precision and boost combat power.”



Q1. With reference to the GST Council, consider the following statements:

1. The Union Finance Minister is the Chairperson of the GST Council.
2. The Centre has two-thirds of the total voting power in the Council.
3. Decisions of the GST Council are taken by a two-thirds majority.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: a

Q2. Which of the following are part of the Committee that selects the Chief Election Commissioner?

1. Prime Minister
2. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha
3. Chief Justice of India
4. A Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: b

Q3. With reference to Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes, consider the following statements:

1. Type 1 Diabetes occurs when the body does not produce enough insulin due to an immune system reaction.
2. Type 2 Diabetes occurs when the body does not respond properly to insulin and is linked to lifestyle and genetic factors.
3. Type 2 Diabetes generally begins in childhood, while Type 1 Diabetes is more common in middle-aged individuals.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: c

Q4. With reference to TARA (Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation), consider the following statements:

1. TARA is India's first indigenous glide weapon system.
2. It uses advanced low-cost guidance systems for precision strikes.
3. It has been developed by DRDO.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Q5. With reference to GLP-1 drugs, consider the following statements:

1. GLP-1 receptor agonists are used in the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes and obesity.
2. These drugs mimic the natural GLP-1 hormone that regulates blood sugar and appetite.
3. Semaglutide, Liraglutide, and Dulaglutide are examples of GLP-1 drugs.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: c





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