

## Steps to tackle drug smuggling at border areas

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Why is in news? Government has taken various steps to tackle drug smuggling at the border areas

The Government has taken various steps to tackle drug smuggling at the border areas, some of them are detailed below:

Border Security Force, Sashastra Seema Bal and Assam Riffles have been empowered under the Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act for making interdiction of narcotic drugs.

**Detailed vulnerability mapping** has been carried out along the border to strengthen surveillance by deploying additional Special Surveillance Equipments and other available resources in the vulnerable patches.

**Surveillance equipment** like Hand Held Thermal Imager (HHTI), Night Vision Device (NVD), Twin Telescope, UAVs etc. are being used as force multipliers for effective area domination. In addition to that, Long-Range Reconnaissance and Observation System (LORROS), Battle Field Surveillance Radar (BFSR) are also deployed. **Integrated Surveillance technology** equipped with CCTV/PTZ Cameras, IR sensors and infrared alarm with Command and Control system have also been installed at selected patches of the International Border.

Effective domination of the borders by **carrying out round the clock surveillance of the border** viz. patrolling, laying nakas, manning observations posts all along the International Borders.

**Installation of Border Flood lights** along border security fence to light up the area during hours of darkness.

**Special operations and joint operations with other agencies** such as state police, Narcotics Control Burea(NCB), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) etc. are being conducted along the borders.

Erection of Fence, Border Out Posts (BOPs), Border Flood Lights along the International Border and use of watercraft / boats and floating BOPs for domination of riverine areas of International Border.

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