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- Summary:
- What is the news?
 - Addressing the Drug Crisis in Himachal Pradesh
 - Key Features of the 'Sankalp' Initiative
 - Rehabilitation – The Heart of Sankalp
 - Tackling Drug Trafficking
 - Challenges Ahead
 - Conclusion: A Vision for a Drug-Free Himachal
 - QuizTime:
 - Are you Ready!
- Read the Below Instructions Carefully:
 - Please Rate!
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 - Relevance to the Himachal HPAS UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:
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Summary:

- **Sankalp Initiative:** Himachal Pradesh launched the 'Sankalp' initiative to combat drug trafficking and support rehabilitation for those affected by drug addiction.
- **Key Features:** The initiative includes a state-level de-addiction and rehabilitation center, comprehensive rehabilitation support, community engagement, and enhanced law enforcement.
- **Rehabilitation Focus:** Emphasizes long-term recovery with vocational training, counseling, and social reintegration to reduce relapse rates.
- **Challenges:** The initiative faces challenges such as geographical terrain, cross-border drug trafficking, and social stigma attached to addiction.

What is the news?

- Himachal Pradesh is facing a growing threat from drug abuse, a challenge that not only undermines the health of its youth but also disrupts the social fabric of the state.
- In response to this pressing issue, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has launched the 'Sankalp'

initiative, a comprehensive program aimed at tackling drug trafficking and supporting the rehabilitation of those affected by drug addiction. This significant step was officially announced on October 6, 2024, during an event organized by the Divya Jyoti Jagriti Sansthan in Shimla.

Addressing the Drug Crisis in Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh, like many states in India, has seen a sharp rise in drug-related problems, particularly among the younger population. The hill state's geographical location, often used as a transit route for drug trafficking, has contributed to this surge. This has made it imperative for the state government to not only curb the illegal supply of drugs but also provide effective rehabilitation for those suffering from addiction. The 'Sankalp' initiative, therefore, focuses on a two-pronged approach: combating drug trafficking and ensuring proper rehabilitation facilities.

Key Features of the 'Sankalp' Initiative

The 'Sankalp' initiative has been designed with a holistic approach to deal with the drug menace in the state. Here are its core elements:

- **De-addiction and Rehabilitation Center:** Under this initiative, a state-level model de-addiction and rehabilitation center will be established at Kotla Barog in the Pachhad subdivision of the Sirmaur district. This center will play a pivotal role in assisting drug addicts in their recovery journey and reintegrating them into mainstream society. The state aims to make this facility a model for other regions grappling with similar challenges.
- **Comprehensive Rehabilitation Support:** The model center will not only focus on detoxification but also provide long-term rehabilitation support, including counseling, vocational training, and social reintegration programs. This is crucial to ensuring that those who recover from addiction do not relapse and are able to build meaningful lives post-rehabilitation.
- **Community Engagement and Awareness:** The 'Sankalp' initiative emphasizes the importance of community involvement. The government plans to engage schools, colleges, and local communities in creating awareness about the dangers of drug abuse. Through seminars, workshops, and campaigns, the initiative aims to educate the youth and their families about the consequences of drug addiction and the importance of seeking help.
- **Focus on Law Enforcement:** Alongside rehabilitation, the Himachal Pradesh government will strengthen its efforts in combating drug trafficking. This involves closer coordination with law enforcement agencies, stricter border

controls, and stringent action against those involved in the drug trade. The government also aims to enhance the capabilities of law enforcement officers through specialized training to better identify and dismantle drug supply networks.

Rehabilitation – The Heart of Sankalp

- A unique aspect of the 'Sankalp' initiative is its strong focus on rehabilitation. Often, drug addiction is seen as a social stigma, and those suffering from it are ostracized by their communities. The Sankalp initiative aims to change this narrative by providing robust rehabilitation support that goes beyond detoxification. The initiative is structured to offer vocational training, counseling services, and community reintegration programs to help addicts lead productive lives.
- The rehabilitation center at Kotla Barog will serve as a cornerstone for this initiative, providing state-of-the-art facilities for treatment, including medical care, psychological counseling, and skill-building activities. By focusing on long-term recovery, the initiative aims to reduce relapse rates and help drug addicts rebuild their lives.

Tackling Drug Trafficking

- Drug trafficking is a major issue in Himachal Pradesh due to its proximity to international borders. The 'Sankalp' initiative proposes a coordinated effort between state and central law enforcement agencies to crack down on drug supply chains. This includes increased vigilance along the state's borders, more frequent patrols, and stricter checks on vehicles and individuals suspected of involvement in drug trafficking.
- The Chief Minister has also highlighted the need for strengthened border control measures to prevent the inflow of narcotics. This, coupled with efforts to dismantle local drug networks, will form the backbone of the government's law enforcement strategy.

Challenges Ahead

- Despite the promising framework of the 'Sankalp' initiative, several challenges remain. The geographical terrain of Himachal Pradesh, coupled with the interstate and international nature of drug trafficking, makes controlling drug supply chains difficult. Additionally, creating a robust and long-lasting rehabilitation system will require sustained effort, both financially and administratively.
- Moreover, the social stigma attached to drug addiction remains a significant barrier to recovery. Many addicts do not seek help due to fear of social exclusion. The success of the Sankalp initiative will depend heavily on changing public perception and encouraging families and

communities to support those suffering from addiction.

Conclusion: A Vision for a Drug-Free Himachal

- The Sankalp initiative is a bold step toward tackling the growing drug menace in Himachal Pradesh. By combining efforts to curb drug trafficking with comprehensive rehabilitation programs, the state is addressing both the supply and demand side of the drug problem. However, success will depend on sustained government efforts, community involvement, and effective law enforcement coordination. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's vision is clear: a drug-free Himachal Pradesh where youth can thrive in a healthy, supportive environment. With the Sankalp initiative, the state has laid a strong foundation for achieving this vision.
- As Himachal Pradesh embarks on this crucial journey, the '**Sankalp**' initiative could serve as a model for other states dealing with similar challenges, showcasing how a blend of strict law enforcement and compassionate rehabilitation can help combat the drug menace effectively.



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- Attempt all questions (You can attempt or leave)

- After Attempting Last Question.
 - Enter Name & Email
 - Click on - Check Result
 - Scroll down - Check out Solutions too.
- Thank you.

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Category: Himachal General Knowledge

Where is the state-level model de-addiction and rehabilitation center under the Sankalp initiative located?

- Shimla
- Manali
- Kotla Barog
- Dharamshala

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Category: Himachal General Knowledge

Which of the following is a key component of the Sankalp initiative?

- Promoting foreign investment in Himachal Pradesh
- Strengthening law enforcement to combat drug trafficking
- Providing free education to all children in the state
- Establishing new industrial zones

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Category: Himachal General Knowledge

What is the long-term focus of the rehabilitation centers established under the Sankalp initiative?

- Immediate detoxification of drug addicts
- Short-term medical aid and counseling
- Vocational training and community reintegration
- Imposing strict fines on addicts

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Category: Himachal General Knowledge

Which organization hosted the event where the 'Sankalp' initiative was announced?

- NITI Aayog
- Himachal Pradesh Police
- Divya Jyoti Jagriti Sansthan
- Central Bureau of Narcotics

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Category: Haryana General Knowledge

The 'Sankalp' initiative launched by Himachal Pradesh aims to:

- Promote tourism in the state
- Tackle drug trafficking and support rehabilitation
- Improve agricultural productivity
- Strengthen border security

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Check Rank, Result Now and enter correct email as you will get Solutions in the email as well for future use!

Check the Result

Your score is

0%

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Mains Questions:

Below Mains Question

Write in Comment Section



Question 1:

Discuss the importance of state-level initiatives like Himachal Pradesh's 'Sankalp'

in tackling drug abuse and rehabilitation of addicts. How can such programs contribute to a broader national strategy against the drug menace?(250 words)

Model Answer:

State-level initiatives like Himachal Pradesh's 'Sankalp' are crucial in addressing the rising issue of drug abuse, especially in regions where drug trafficking and addiction rates are growing concerns. The Sankalp initiative focuses on two critical aspects: controlling drug trafficking and rehabilitation of addicts, which are essential for creating a comprehensive approach to the drug menace.

Local Focus and Implementation:

- Regional programs like Sankalp allow for tailored approaches based on specific local challenges. Himachal Pradesh, being close to international borders, faces challenges in controlling drug trafficking. Through strengthened law enforcement and cross-agency coordination, Sankalp aims to cut the drug supply chain. This localized focus ensures that the strategies are context-specific, addressing the unique dynamics of drug abuse in the state.

Rehabilitation and Reintegration:

- Rehabilitation centers, like the model de-addiction center at Kotla Barog, are essential for providing long-term solutions to drug addiction. Beyond detoxification, these centers focus on

vocational training and community reintegration. By equipping former addicts with life skills and employment opportunities, the program addresses the social stigma attached to addiction and reduces the chances of relapse.

Contribution to National Strategy:

- State-level initiatives form the backbone of a bottom-up approach in India's national strategy to tackle drug abuse. They can provide valuable data on drug trafficking patterns, addiction demographics, and treatment outcomes, feeding into broader national policies. Furthermore, successful state programs like Sankalp can serve as models for replication across other states, ensuring that each region adapts best practices suited to its specific needs.

In conclusion, initiatives like Sankalp are critical components of a national framework against drug abuse. By focusing on enforcement, rehabilitation, and reintegration, they not only curb the spread of drugs but also provide sustainable solutions to help addicts reclaim their lives.

Question 2:

Evaluate the challenges faced by state governments in implementing anti-drug initiatives like Himachal Pradesh's 'Sankalp'. Suggest measures to overcome these challenges and ensure the success of such programs. (250 words)

Model Answer:

State governments face several challenges in implementing anti-drug initiatives like Sankalp due to the complexity of drug trafficking networks and the multifaceted nature of addiction. However, addressing these challenges with strategic interventions can significantly improve the efficacy of such programs.

Challenges:

- **Cross-border Drug Trafficking:** Himachal Pradesh is vulnerable to trafficking due to its proximity to international borders and easy access routes. Effective border control requires coordination not only within state agencies but also with central and neighboring state agencies.

Limited Infrastructure for Rehabilitation: Establishing and maintaining de-addiction centers that provide holistic rehabilitation services—covering detox, counseling, vocational training, and social reintegration—requires substantial financial and human resources. Many states struggle with limited funding and trained personnel.

- **Social Stigma and Reintegration:** The societal stigma around addiction complicates the rehabilitation process. Former addicts often face discrimination, reducing their chances of successfully reintegrating into society, which increases the risk of relapse.

Coordination Between Agencies: Anti-drug efforts require seamless coordination between law enforcement, health departments, and social

services. Bureaucratic hurdles and lack of inter-departmental coordination often delay or reduce the impact of such initiatives.

Measures to Overcome Challenges:

- **Enhanced Law Enforcement and Surveillance:** Strengthening cross-border cooperation and intelligence-sharing mechanisms with neighboring states and central agencies like the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) will be essential to curb trafficking. Increased deployment of technology, such as drones and surveillance systems, along vulnerable border areas can improve detection and interdiction efforts.
- **Investment in Rehabilitation Centers:** The state government needs to allocate more resources to expand the network of rehabilitation centers. Public-private partnerships can be explored to bridge funding gaps. Moreover, training programs for mental health professionals and social workers will ensure quality care for addicts.
- **Community Awareness Programs:** To reduce societal stigma, extensive awareness campaigns should be conducted. Involving local leaders, schools, and youth organizations can help change public perceptions about addiction. Programs that highlight successful rehabilitation stories can also encourage community acceptance.
- **Inter-departmental Coordination:** Setting up a dedicated task force or coordination body involving all relevant agencies (law enforcement, health, education, and social services) can streamline operations and eliminate bureaucratic bottlenecks. Regular meetings, data sharing, and joint operational plans can ensure the program's holistic success.

In conclusion, while initiatives like Sankalp face significant challenges, strategic investments in law enforcement, rehabilitation infrastructure, public awareness, and inter-agency coordination can ensure their success. A multi-pronged approach, focusing on both supply-side enforcement and demand-side rehabilitation, is crucial for combating the drug menace effectively.

Remember: These are just sample answers. It's important to further research and refine your responses based on your own understanding and perspective. Read entire HPAS Current Affairs.



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Relevance to the Himachal HPAS UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:



Himachal HPAS Prelims:

- **General Studies Paper 1:**Current Events of National and International Importance: The Sankalp initiative launched by Himachal Pradesh's Chief Minister to address drug trafficking and rehabilitation is a significant current event within the state and has broader implications for national drug policy.
General Awareness of Himachal Pradesh: Understanding state-specific initiatives like Sankalp is critical as it demonstrates the Himachal Pradesh government's approach to tackling local issues such as drug abuse, which has become a social menace in the state.
Social Issues: This initiative deals with social issues like drug abuse, its prevention, and rehabilitation efforts, making it relevant for social awareness in the state.

Himachal HPAS Mains:

- **General Studies Paper 1:**Social Issues: Questions regarding drug abuse and societal responses, like rehabilitation programs, can be asked under social issues and the role of government initiatives in addressing these problems.
Ethics and Social Justice: This initiative relates to ethical issues concerning drug abuse, addiction, rehabilitation, and the responsibility of the government to provide support for the affected population.
- **General Studies Paper 2:**Governance: The Sankalp initiative can be related to governance issues, such as law enforcement, drug trafficking

control, and public health policies.

Public Policies and Programs: The initiative represents the Himachal Pradesh government's public policy aimed at tackling drug abuse and ensuring the rehabilitation of drug addicts, which can be discussed in the context of local government initiatives.

- **General Studies Paper 3: Internal Security:** Drug trafficking is not only a social issue but also a security concern. The Sankalp initiative involves curbing drug trafficking within the state, making it relevant to discussions on internal security and border management in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

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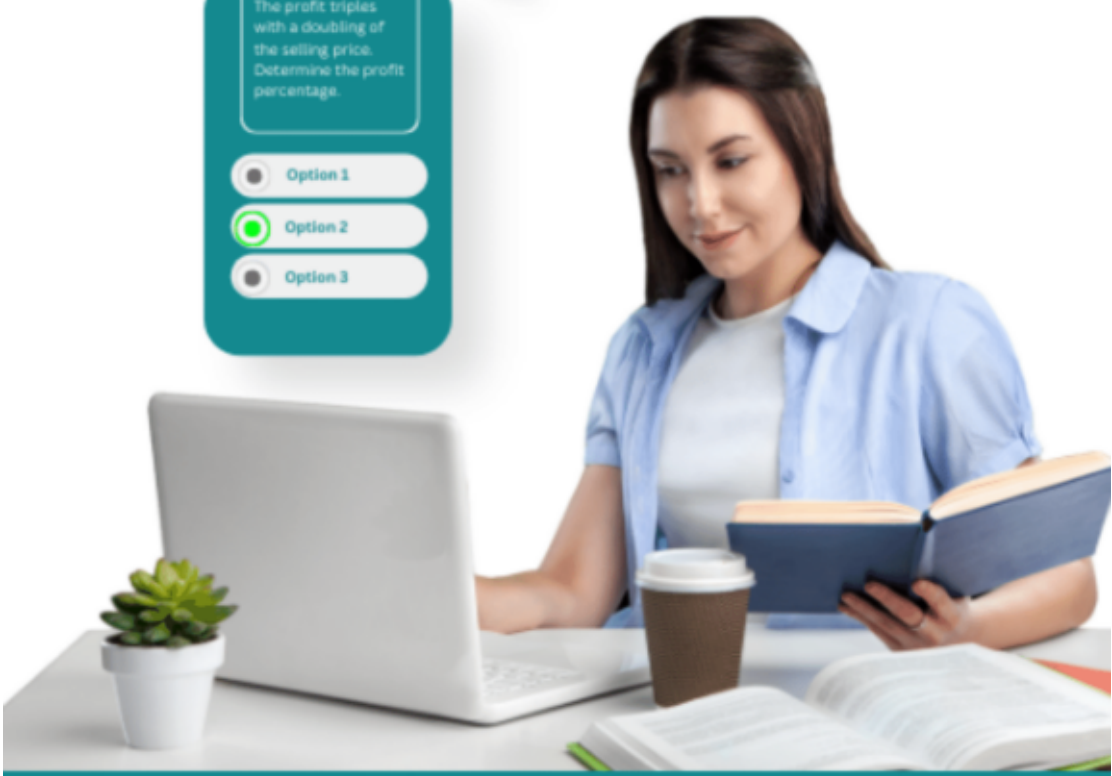
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The profit triples with a doubling of the selling price. Determine the profit percentage.

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3



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