



## ANTI-DOPING - GS II AND III MAINS

Q. Recent reporting provides alarming statistics on global doping violations, bring out the implications of it on India's image at global stage. (10 marks, 150 words)

**News:** *India tops list of doping offenders in 2022: WADA anti-doping report*

### What's in the news?

- The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) anti-doping report for 2022, recently released, presents alarming statistics on global doping violations. This underscores the urgent need for stringent measures to uphold the integrity of sports.

### Key Findings of the Report:

#### 1. India Leads Globally in Doping Offences:

- India accounts for the highest percentage of doping offenders, with **3.26% of tested athletes returning positive results.**
- Out of 3,865 samples tested by India's National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), 125 were Adverse Analytical Findings (AAFs), the highest among nations testing over 2,000 samples.

#### 2. Comparison with Other Nations:

- South Africa follows India with 2.09% of samples testing positive.
- Despite testing fewer samples, India surpasses major sporting nations like Russia, the USA, Italy, and France in doping violations.

#### 3. Overall Increase in Testing and AAFs:

- WADA reported a 6.4% increase in samples analyzed in 2022 compared to 2021.
- Percentage of AAFs rose from 0.65% to 0.77%.
- WADA emphasized the importance of intelligence-led strategic testing and values-based education to combat doping effectively.

### Implications for India:

#### 1. Concerns Regarding Athletes:

- Doping poses serious health risks and hampers athletes' physical and mental development.
- Measures must be implemented to prioritize athletes' well-being and promote a clean sports culture.

#### 2. Reputation Damage:

- India's high doping offenders percentage tarnishes its reputation in international sports.
- Trust in Indian athletes and their achievements may diminish, impacting India's credibility globally.

#### 3. Olympic 2024:



- High doping violations may risk disqualification for Indian athletes in the upcoming Olympics.
- Urgent action is needed to ensure clean participation and avoid repercussions.

#### 4. Discrepancies in Testing Efforts:

- Despite increased testing, India lags behind countries like China in producing positive results.
- Comprehensive measures are necessary to address the disparity.

#### 5. Regulatory Oversight:

- India's position at the top of the doping offenders list indicates systemic issues in its anti-doping framework.
- Strengthening regulatory frameworks and monitoring mechanisms is imperative.

#### 6. Economic Impact:

- Doping crises could negatively affect sponsorships, investments, and revenue streams in Indian sports.
- Upholding integrity is crucial for sustaining India's sports industry and economy.

### Anti-Doping Initiatives in India:

#### 1. National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA):

- NADA, established in 2005, coordinates India's anti-doping activities.
- It operates under the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code and regulations.

#### 2. National Anti-Doping Act 2022:

- Provides legal backing to NADA's anti-doping efforts.
- Aims to maintain integrity in sports competitions domestically and internationally.

#### 3. National Dope Testing Laboratories (NDTL):

- Conducts sample analysis and research in doping.
- WADA-accredited for quality and accuracy.

### Way Forward:

#### 1. Increased Vigilance:

- Enhance testing efforts to detect and deter doping among athletes.
- Collaboration among stakeholders is crucial in tackling the issue effectively.

#### 2. China's Approach:

- Consider criminalizing doping with strict penalties, as done in China.
- Strict penalties have proven effective in reducing doping cases.

#### 3. Education:

- Educate athletes about the dangers of doping and provide guidance on supplements.



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## 4. Doping Detection:

- Develop and implement new technologies to stay ahead of evolving doping methods.
- Use athlete data and competition trends to target high-risk areas effectively.

