



Drug Trafficking

Why in News?

Recently, **two alleged women smugglers were arrested with over 26 kg of cannabis** near the Tripura-Mizoram inter-state boundary.

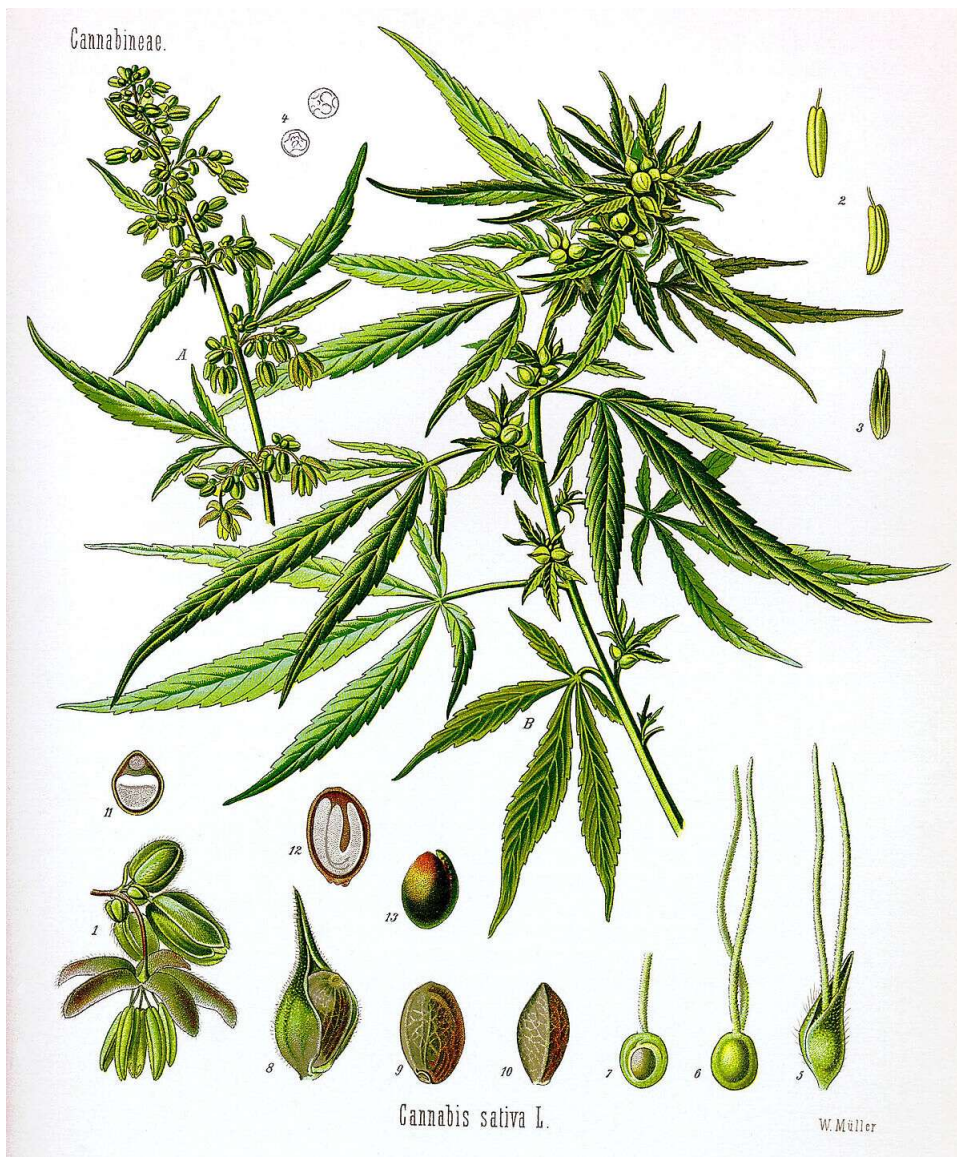
- Both women were booked under the [Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances \(NDPS\) Act, 1985](#).

Key Points

- NDPS Act, 1985 **prohibits a person from producing, possessing, selling, purchasing, transporting, storing, and/or consuming any narcotic drug** or psychotropic substance.
 - The **National Fund for Control of Drug Abuse was also created under a provision of the NDPS Act, 1985**, to meet the expenditure incurred in the implementation of the Act.
- Drug trafficking **refers to the illegal trade involving the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, and sale of illicit drugs.**
 - It **encompasses a wide range of activities** associated with the illegal drug trade, including the production of drugs such as cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and synthetic drugs, as well as the transportation and distribution of these substances.
 - Drug trafficking **operates within a complex network of criminal organisations** that span across borders, regions, and even continents.

Cannabis

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- According to the [WHO \(World Health Organization\)](https://www.who.int/), cannabis is a generic term used to denote the several psychoactive preparations of the plant Cannabis sativa.
 - According to the WHO, cannabis is by far the **most widely cultivated, trafficked and abused illicit drug in the world**.
 - Most species of cannabis are dioecious plants that can be identified as either male or female. The unpollinated female plants are called hashish.
- The **major psychoactive constituent in cannabis is Delta9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)**.