

**03– 02 – 2026**

**News: International Convention against Doping in Sport**

- At the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties (COP10) to the International Convention against Doping in Sport, held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, India was re-elected as Vice–Chairperson of the Bureau for the Asia–Pacific for the 2025–2027 term.

**International Convention against Doping in Sport**

- International Convention against Doping in Sport is a **UNESCO multilateral treaty adopted on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2005 to prevent and eliminate doping in sport, entering into force on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007.**
- It has been **ratified by 192 States Parties (including India), making it UNESCO's 2<sup>nd</sup> most ratified treaty** (Most ratified: World Heritage Convention, 196 States Parties).
- **Objective:** It is **the only legally binding international instrument designed to harmonize and strengthen national and global measures to prevent and eliminate doping in sport, ensuring a level and safe playing field.**
- **Governance:** **COP is the sovereign body, meeting biennially. It is responsible for the Convention's implementation, evolution, and monitoring compliance by**

**States Parties.** India is the vice-chairperson for 2023 – 25 terms and 2025 – 27 terms (re-elected).

- **Financial Mechanism:** The **Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport** provides financial support, having invested over USD 5 million in more than 200 projects across 120+ countries since 2008 for education, awareness, and capacity building.
- **Educational Role:** The Convention **promotes the Values Education through Sport (VETS)** programme, which uses sport as a tool for active learning and to teach cross-curricular values, reinforcing the ethical foundation of the anti-doping effort.

## **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)**

- National Anti – Doping Agency (NADA) was **established by the Government of India, with the objective of acting as the independent Anti-Doping Organization for India having a vision of dope-free sports.**
- It was **set up as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 on November 2005.**
- Later in 2022, with **the passage of National Anti-Doping Act of 2022, the organisation received a statutory backing.**

- The organisation works under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and is headed by a Director General appointed by the Union Government.
- However, the qualifications of the Director General is not specifically mentioned along the they can be removed on grounds of misbehavior or incapacity or “any such other ground” leaving them to the discretion of union government leading to low autonomy for the Director General.

### **Functions**

- To implement the Anti-Doping Code to achieve compliance by all sports organizations in the Country.
- To coordinate dope testing program through all participating stakeholders.
- To promote anti-doping research and education to inculcate the value of dope free sports.
- To adopt best practice standards and quality systems to enable effective implementation and continual improvement of the program.

### **Powers of NADA**

- Coordinating investigation and testing programs.
- Implementing anti-doping policies in all sports.
- Establishing committees and expert teams for investigations.

- Ensure that penalties and sanctions are effectively applied.

### **Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE)**

- Athletes may have illnesses or conditions that require them to take medications or undergo procedures. If the medication or method is prohibited as per the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) Prohibited List, a TUE may give that athlete the authorization to use that substance or method while competing without invoking an anti-doping rule violation (ADRV) and applicable sanction.
- Applications for TUEs are evaluated by a panel of physicians the TUE Committee (TUEC). NADO TUEs are only valid for national-level Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing.