

# Part II—The Act

## Chapter 4

### Aims of The Act

*The aims of the Act are:*

**1. Control of Misuse** To provide a comprehensive means of controlling misuse of drugs of all kinds, no distinction being made between narcotic and non-narcotic drugs.

**2. Categorisation of Drugs** To put drugs of dependence into three categories according to their degree of harmfulness, and to grade the penalties for misuse accordingly.

**3. Trading and Production** To provide uniform but flexible control over the import, export, production, and distribution of drugs of dependence.

**4. Prescribing and Supply** To regulate their prescribing and supply, and to provide, in particular, means for controlling irresponsible prescribing quickly.

**5. Possession and Trafficking** To create a distinction between unlawful possession of drugs of dependence and trafficking in them; and to create certain new trafficking offences.

**6. Surveillance** To provide means for constant surveillance of drug dependence, for acquiring information on new developments, and for reacting quickly to them.

**7. Flexibility of Approach** To create powers to control new substances as necessary, and to modify the regulations affecting particular drugs without the need for new legislation each time.

**8. Education** To foster education and research relating to drug dependence.

**9. Addicts** To continue with the notification of addicts, the restriction of prescribing of drugs of dependence for addicts, and the provision of special treatment centres for addicts.