



Thailand Narcotics Control Annual Report 2013

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



THAILAND

NARCOTICS CONTROL

Annual Report 2013

Office of the Narcotics Control Board
Ministry of Justice

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2013 HIGHLIGHTS

The 2013 ONCB-DLO Meeting and Study Trip on Alternative Crop Replacement



Col. Weerawat Wiwatwanich, Representative of Command Centre for Drugs Elimination - Northern Border, made a presentation on "Drug Situation and Interdiction along the Northern Border of Thailand."

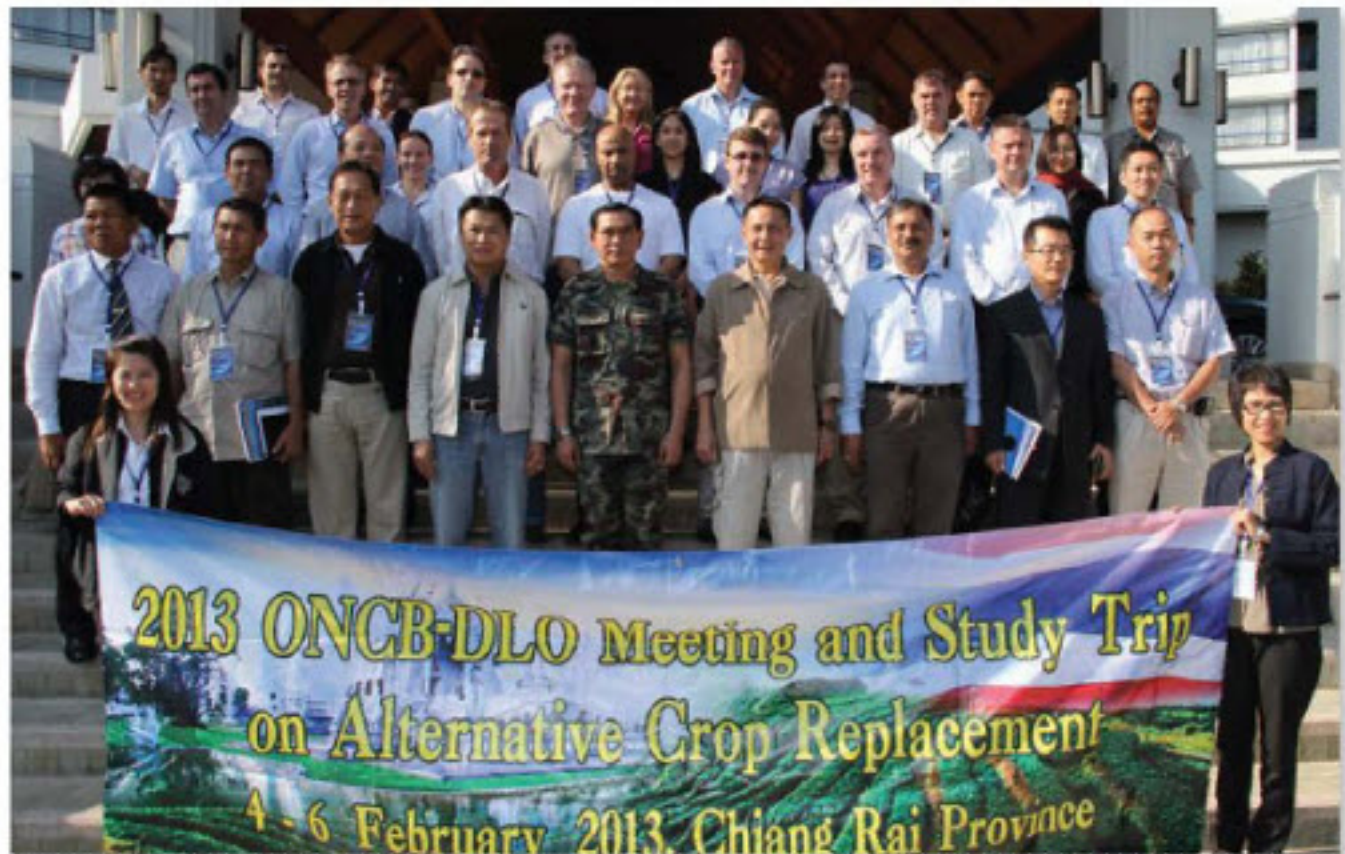
The ONCB conducted the ONCB-DLO Meeting and Study Trip on Alternative Crop Replacement in Chiang Rai during 4 – 6 February 2013. 73 participants of international drugs liaisons, concerned foreign agents, and Royal Thai Authorities, namely, Australia, Canada, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, UK, USA, Narcotics Suppression Bureau – RTP, Chiang Rai Provincial Police, 3rd Corps - RTA, National Command Centre for Combating Drugs and Elimination and ONCB, have enrolled the program. (See more details in Multi-lateral Cooperation Section)



Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, (on the right) gave a present to Major General Somsak Nilbanjerdkul, Director of Command Centre for Drugs Elimination - Northern Border.



Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, head of Thai narcotics law enforcement officers gave a souvenir to Mr. Ben Olde Engberink, Chairman of Foreign Anti Narcotic & Crime Community of Thailand.



Participants took a group photograph after the Opening Ceremony on February 4, 2013.

Metropolitan Police Division-4 arrested the biggest drugs warehouse in Bangkok



On May 21, 2013, Metropolitan Police Division-4 raided a rental room of a mansion in Po-kaew, Bangkapi, Bangkok, three suspects have been captured with 4.5 million Yaba (Amphetamine type stimulant) tablets, and 60 kilograms of ICE (Methamphetamine crystalline). In addition, four handguns and plentiful of ammunitions have been seized. It was the biggest bulk of a single on-scene arrest of the year that just in the middle of the capital city of Thailand. The rental room was a hidden drugs warehouse for further distribution that has been rent for three months. The drugs source and their network are on further investigation.



New Sub-Regional Action Plan (SAP) Development Workshop “Reaching the next level of Partnership”



The ONCB hosted the New Sub-Regional Action Plan (SAP) Development Workshop “Reaching the next level of Partnership” during 8 – 12 July 2013, in Krabi Province. Senior Officials of the seven signatory parties of the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control, namely, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) attended the meeting. The forum provided a strategic framework through which the UNODC and the Governments of Member States cooperated in addressing challenges related to the production, trafficking and use of illicit drugs. The first SAP was endorsed in 1995 by all six state members of the MOU on Drug Control. It has been reviewed and updated every two years by MOU countries, with each updated version being subsequently endorsed at the biennial Ministerial Meetings. The most recent SAP (Revision VIII) was endorsed in Lao PDR, 2011 prioritising the five following thematic areas of cooperation which are Law Enforcement, International Cooperation in Judicial Affairs, Drug Demand Reduction (DDR), Drugs and HIV/AIDS, and Sustainable Alternative Development (AD).



Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, made an opening address.



Mr. Jeremy Douglas, UNODC Representative made a keynote address.

Thailand – Iran MOU on Drugs Control Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors



On April 23, 2013, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Islamic Republic of Iran signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the two countries on the Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors. Signed by H.E. Police General

Pracha Promnok, Minister of Justice of the Royal Kingdom of Thailand, and H.E. Mr. Mostafa MOHAMMAD NAJJAR, Minister of Interior and Secretary General of Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the MOU marked a historic milestone for the Silk Road anti-narcotics efforts between the Middle East and the East Asia Region. As a matter of fact that, the cases of Iranian drugs cartel have been increasingly arrested in Thailand and Southeast Asia for the past five years. In order to encounter this transnational organized crime, the officials of the two countries agreed to establish a protocol for mutual cooperation on drug control.



The 3rd Workshop on Drug Law Enforcement Cooperation for FEALAC Countries

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and the ONCB jointly organized the the 3rd Workshop on Drug Control Cooperation for FEALAC (Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation) Countries in Bangkok, during July 29 – August 1, 2013. 15 countries, namely, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Chili, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR, Mexico, Myanmar, Peru, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand participated the programme. The representatives from the each country have made a presentation on the situation of drugs and measures being taken to combat drugs in her country. They also held discussions on ways and means to exchange information, experiences and expertise, techniques for combating drugs so as to address the problem and to enhance cooperation between the two regions.





Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, made a keynote address at the Opening Ceremony on July 29, 2013.



H.E. Mr. Jorge Eduardo CHEN CHARPENTIER, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States to Thailand and H.E. Mr. Felix DENEGRÍ, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Peru to Thailand also extended His Excellency attending in the Opening Ceremony.

THE YEAR
2013 IN REVIEW

The Year 2013 in Review



The drug problem was still one of the major social problems in this period. Three main factors always caused this serious problem for Thailand were large quantities of illicit drugs which smuggled from the Golden Triangle areas, the national economic recession, and the weakness of the justice system. Trafficking and smuggling of illicit drugs from a neighboring country into Thailand created a big impact on both public health and national security. Drug related crimes spread rapidly throughout the country and the Government had to spend a huge sum of budget each year to solve this social problem. It was found that over 80% of all criminal cases in Thailand at the current period were drug related crimes. There were large numbers of drug abusers/addicts (over 400,000 people) all over the country who entered drug treatment programme of the Government, but the cost of such service was too high (above one billion baht per year) while the outcomes were still not satisfied. Numbers of drug addicts who got treatment turned to use drugs again. On the supply side, even though drug law enforcement agencies of Thailand could seize several tons of illicit drugs each year, there were tons of them successfully smuggled to the Thai drug market and were ready for distribution.

Drug production outside the country continued. Drug clandestine laboratories were still located in a neighboring country where hill-tribe minority groups owned them and occupied those drug producing areas. They have their own armies to protect their drug factories and their territories, and still try to demand their independence. Heroin, Ice, Yaba and opium were produced there. Opium poppies were grown in many areas in those special regions to produce morphine and heroin while methamphetamine labs scattered around the same area. Mucer (Lahu) was found to be the most active drug producing and trafficking group in this area at the current period as the name of Lt. Col. Yeesae's Army was always mentioned by intelligence units of Thailand. Meanwhile, Wa (UWSA) was not found to be as active as it was during 4 - 5 years ago. Other drug producing groups in the same area were Tai Yai (Shan), Kashin, and Kokang. Chemical and precursor smuggling via border areas to drug producing sites were usually detected by law enforcement authorities. Thailand became one of the biggest drug markets in this region as tons of methamphetamine both Yaba and Ice were illicitly imported into the country including quantities of heroin and cannabis. Yaba was still the major drug for trafficking and abusing in Thailand in this period, and this drug has been the most epidemic drug in the country for almost 2 decades.



The national drug control strategy of the Government, which was called “Kingdom Unity for Victory over Drugs”, was primarily used for reducing the demand for drugs in Thai societies. The main concept is to bring drug users and addicts into drug treatment programme as many as possible. The drug treatment programme was campaigned to convince drug users/addicts to come out and register under the programme. However, figures of drug abusers/addicts who came out for drug treatment in this year decreased a lot when compared to last year. The main obstacle of this policy implementation was still in the area of the follow-up programme to evaluate the success of it. The Government did not have enough officials to look after those people. Numbers of drug users/addicts who got drug treatment did not show up to see officials again after they recovered and numbers of them moved to other areas or changed the places to live. This made it difficult to find them after all. The Government, however, was now trying to improve the follow-up programme to properly assess outcomes of this drug control strategy and making it more effective to solve the problem.

For reducing the supply of drugs, interception of drug smuggling near border areas was another drug control strategy of the Government. Three northern border provinces, where illicit drugs were always smuggled into, were the target areas. The drug interdiction at border areas still faced difficulties due to the geographical feature of the northern Thai border which located in jungles and high mountains. Besides, the length of the northern Thai border is over 1,000 kilometers, therefore, it was not possible that the border could be totally sealed and secured. To solve this problem, the Government focused drug law enforcement operations on other areas inside the country at the same time. As a result, illicit drugs were seized a lot more inside the country than they were seized at border areas.

Serious punishment for drug traffickers and corrupt government officials were taken into account. The justice system needed to be quick and decisive. It could not be said at all that the Government failed to fight against drugs in this period because there were so many success in its drug control policy since the public still satisfied with the the Government’s policy outcomes, but there were many obstacles mentioned above that had to be eliminated immediately. National drug control strategy of the Government still needed to be improved to make it more efficiency in dealing with drug problems in the country.

DRUG SITUATION IN THAILAND

Drug Situation in Thailand



Overview

The drug situation in Thailand in 2013 was still serious since the country is located near a major drug producing source in this region. Drug production in a neighboring country created a lot of impact on drug trafficking and drug abuse situation in Thailand. The total numbers of drug cases in 2013 were 245,555 cases with 259,641 drug offenders which decreased a bit when compared with 2012; however, seizures of major illicit drugs were higher in quantities in this year than last year. The seizure of methamphetamine pills or Yaba increased from 95 million pills in 2012 to 128 million pills in this period, but the seizures of crystallized methamphetamine or Ice decreased from 1.6 tons in 2012 to 1.4 tons in 2013. Heroin seizure increased 6 folds from 127 kgs. last year to 784 kgs. this year. Cannabis seizure was somewhat stable as 24 tons of this drug were seized in 2012 compared to 26 tons in 2013 whilst 17 kgs. of Cannabis resin were seized last year compared to 50 kgs. this year. The seizure of kratom plant was 33 tons

last year which was exactly the same amount as this period. Seizures of club drugs like ecstasy, ketamine, and cocaine in this year increased twice as much as last year. Chemical precursor smuggling via the northern Thai border to drug producing sites in a neighboring country was detected as 990 kgs. of Acetic acid, 1,160 kgs. of Sodium carbonate, 200 liters of Hydrochloric acid, and 302,630 tablets of Pseudo ephedrine preparations were seized in this period. A big case of precursor seizure in this year was made by the cooperation between Thailand and Netherland as 12 tons or 10,000 liters of Safrole Rich Oils (a precursor for producing Ecstasy) were seized at Rotterdam Port in Netherland. The seized precursor was smuggled from Thailand's neighboring countries via Thailand into Netherland by sea route.

Numbers of drug users/addicts who registered for drug treatment all around the country in this period were 416,873 people compared with 568,000 people last year. Proceeds and money derived from drug business valued 71.56 million US dollars were frozen in this year compared with 60 million US dollars last year. The asset forfeiture during the last 10 years was totally 536 million US dollars. Destruction of seized drugs which weighted 3,094 kilograms was carried out on 26 June 2013, and the value was 277 million U.S. dollars.



The average price of methamphetamine tablet (Yaba) was stable during the past few years. The retailed price of Yaba was around 120 - 300 baht per tablet depending on the areas of distribution. The price of Ice was around 2,000 - 3,000 baht per gram but this drug was also sold in a smaller amount which is called "kiah" (300 - 500 baht per kiah) to promote the selling of this drug. Cocaine price was around 2,500 - 3,000 baht per gram which was almost exactly the same price as heroin. Marijuana was sold in a small pack which cost 100-150 baht per pack. The price of illicit drugs in this year compared to last year was not so different since the supply and demand in Thai drug market were constantly rising in both side.

Illicit drugs were smuggled by hill tribe minority groups from drug producing sites in the Golden Triangle areas into Thailand by passing through border areas in the north, northeastern, eastern, and western parts of the country. The northern Thai border was used mainly to smuggle those illicit drugs into the country (over 80%) since it is located closer to drug producing sites than other borders. Methods of drug smuggling across the borders were varied but using human courier was found to be the most common one. Drug smuggling across the border in large quantities, however, was usually done by drug caravans escorted by armed forces. Methods of drug smuggling from border areas into other areas of the country were always changed depending on drug law enforcement circumstances, however, various kinds of vehicles such as car, pick-up truck, truck, train, and bus were used to transport drugs from one place to another. Drug smuggling via airport was found as usual but the new trend was more international airports around the country have been used as trafficking gateways than ever before.

Drug trafficking in the country got involved with various groups of people such as Thai people, hill tribe people, illegal migration laborers, tourists, government officials and prisoners. Imprisoned major drug traffickers could still carry out drug trafficking in prisons even though governmental officials strictly controlled them. To cut off the communication between imprisoned drug traffickers and their people outside the walls was still a big challenge to the Government's drug trafficking control policy. West African drug syndicates were still actively involved with drug smuggling and trafficking in Thailand and across the regions. Foreigners who were found to get involved with drug trafficking in the country mostly came from neighboring countries and they were hill tribes who lived in border villages. These hill-tribe drug traffickers/smugglers comprised three main groups : The first group lived in a neighboring country; the second one lived in Thailand; and the third one lived in both Thailand and a neighboring country (Numbers of them have two or three nationalities).



Drug abuse and epidemic situation in Thailand have not changed much since the past 5 years. People who registered for drug treatment increased year after year. Nine years ago the numbers of drug patients around the country were only 38,060 people compared to 416,873 people in 2013. The biggest group of drug abusers belonged to people aged between 15 - 24 years. Most of them were found to be methamphetamine users/addicts. Drugs that were abused in Thailand comprised methamphetamine (Yaba and Ice), cannabis, heroin, kratom plants, club drugs (ecstasy, ketamine, and cocaine), psychotropic substances, and volatile substances. New psychotropic substances (NPS) were hardly found to be abused in the country in this period. Kratom plant leaves mixed with codeine and other dangerous substances which is called 4x100 was still found to be abused in areas in the south of Thailand. Areas of drug epidemic and abuse were located in various parts of the country but mostly they were found in big cities and tourist spots, particularly in Bangkok the capital city. Methamphetamine abuse and epidemic were found in many areas throughout the country.

The national drug control strategy of Thailand in this period which was called “Kingdom Unity for Victory over Drugs” was still used to deal with drug problems in the country. This strategy has been used in Thailand since the late 2011. Besides, there was also a special drug control measure such as Safe Communities for the Family Reunion which was also implemented to deal with the drug problem at the current period.

1. Drug Production Situation

The situation of drug production in Thailand in this year was still not serious since some quantities of drug crop cultivation have been discovered and destroyed. Those drug crops were opium poppies, cannabis, and kratom plants. Opium poppies were cultivated in the northern part only while cannabis and kratom plants were cultivated in many parts of the country. Production of synthetic drugs in the country was also found in this period but those drug clandestine laboratories were found to be only small drug producing sites which were called re-tableting kitchen labs.

Opium

During the crop cultivating season 2012/2013, total areas of opium cultivation in Thailand, which was found in six northern provinces, were 265.44 hectares compared to 208 hectares during 2011-2012 season. The northern provinces where opium cultivation were found the most included Chiang Mai (208 hectares), Tak (39.4 hectares), and Mae Hong Son (9 hectares). Opium survey was done by ONCB and other concerned agencies with high technologies such as remote sensing, geographic information system (GIS), and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV). The price of opium was around 30,000 - 40,000 baht (1,290 US dollars) per 1.6 kgs. The high price of opium yield attracted opium growers to grow opium poppies even though there was a strict control by the Government. Opium eradication was carried out by the local law enforcement agencies covering the area of 264.17 hectares or around 99% of the whole illicit cultivation in the country.

Cannabis

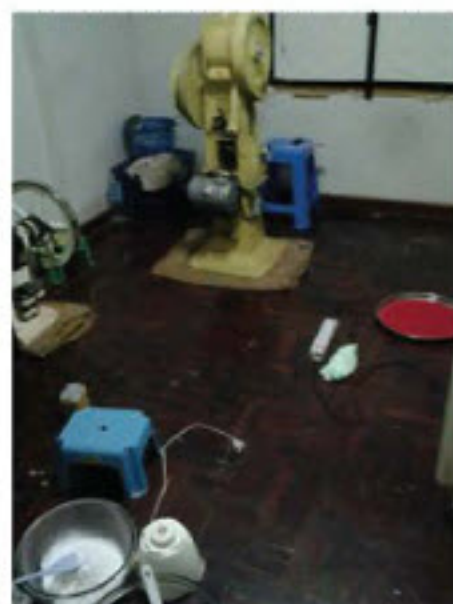
The Survey of cannabis cultivation during 2012/2013 found that cultivation of this drug plant was still found in small areas which scattered around the country. In the northern part, cannabis was grown in high mountains and dense jungles which was difficult to find and eradicate. It was found that cannabis plants and opium poppies were grown together in some areas in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai Provinces. In the northeastern part, this drug plant cultivation was found in 13 small areas in Sakon Nakorn, Karasin, and Mookdaharn Provinces. In the southern part, cannabis cultivation was found in Petchaburi Province where it was grown in rice fields and in Nakorn Sithamarat Province where it was grown in mountainous and jungle areas. However, major cultivation of cannabis was not found in Thailand this period.

Kratom Plant

Kratom plant cultivation was found mostly in the southern part of Thailand. Growing of this drug plant was different from opium and cannabis. Kratom plant was usually grown just nearby the resident area throughout this region, therefore, areas of cultivation could not be figured out exactly. However, in the last five years kratom plant started to be grown in fields. During 2012/2013 season 153 rais (61.2 acres) of kratom plant was found in forest preservation areas in Saton Province which could not be cut. Kratom plant was grown mostly in Chumphon and Nakornsithamarat Provinces. This drug plant was also grown in all other parts of the country particularly in the forest. The full grown kratom plant was very tall and big. People who work in agricultural fields take Kratom leaves by chewing them to be able to work harder and longer in during the day.

Methamphetamine lab

Four methamphetamine producing sources were found in this period. One of them was the supplier of methamphetamine tableting machine while the others were kitchen labs that could produce a small amount of methamphetamine pills per day. The single punch tableting machine was always found in this kind of drug producing source. Large scale methamphetamine producing sources have not been found in Thailand for over 12 years. However, on 22 April 2013 the metropolitan police in Bangkok arrested a Hong Kong Chinese who attempted to produce ecstasy for distribution in Thailand. The seized objects at the scene were 241 ecstasy tablets, 76 bottles and 400 grams of ketamine, 6 kgs. of Ice, some chemicals to produce ecstasy and ketamine, and a single punch tableting machine.



2. Drug Smuggling Situation

2.1 Drug smuggling across the borders

Typically, illicit drugs from drug producing source opposite the north of Thailand have been smuggled into the country across the northern border. Over 80% of them were from the north meanwhile the rest came along other border lines all around the country. However, a 5-million-tablet Yaba case was also seized in the neighbouring country opposite the northeastern border of Thailand in March. Smuggled drugs particularly methamphetamine usually have been stored hiding along the border rims then later trafficked into the mainland. Methamphetamine (both Yaba and Ice), heroin, and opium were smuggled through the northeastern border. Drugs that were seized along the eastern border were methamphetamine and Ice while some cocaine was occasionally intercepted here. The western border has been used in methamphetamine smuggling quite a few. In the southern border, methamphetamine has been brought in and hidden away along the border rim of the neighbouring countries and then took out for local market later. Cannabis and heroin have been trafficking out meanwhile kratom and club drugs were the inbound illicit trafficking. Outbound chemical and precursor substances through the northern border to drugs producing sites were still regularly found while cold medicine pill containing pseudo ephedrine has been intercepted just once along the border area. Illicit drugs that were smuggled via international airports across the country



were cocaine, Ice, heroin, cannabis resin, psychotropic substances, and medicine that has a narcotic type substance ingredient.

Methods of drug smuggling through border areas in this period were the same as last year. Human courier was the most common method of drug smuggling across the borders that law enforcement officers always detected while drug caravan escorted by armed force was usually found at the northern border only. Swallowing drugs and hiding drugs around the body to pass through border check points were still detected at every border line as usual. Drug smugglers near border areas were found mostly to be ethnic minorities from neighboring countries. Major methamphetamine seizures in the northern border were totally 16.5 million tablets which was around 44% of all major cases (over one-million-tablet seizure) all across the country. All border check points nationwide became the most high-risk gateways for drug trafficking. 172 border villages have been reported of being involved in drug trafficking activities. 215 ethnic minorities have been arrested under the charge of drug smugglers.

2.2 Drug smuggling inside the country

Drug smuggling inside the country involved various groups of people such as ethnic minorities who lived in Thailand and neighboring countries (2 nationalities people), native Thai, state personnel, illegal alien worker, West African drug trafficker, and tourist. Once illicit drugs were successfully smuggled via border areas into the country, they were going to be transported to other areas by various methods. The most common method of drug smuggling inside the country in this period was done by motor vehicles. All kinds of cars, motorcycles, and trucks were used in drugs trafficking. A special compartment has been made for drugs concealment. However, it was quite often that drug smugglers just loaded the illicit drugs in luggage, handbags, or sacks and put them in the boot or truck bed. Frequently, large amount of illicit drugs were detected on the truck along with agricultural products. Tactically, the drug-loaded car did not travel alone since they beware of intensive police check points along the way. There would be another car(s) leading the way to their destination. The leading car will contact and instruct the drug-loaded car for their alternative course. Drug smuggling routes from the north and the northeast of Thailand to other parts of the country were always changed from time to time to avoid authorities interception.

Nonetheless, public transportation, i.e., bus, train, and airplane have been complied in drugs trafficking in order to passing through the check point, drugs smugglers



just put illicit drugs in their belongings, i.e., handbag, luggage, backpack or wrap around their bodies. Nevertheless, the drug smuggling method that law enforcement officers found a lot more frequently in this period than last year was smuggling drugs by mail and postal services. Thailand Post and private parcel services have been used by drug smugglers as another option for drugs trafficking. Large amount of illicit drugs were detected many times by authorities while searching suspicious parcels upon receiving intelligence from the informant. The ONCB and the parcel services companies have already met to find out the measures to prevent drug smuggling otherwise their business will be closed.



Another new method of drug smuggling found in this period was using high technology such as high speed internet or social online networks (Line and Facebook) providing in mobile phone services to contact each other for smuggling and delivering illicit drugs.

There were 299 drug smugglers arrested at 111 check points in 74 districts of 36 provinces during this period. Illicit drugs that were seized at those check points were Yaba (16 million tablets), Ice (101 kgs.), heroin (65.6 kgs.), cannabis (5.7 tons), opium (7.9 kgs.), cocaine (2.6 kgs.), codeine (10,644 bottles), and kratom plant (885 kgs).

Most illicit drugs, which were smuggled from border areas and other provinces as well as international airports nationwide, were kept for a while in the provinces nearby Bangkok like Ayudhaya, Pathumthani, Nonthaburi, Samuthprakarn, and Samuthsakorn or many districts in suburban areas of Bangkok before being smuggled into Bangkok the biggest drug market in Thailand. Large quantities of illicit drugs were also shifted to areas in other big cities and tourist spots around the country while the rest were sent out of Thailand to destination countries. Heroin, Ice, and cannabis were always found to be sent out of the country at the southern Thai border to Malaysia and Australia while kratom plant and club drugs were smuggled from Malaysia into Thailand across this border.

3. Drug Trafficking Situation/drug networking situation

As mentioned earlier, the situation of drug trafficking in Thailand in this period was still radical and became worse than it was last year as those seized drugs in the country increased continuously year after year. Drug trafficking cases also increased dramatically from 20,528 cases in 2004 to be 71,371 cases in 2013. The ratio of drug related crimes compared to all other crimes in 2007 was 55.8 %, but the figures increased rapidly to be 85.5% in 2013. Seized methamphetamine pills or Yaba increased 32% from 95 million pills last year to be 128 million pills in this period while seizures of other types of illicit drugs also increased at the same time. New drug traffickers/smugglers who got arrested for the first time in this period represented 67.3 % of all arrested drug traffickers/smugglers throughout the country. The age of drug traffickers was found mostly to be around 20 - 29 years which represented 42.4 % of all arrested drug traffickers compared to 14.4 % of drug traffickers whose aged under 20 years. Male drug traffickers represented 84.3 % of all arrested drug traffickers. The ratio of arrested drug traffickers per populations was 11: 10,000. Most of the arrested Thai drug traffickers/dealers were workers and low income employees as well as unemployed people. Major seizures of methamphetamine tablets or Yaba all around the country in 2013 were made 175 times with the total amount of 93 million seized tablets (Above 1,000,000 tablets per case was made 25 times with the total amount of 39 million tablets, and above 100,000 tablets per case was made 150 time with the total amount of 54 million tablets).



Drug trafficking in prisons was still a major problem in this period like last year. Imprisoned drug kingpins in many prisons around the country could still operate their drug trafficking by using mobile phones to command their drug networks outside the walls. The Government has already installed the jammer system to confuse mobile phone signals over 7 large prisons which located in Bangkok and other provinces, but the system has not worked 100% to prevent such problem. There were 207 cases of drug trafficking which were found later to get involved with imprisoned drug traffickers in 54 prisons in this period which meant that they could keep their drug networks outside to be informed. Many people were arrested of being involved in drug trafficking in prisons by delivering mobile phones or illicit drugs to drugs related convicts. However, there were other ways around for those drug kingpins to operate drug trafficking without using mobile phones. Relatives who came to visit them in prisons were always found to be the people who helped facilitating drug trafficking one way or another. Another significant factor supporting this problem was the corrupted officers who assisted drugs criminal prisoners. According to the statistics on the arrested criminals that related to drugs, there were 209 officers have been arrested in 2013 compared to 159 officials in 2012 comprising of 106 military officers, 38 police officers, 5 local administration officials, 4 teachers, 2 correctional officers, and 11 public service officers.

Drug traffickers in Thailand consisted of the people from various nationalities. Apart from Thai people, there were foreigners who came from many countries to Thailand for selling or buying drugs. There were 3,834 foreign drug traffickers/smugglers from 59 nationalities who have been arrested in Thailand in 2013. Ethnic minorities and border villagers from neighboring countries were the main group of foreign drug traffickers/smugglers who have been arrested in Thailand (over 1,500 persons) in this period. Mostly they came from Myanmar and Lao PDR then Cambodia respectively. Another major group of foreign drug traffickers in the country came from West Africa especially Nigeria. West African drug syndicates still played a major role in supporting drug trafficking and smuggling from Thailand into other countries and at the same time from other countries into Thailand. They hired Thai women and Asian women to smuggle drugs such as cocaine, ice, and heroin into many countries around the world. Iranian Ice traffickers were not found in the Suvarnabhumi Airport in this period as many as last year. Many South Asian drug traffickers were also arrested in this period.



4. Drug Epidemic and Abuse Situation

To solve drug problems in Thailand by bringing drug users/addicts all over the country into drug treatment programme was another significant policy of the Royal Thai Government to reduce drug demand in Thai societies and communities. Total numbers of drug users/addicts who were registered for drug treatment around the country were 416,873 people. Drug treatment and rehabilitation system were divided into 3 types

e.g. voluntary, compulsory, and correctional programs. In the past several years, most numbers of drug users/addicts were registered for the compulsory program the most (65-71%) except in the past two years (2012 - 2013) that most of them were registered for the voluntary program (65% and 58 % respectively). The ratio of drug patient per population was 64 : 10,000.

The largest group of population who were registered for drug treatment were the youngsters at around 15-24 years old (49%). The second large group belonged to people aged between 25-29 years old (21%). The smallest group were people aged under 15 years old (1.7%). It was found that most drug users/addicts who were registered for treatment (81%) were methamphetamine users/addicts while numbers of marijuana addicts were 10%, kratom plants addicts were 2.8%, and heroin addicts were 0.2% of all drug patients. Careers of drug users/addicts who got treatment were found to be employed people (39 - 46%), unemployed people (17-22%), agricultural workers (11-16%), and students (7%). Most drug addicted students who got treatment were the students at high school level. The proportion of new drug patients was about 70% of all drug patients.

Areas of drug epidemic can be located by types of drugs as follows:

Methamphetamine (Yaba tablet) was epidemic in many areas throughout the country. 10 provinces with high numbers of methamphetamine users/addicts who registered under treatment programme were Bangkok, Ubon Ratchatani, Nakorn Ratchasima, Chon Buri, Udon Thani, Chiang Mai, Roi Et, Khon Kaen, Kalasin, and Sisaket.

Ice (Crystallized meth) was epidemic widely and rapidly in big cities and tourist sites. 10 provinces with high numbers of Ice users/addicts who registered under treatment programme were Bangkok, Songkhla, Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Phuket, Chonburi, Chanthaburi, Nakorn Prathom, and Nonthaburi.

Cannabis was epidemic in many areas around the country but the people who entered drug treatment came from the south of Thailand the most. 10 provinces with high numbers of cannabis users/addicts who registered under treatment programme were Bangkok, Songkhla, Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Udon Thani, Chumphon, Satun, Phangnga, Khon Kaen, and Chonburi.

Heroin was epidemic in the northern and the southern parts of the country where heroin was smuggled into and out of the country. Provinces with high numbers of heroin addicts who registered under treatment programme were Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Narathiwat, Pattani, Songkhla, and Bangkok.

Volatile Substances was epidemic in the northeastern and northern parts of Thailand and dense communities in big cities. Provinces that were found to be volatile substances epidemic areas were Buriram, Nakorn Ratchasima, Khon Kaen, Roi Et, and Udon Thani.

Kratom Plant epidemic was still found mostly in provinces in the south of Thailand. However, Kratom leaves selling was found in provinces in other parts of the country and in provinces nearby Bangkok. Average age of Kratom plant abusers was 15-19 years old. Agricultural workers were another major group of Kratom plants abusers.

Kratom syrup (4×100) was epidemic the most in the southern part of Thailand especially in 3 southern border provinces. Average age of Kratom syrup abusers was between 15-19 years old. At the moment, Kratom syrup began to be abused in some communities in other parts of the country.

STRATEGIC POLICY ON NARCOTICS CONTROL

2013 Narcotics Control Strategy

Overview

In 2013, the national drug control had been implemented in accordance with the strategy, namely, “the Kingdom’s Unity for Victory over Drugs” under Yingluck Administration since 2011. Throughout the year, the drug control efforts were guided by the 2013 Operation Kingdom’s Unity for Victory over Drugs which its seven master plans plus seven supportive plans were highlighted to address the emerging drug problems. The 2013 operation aimed to raise drug immunity in every community to all level Thai societies.

I. Drug Control Policy

Before the National Assembly on 23 August 2011, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra announced the policy on drug control comprising of 4 mains elements. Firstly, in dealing with drug abusers/addicts, it is to reaffirm a principle of drug abusers/addicts being patients who are subjected to be properly treated, given a second chance to reintegrate to a society and to be provided with systematically after-care services. Secondly, in order to prevent vulnerable groups and general public from being involved in illegal drugs, all segments of Thai society should be encouraged and being united as a national force to combat drugs. Thirdly, in the suppression of drug traffickers, drug dealers, drug influential people and wrongdoers, law enforcement efforts should be strictly implemented while upholding the rule of law. Lastly, to early detect the drug problems, international cooperation on control and interdiction of illegal drugs and precursor chemicals shall be proactive and managed in an integrated and effective manner.

II. National Agenda to Overcome Drugs

Following the grave concern of Her Majesty the Queen on the drug problem expressed in Her Majesty's birthday speech on 11 August 2011, the Royal Thai government led by Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra has prioritized the drug control policy as a national agenda calling upon all sectors of the Thai society to unite and concert their efforts to overcome the drug problem. The government has continued its commitment to address the drug problem and reaffirmed the Order of the Prime Minister Office, No. 154/2554, dated 9 September 2011 which the national drug control strategy called "the Kingdom's Unity for Victory over Drugs" was launched as a national strategy on drug control pinpointing seven plans of drug control implementations.

III. 2013 Operation Kingdom's Unity for Victory over Drugs

In line with the national drug control strategy of the Kingdom's Unity for Victory over Drugs, the Royal Thai government launched the 2013 Operation Kingdom's Unity for Victory over Drugs operating during 1 October 2012 to 30 September 2013. The Operation highlights four preventive measures including drug abuse prevention, risk prevention, recidivism prevention and community prevention and identified different targets of each seven plans, as follows;

Plan 1: Community Empowerment: Communities/villages across the country are the most important elements of the implementation of the drug control policy where people in each community must be aware of the danger of drugs as a common threat requiring mutual efforts to overcome the problem. Local people, therefore, would be empowered to strengthen their own communities/villages for being free of drugs and safe in living. In 2013, the total number of 84,320 communities nationwide was targeted to be strengthened and half of those must complete seven-step requirements. Also the total number of 12,189 empowered communities under Her Majesty the Queen's Fund Program should enable to reduce their own drug problems and each province should establish more 50 communities under Her Majesty the Queen's Fund Program.

Plan 2: Demand Reduction and Treatment: Drug abusers/addicts would be treated as patients suffering of health problems and given a second chance to be back on track and to reintegrate to their families and societies. Voluntary Treatment system would be a major channel putting in place various modalities of treatment aiming to encourage behavioral changes which may be taken place in the hospitals, the temples, confined compulsory treatment centers, special treatment centers and military settings, etc. People's attitude in society would also be adjusted to being compassionate to the ex-drug abusers/addicts allowing them to live on their own after completing the treatment. Vocational training program would be included in treatment and rehabilitation programs while the risk factors must be minimized, particularly misunderstanding in school and family for drug abusers/addicts, loss of employment and debt problems. All three treatment systems would also be improved so as the after-care services in order to reduce the relapsing rate leading to the actual demand reduction. In 2013, the demand reduction plan focused on searching the drug abusers/addicts and providing them with proper treatments and rehabilitation programs through three existing drug treatment systems including voluntary system, compulsory system and correctional system. The target was set that 300,000 drug abusers/addicts must enter treatment programs and 700,000 drug patients discharged after treatment completion must be followed up.

Plan 3: Potential Demand Reduction: It is to build up immunity to drugs or to discourage initial use of drugs among the high risk groups of people including students in school, school drop out youth and workers in order to stop the rising number of new drug abusers/addicts. Schools remain the major player on drug prevention. Meanwhile social order must be maintained, workplaces should implement drug-free campaigns and places at risk of drug abuse like entertainment places, massage parlors, computer service centres and commercial residences must be closely monitored. In 2013, the target was set that 1.5 million primary students of grade 5 and 6 must be empowered to dissuade them from falling victim to drugs. Also 11,490 schools have to put in place drug prevention programs that teach students to be aware of the danger of drugs and encourage them to participate in various programs of recreational activities and life skill trainings. In addition, 2,000 workplaces should be encouraged to participate in drug prevention and drug awareness campaigns.

Plan 4: Supply Reduction: Law enforcement efforts on drug control would be escalated while strictly being uphold the rule of law. It is to step up counter drug

measures particularly in investigating and prosecuting major drug criminals and identifying, freezing and confiscating drug criminal assets. In addition, drug trafficking by prison gangs must be reduced and the corrupt state official must face a harsh punishment. The operation of search and surrounding must be undertaken in the suspicious prisons to ensure no drug trade managed behind bars. Financial investigation teams must be set up to trace, disable and destroy drug trafficking networks. Drug complaint reports must be seriously handled and promptly taken action. In 2013, the targets were set that 40,000 major drug criminal cases must be further investigated, Drug Suppression and Intelligence Centre must be enhanced, 2,000 million baht of drug-related assets must be seized and forfeited and one network one region plan must be implemented.

Plan 5: International Drug Control Cooperation: In response to the government policy of promoting the national agenda to the regional agenda to fight against drugs, international cooperation must be proactive. It is, therefore, to seek to bolster cooperation with international community including neighboring countries, ASEAN countries, related foreign countries and international organizations. Moreover, due to the success in applying alternative development in solving the problem of opium poppy cultivation, cooperation on alternative development would be highlighted and its best practice would be shared with foreign countries particularly neighboring countries. In 2013, priority measures were to play an active role in international forums on drug matters, to take a leading role in pursuit of the Drug-Free ASEAN 2015, and to enhance interdiction cooperation along the borders. In doing so, cooperation with neighboring countries, at bilateral and multilateral levels, must be strengthened in all dimensions, including intelligence sharing, precursor chemical control, joint border interdictions, border liaison offices, joint counter drug operations and capacity building. ASEAN cooperation on drug control must also be enhanced.

Plan 6: Border Interdiction: It is to strengthen interdiction efforts along the borders and to reduce the inflow of illegal drugs from the outsides. Border areas in the upper North are the main priority areas of strengthening interdiction pressure, while northeastern and central borders are the second and the third priority. In doing so, the Royal Thai Army and Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) are assigned as major responsible agencies in carrying out border interdiction efforts and concerting their forces with relevant agencies in the areas. For interdiction management in inner areas, it is under the responsibility of the Royal Thai Police. More license plate recognition systems

would be installed at the main check points to monitor suspicious vehicles. A number of measures would also be imposed to control public transportations and postal services from being used by drug traffickers. Control of International Airports nationwide would also be heightened. Communities/villages along the borders must be strengthened and empowered to be border defensive lines against drugs.

Plan 7: Integrative Management: It is to enhanced effectiveness of national drug control management focusing on the central, provincial and district levels. Drug control personnel, structure, mechanisms and budget must be reviewed, adjusted and strengthened according to the changing drug situation.

In 2013, seven additional special plans were introduced to solve the drug problems. Among those, there were five areas-based plans, one issue-based plan and one communities-based plan as follow;

1. Drug Control Plan for Bangkok and Nearby Provinces
2. Interdiction Plan for Three Provinces in the Upper North
3. Interdiction Plan for border provinces in the Northeast
4. Drug Control plan for Three Provinces in the South
5. Drug Control Plan for Om Koi District of Chiang Mai Province.
6. Methamphetamine Hydrochloride (ICE) Control Plan
7. Community Safety Plan

The areas-based plan focused on the five different areas of the most vulnerable to drugs. The North and the Northeast have been at high risk of the inflow of illegal drugs from the outsides, while Bangkok and nearby Provinces have been prone to the abuse of and trafficking in the drugs. In Om Koi District of Chiang Mai Province where there are the largest remaining areas of opium poppy cultivation found in Thailand (around 100 ha), a sustainable alternative development program has been implemented since 2010. Three provinces in the South facing more complicated problems of drugs and security issues have required different approaches in addressing the drug problem.

For the issue-based plan, Methamphetamine Hydrochloride (ICE) Control Plan was highlighted to address a rising trend of the abuse of and trafficking in ICE which over the last five years, the arrests of ICE have increased 7.8 times while treatment and rehabilitation services for ICE users/abusers have reached 11 times.

The communities-based plan was aimed at reducing the drug problems in 928 most critical communities selected from each nine regions and Bangkok. It is a spillover

of the special project called “a safe community for the family reunion” (1 October – 31 December 2012) which was initiated as a new modality of drug control in the community. It is to establish single command to coordinate drug control work of agencies concerned in each community, to mobilize participation of local people, to compile information about illegal drug movements in the community, and to create safe and secure community for defeating the drug menace. A dozen of surveillance cameras were set up in each community to monitor suspicious activities and deter drug trafficking and crimes.

Mechanisms and Management

For an effective implementation of the drug control policy, the National Command Centre for Drugs Elimination (NCCDE) has been established in line with the Order of the Office of the Prime Minister, dated 9 September 2011. In 2013, after the Cabinet reshuffle, Police Captain Chalerm Yubumrung in a new position of Minister of Labor has been reappointed as the director of the NCCDE. Secretary-General of NCB and Permanent Secretary of Minister of Interior are joint secretariats of the NCCDE. It aims to direct, command, supervise and follow-up implementations of all agencies concerned at national level. NCCDE would convene every three months to follow up the drug control situation and implementations. Information would be collected by concerned agencies and reported to the NCCDE on daily basis. The Joint Staff Office (JSO) operating under the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) would compile progress of the implementations of each seven plan and make a daily report to higher commands.

At functional level, the Command Centre for Drugs Elimination at ministerial/departmental level have also been set up to ensure that NCCDE’s commands have seriously been taken by functional authorities in an integrative manner at every level as follows,

- 1) Command Centres for Drug Elimination of Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Public Health, the Royal Thai Police, the Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Force, the Royal Thai Army, the Royal Thai Navy, the Royal and Thai Air force.

- 2) Provincial Command Centres for Drugs Elimination (PCCDE), set up in each province throughout the country, led by the governor of each province.

- 3) District/ Minor District Operation Centres for Drugs Elimination (DOCDE or MDOCDE), led by Chief of District or Chief of Minor District

- 4) Command Centre for Drugs Control in Bangkok
- 5) Commander Center for Drug Interdiction in the North Border
- 6) Commander Center for Drug Interdiction in the Northeast Border
- 7) Commander Center for Drug Interdiction in Southernmost Provinces

IV. National Guideline to Move Forward National Drug Control (April-September 2013)

On 28 March 2013, the NCCDE adopted a national guideline to move forward national drug control from April to September 2013 which aimed to contain the magnitude of the drug problem, reduce its impact to the well being of Thais and to create more secure environment in each community. It emphasized on the qualitative and integrative implementation of each seven plans. In doing so, every province was obliged to expedite their related implementations of the empowerment of each community to fight against drugs. Provincial authorities and related functional authorities, such as health care services and the police should work together to search and convince drug users/abusers to undergo drug treatment and rehabilitation programs organized in proper settings. Preventive campaigns and activities should be encouraged in educational institutions, while social order measures should be imposed in at risk public, private and commercial places. Law enforcement and suppression measures must be step up to dismantle major drug trafficking networks. Drug interdiction efforts along the border should also be enhanced and systematically set up in parallel with the inner drug interdictions along major and minor routes of transportations inside the country. Provincial reports on progress of implementations and expenses should be submitted to the NCCDE on monthly basis.

V. Extensive Campaign under the Community Safety Project

On 3 November 2013, in the press conference Police General Pongsapat Pongcharoen announced a new proactive campaign against drugs. Communities are divided into four following categories to put in place proportionate measures to address the problems in each community; general watch risk community, minimal watch risk community, mediocre watch risk community and close watch risk community. He

revealed 50 priority communities which are top five risk of drug problem in Bangkok and nine regional regions to be put in place proactive measures to address the drug problem in line with the concept of community safety project. The following measures would be undertaken. Firstly, 24-hour centres entitled Ban Aoon Jai (Warm heated House) would be set up and operated in an integrated manner with a combine force of law enforcement officers and public health officers. Secondly, joint patrol teams would be formed by related state officers and community volunteers to inspect at risk areas in the community and to ensure the safety and well-being of local people. Thirdly, standard of living of people in each community would be raised through the improvement of their neighborhoods, particularly houses, temples, schools and sport playgrounds. Lastly, people participation in drug control work would be encouraged in each community with an aim to achieve the ultimate goal of community empowerment and white community against drugs.

Conclusion

In 2013, the Royal Thai government has continued their efforts to maintain the national momentum to fight against drugs and to take the leading role in leveling up the drug control commitment from the national level to the regional level. Focus also was highlighted to solve the drug problem in community level, the smallest unit. Under the command of the NCCDE and the support of the ONCB, the 2013 narcotics control strategy stated clearly the national guidelines to address the drug problem. It was to reduce the magnitude of the drug problem, ensure the well-being of the Thais, and secure the nationwide communities/villages against the drug menace.

SUPPLY REDUCTION STRATEGY

Drug Suppression

The National Command Centre for Drugs Elimination (NCCDE) has been set up as a key element of the *Kingdom's Unity for Victory over Drugs* national drug control strategy since the late 2011. The Royal Thai Government took a serious concern on the drugs suppression of the supply in the country. In response, Royal Thai Military, Royal Thai Police, Provincial Administration, and all concerned government sectors mutually took part on this national agenda under NCCDE mandate.

On June 26, 2013, Royal Thai Government conducted the 42nd Destruction of Confiscated Narcotics at the Utility and Environment Management Center, Bangpa-in Industrial Estate, Pranakhorn Sri Ayuthaya Province. Around 3.4 tons of narcotic substances have been burned in the thermo-reactor chamber of industrial waste incinerators before public reporters and international diplomatic witnesses.

The destruction was not only to reiterate the strong determination of the Royal Thai Government on drug supply reduction but also to mark the 2013 International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking for global recognition as well.





The drug situation was most likely a police showcase throughout the year. Numbers of major domestic arrest and seizure have been made and reported via all kind of mass media to the public from time to time. As a result, the overall statistic figures of drug control have been scaled up relatively.



A Taiwanese drug cartel alleged of 237 kgs. of heroin trafficking along with another Thai drug smugglers alleged of 3,200 Yaba tablets trafficking on August 8, 2013, public report.

Table 1 Statistics on Numbers of Drug Cases and Offenders throughout the Country during 2006 – 2013

Year	Numbers of Cases	Numbers of Offenders
2006	82,864	90,845
2007	106,599	116,333
2008	141,665	153,407
2009	177,106	191,498
2010	181,981	196,756
2011	233,024	248,128
2012	213,648	227,557
2013	245,555	259,641

Table 2 Graph on Numbers of Drug Cases and Offenders throughout the Country during 2006 – 2013

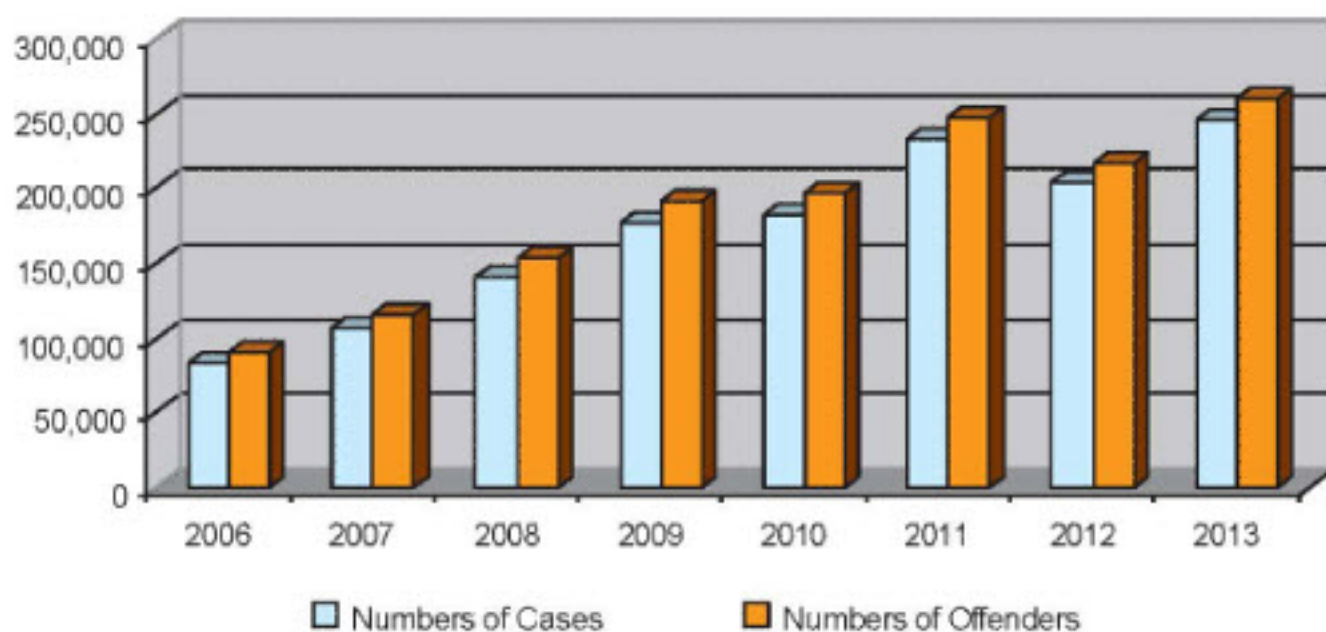


Table 3 Statistics on Number of Cases by Narcotic Substances during 2006 – 2013

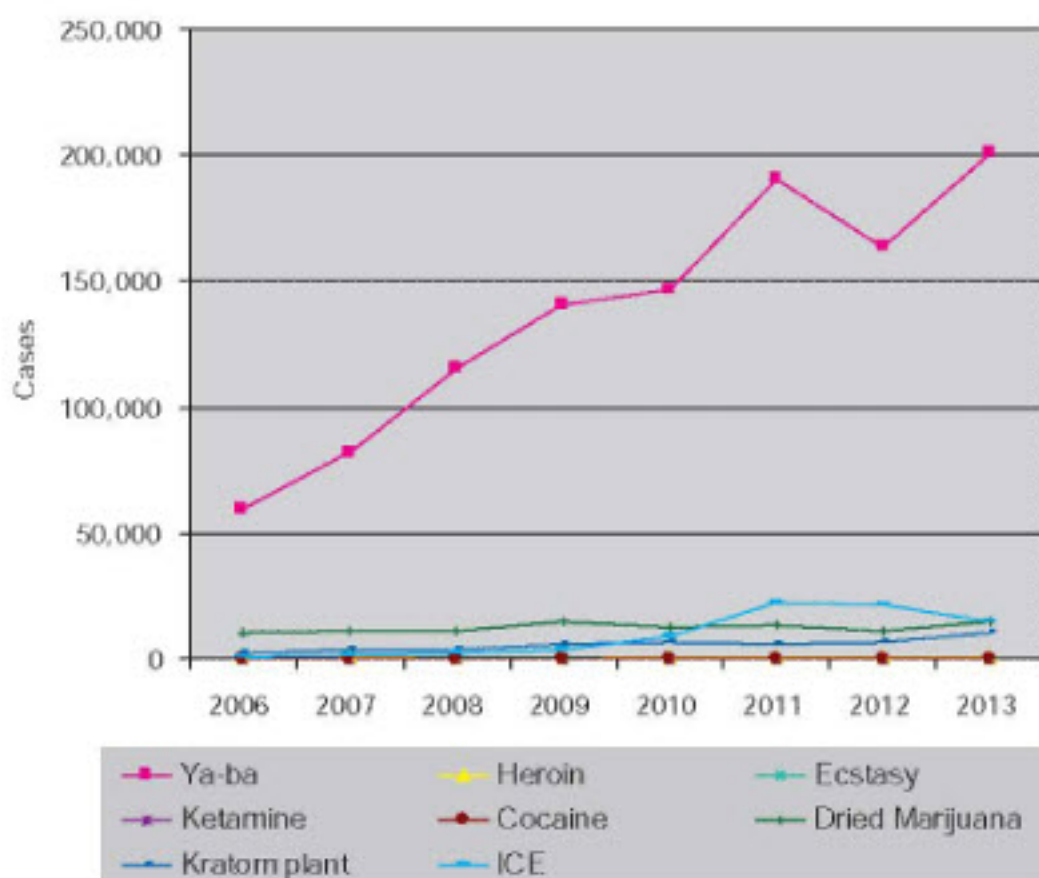


Table 4 Statistics on Number of Cases by Narcotic Substances excluded Yaba during 2006 – 2013

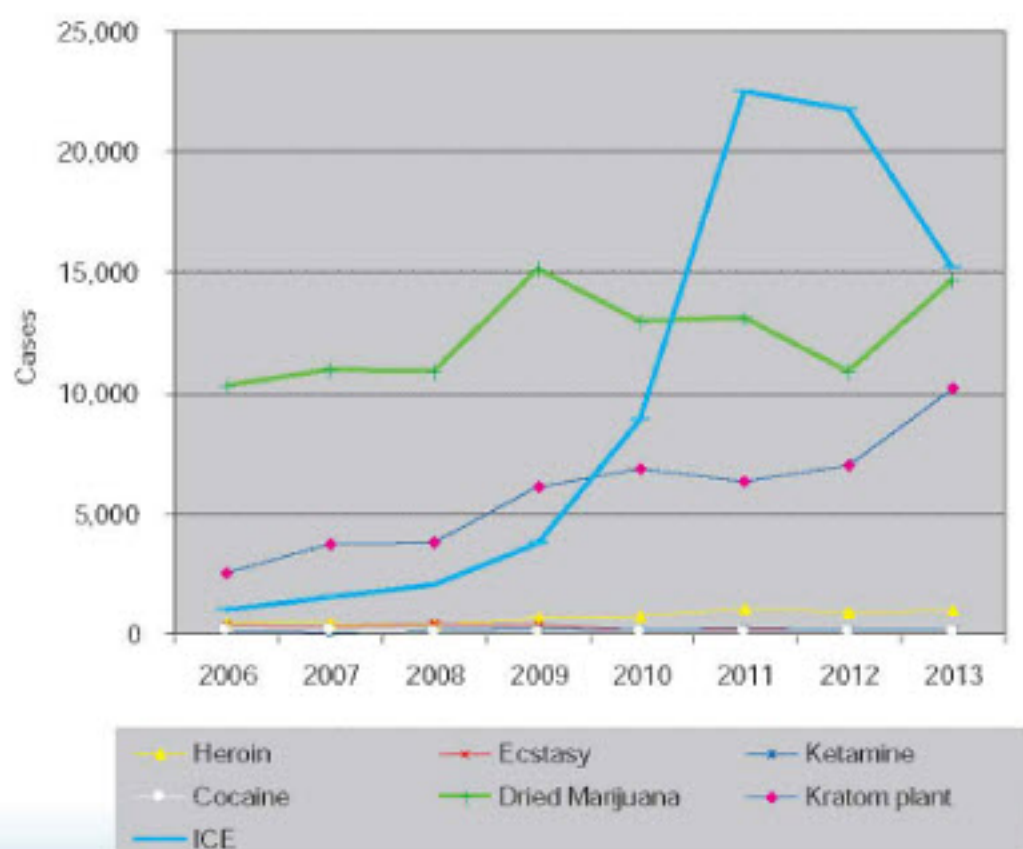


Table 5 Statistics on Drug Cases and Seizures throughout the Country during 2006 – 2013

Substance	Arrest/seizure	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Yaba	Cases	59,272	81,696	114,959	140,599	146,752	190,690	163,927	201,214
	in million-tablets	14	14.1	22.2	27.4	54.1	55.1	95.5	128.1
ICE	Cases	966	1,477	2,003	3,750	8,822	22,478	21,716	15,214
	Amount, kgs.	94	48.1	54.1	213	705.3	1,241.4	1,606.6	1,401.1
Dried Cannabis	Cases	10,245	10,949	10,842	15,067	12,933	13,087	10,834	14,639
	Amount, kgs.	11,573.30	14,950.90	18,894.70	18,088.70	18,029.80	12,915.09	24,398.47	26,668.47
Kratom plant	Cases	2,494	3,702	3,778	6,068	6,843	6,297	6,970	10,217
	Amount, kgs.	8,544	42,267.60	12,716.30	21,879.60	32,704.50	24,574.59	32,414.83	33,820.69
Heroin	Cases	424	430	393	703	724	1,032	867	986
	Amount, kgs.	93	294	199.8	143.1	137.6	541	127.5	784.7
Ecstasy	Cases	361	334	467	402	175	172	120	114
	in tablets	27,210	92,328	49,671	60,649	16,537	21,436	7,620	14,328
Cocaine	Cases	155	127	91	96	78	63	64	51
	Amount, kgs.	37.6	18.8	11.5	9.3	31.1	31.8	17.93	69.8
Ketamine	Cases	122	76	144	201	167	199	141	124
	Amount, kgs.	21.9	2.8	18.2	20.4	166.38	78.14	21.02	31.4

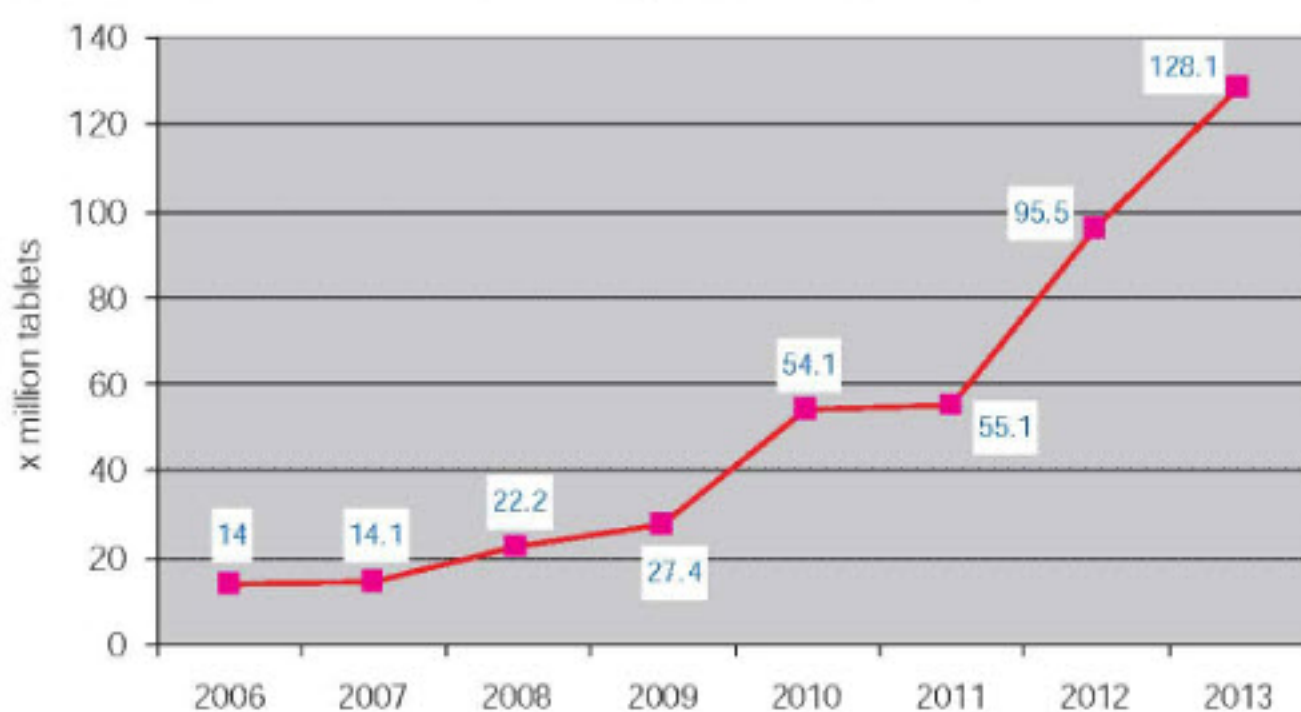


On October 23, 2013, the coalition force of ONCB and NSB-Royal Thai Police raided the resident of Mr. and Mrs. Pintobtang, 49 and 48 years old, the former Chief Executive of the Local Administrative Organization, in Nakhon Pathom Province. Two trays of finished Yaba Compound and 24 containers of methamphetamine precursor chemical and preparation that can be produced up to 20,000 Yaba tablets along with their properties and premises worth more than 12 million Baht have been seized.

Yaba

Yaba (*Ya-ba*) is an official technical term for Methamphetamine-type stimulant tablet. Yaba problem has been seriously increasing from the past five years. Since, plenty of drug factories and clandestine labs in the Golden Triangle Area, where Thai, Lao, and Myanmar borders meet, were still actively ran by various of ethnic minority insurgent group. These bulks of drug supply were absolutely uncontrollable. The more arrest, the more of them will come.

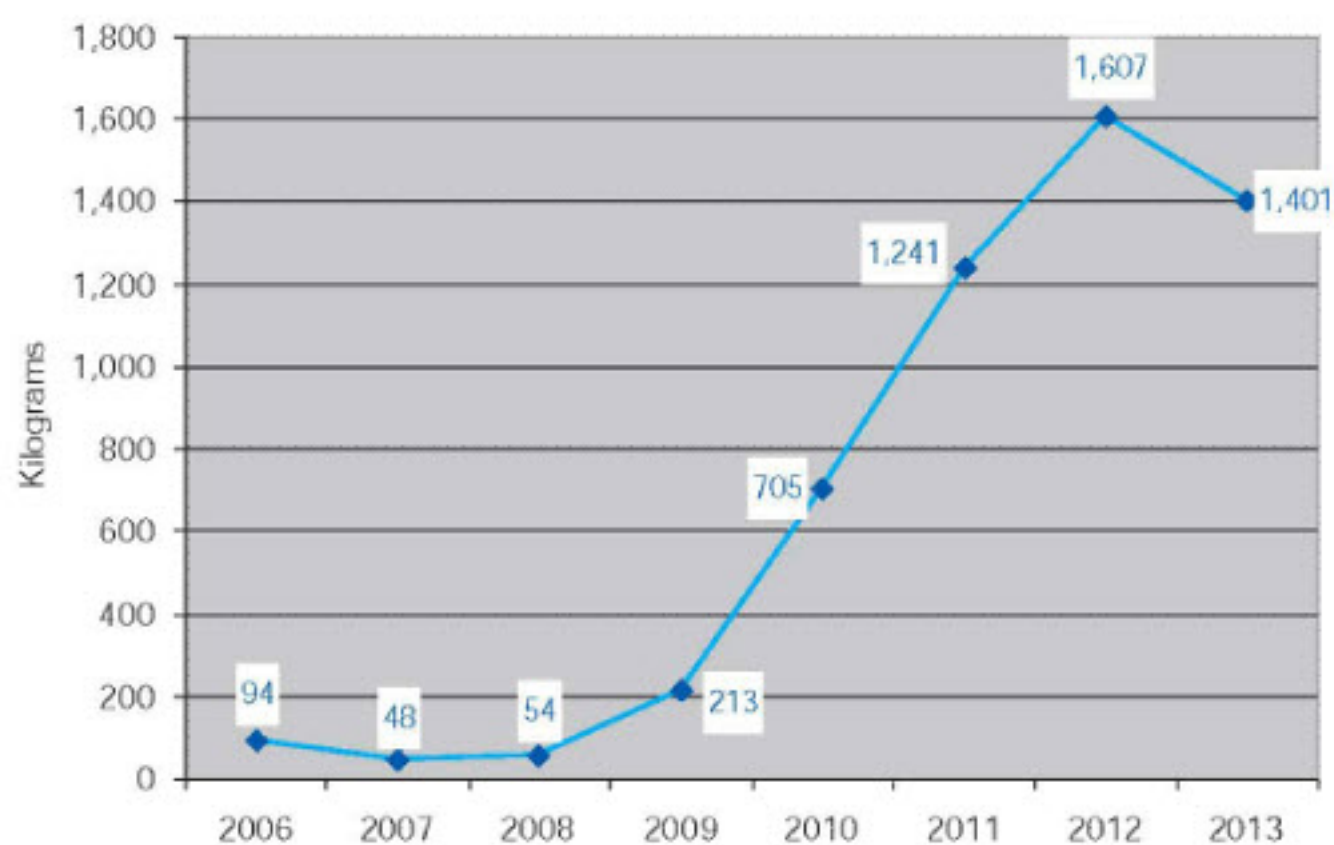
Table 6 Statistics on Yaba Seizures during 2006 - 2013 (in million tablets)



ICE

ICE, Methamphetamine Hydrochloride crystal, street-price has dropped down at around Yaba selling price for the past few years. It became more popular among club-drug users. However, its trend has been decreased recently because of the intensive measures complied throughout all target areas especially in the night-out entertainment business nationwide. Most ICE was smuggled through Thailand-Myanmar border for domestic consumption and the rest went to Malaysia, the Philippines, Hong Kong SAR, and Japan.

Table 7 Statistics on ICE Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (in kilograms)



Dried-cannabis

Most cannabis was smuggled across the northeastern border, especially, along the Mekong River. Its main load transited to Europe via Malaysia and the rest left for domestic use.

Table 8 Statistics on Dried-cannabis Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (in metric ton)



Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*)

As a kind of narco-tree like cannabis by its leaf, most production and abusing area were in the South of Thailand. Recently, Kratom smuggling from Malaysia was increasing since its selling price in Thailand is higher. The trafficking from Malaysia usually found in motor vehicle concealment. In the late of 2013, there was a purpose to legalize Kratom Plant for local use. It was on the study of the optimum benefit of its legalization.

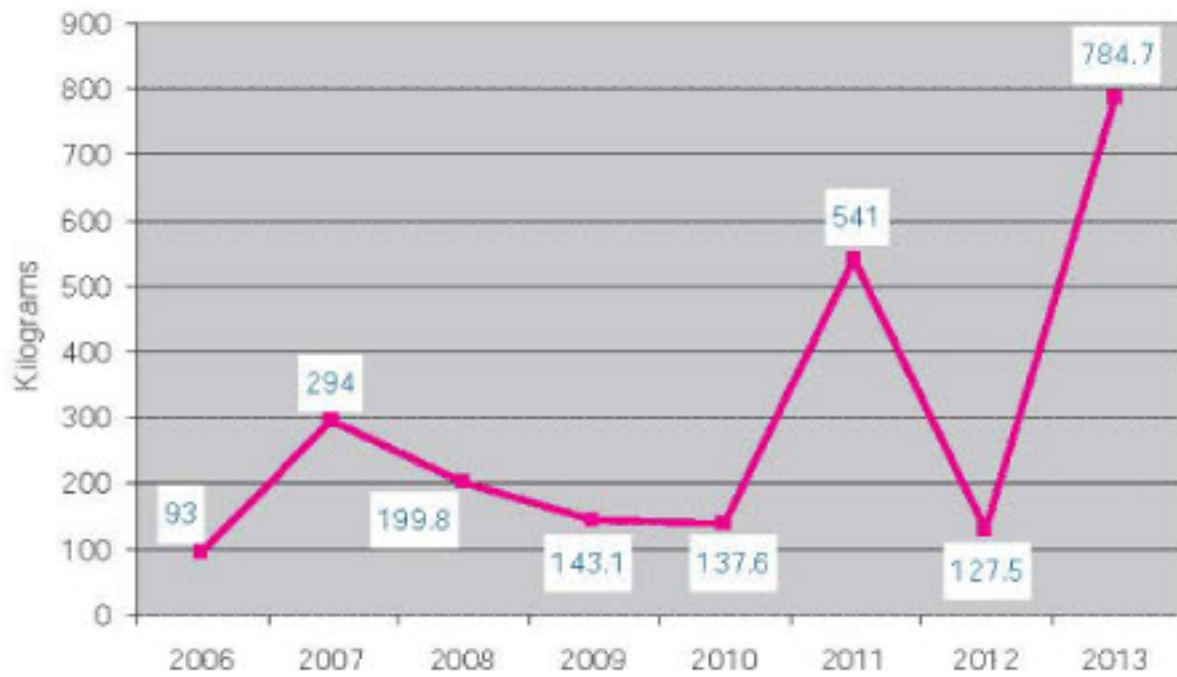
Table 9 Statistics on Kratom Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (in metric ton)



Heroin

According to the statistical data, heroin problem was noticeably increasing from last year in both amounts and cases.

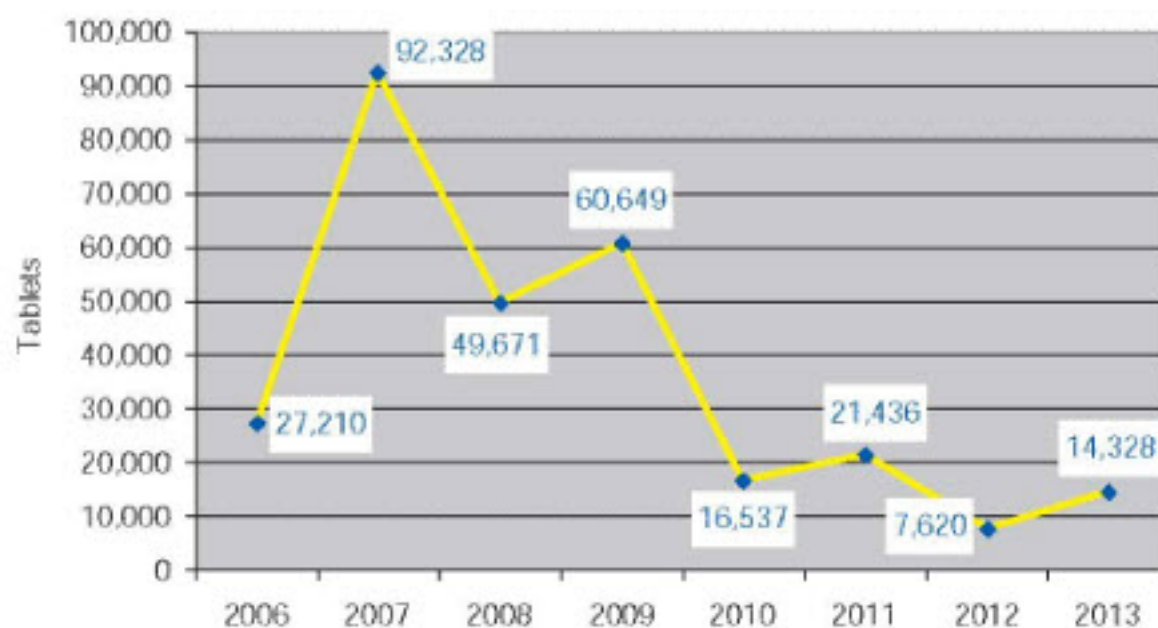
Table 10 Statistics on Heroin Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (In kilograms)



Ecstasy

As a club-drug, Ecstasy was largely trafficked and abused by Malaysian and Singaporean tourists for their own consumption and among the tourist group.

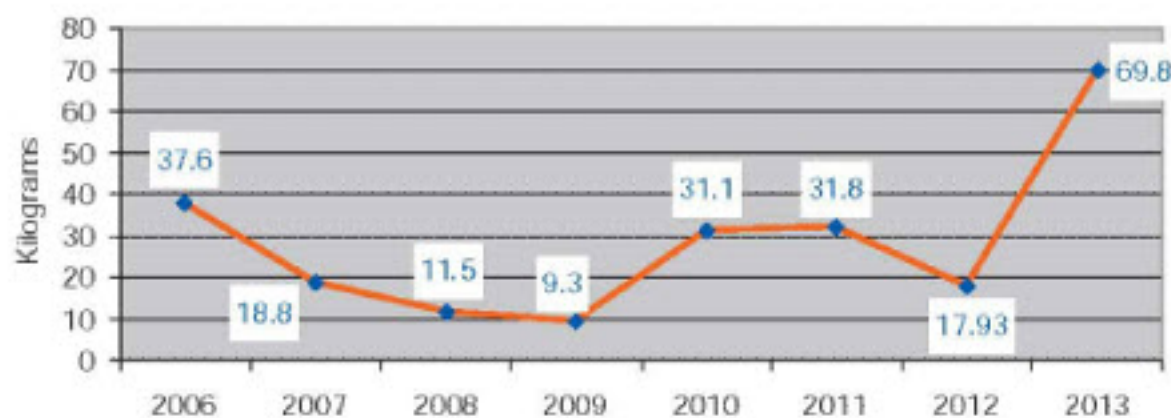
Table 11 Statistics on Ecstasy Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (in tablets)



Cocaine

Cocaine is a club-drug that mostly trafficking by Afro-American drugs cartel from South America. According to statistical data, cocaine problem was remarkably increased from last year.

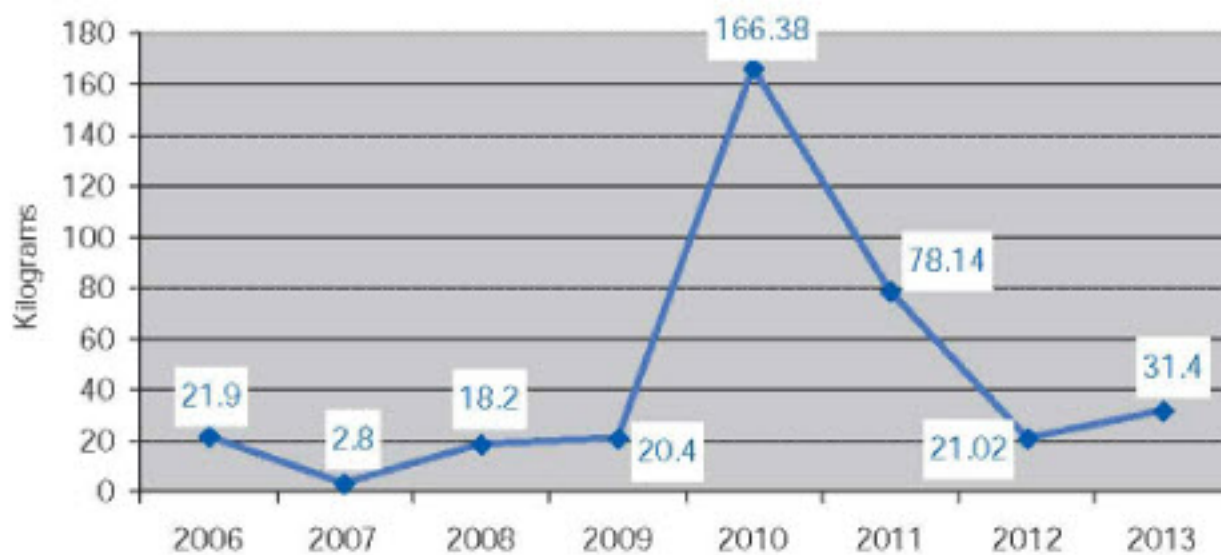
Table 12 Statistics on Cocaine Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (in kilograms)



Ketamine

Ketamine, another club-drug, mostly smuggled from India, According to statistical data, Ketamine problem was gradually increase.

Table 13 Statistics on Ketamine Seizures during 2006 – 2013 (in kilograms)



Asset Forfeiture

Confiscation of assets from the drug criminals is one of the most effective drug law enforcement countermeasures that has been complied by ONCB since the Act on Measures for the Suppression of Offenders in an Offence Relating to Narcotics B.E. 2534 (1991) has been entered to force.¹ Because enormous amounts of gained benefits from drug trade are the main motivation of this crime, the Assets Forfeiture Act means to suppress and deteriorate drug syndicate incentives by taking away their belongings, capital and funds using and/or facilitating drug activities.



Apart from the assets seizure measure under Assets Forfeiture Act, Anti Money Laundering Act B.E. 2542 (1999) also has been applied since narcotics offence is one of seven predicate offences under this Act since 10th April 1999.



¹ Act on Measures for the Suppression of Offenders in an Offence Relating to Narcotics B.E. 2534 (1991) came into force on 29th April 1992.

In the late of 2003, the taxation measure has also been used against drug traffickers since these people laundered the profit gained from illegal drug trade to legal business ambiguously.

In 2013, 4,609 cases were allegedly filed forfeiture and total assets value of 2,196.24 million Baht has been frozen. As on 31st December 2013, 141.063 million Baht of assets from 409 cases have been confiscated to the Narcotic Control Fund.

Statistics on Asset Forfeiture during 2005 - 2013

Year	Number of Examination (Cases)	Asset Forfeiture Value (Million Baht)	Types of Property (Million Baht)			
			Cash	Bank Account	Chattel	Premise
2005	1,238	869.8	102.6	151.7	355.1	260.4
2006	1,639	1,036.91	98.8	244.0	331.3	363.2
2007	1,453	595.0	112.2	156.8	255.4	70.6
2008	1,834	768.6	97.1	257.0	338.2	76.3
2009	2,009	929.5	159.5	291.0	348.9	130.1
2010	1,792	1,140.5	137.5	313.5	567.2	122.3
2011	2,761	1,409.2	432.9	289.4	529.6	157.3
2012	4,955	1,785.6	177	126.5	1,324.3	157.9
2013	4,609	2,196.24	188.54	259.44	828.82	919.42



Narcotics Crop control

In Thailand, there were 3 major narcotic crops jeopardizing Thai societies, namely, opium, marijuana, and kratom plant¹. Opium is the most vulnerable narcotic crop that has been cultivating by various hill-tribe people, ethnic minority groups, in the northern region of Thailand along Myanmar and Lao PDR boarder line since the past century. In the midst of mountainous heights in Chiang Mai, Tak, and Mae Hong Son Province, there were the high density opium growing areas. To avoid being spotted by Authorities, the cultivation site was moved to deeply area with smaller cultivation plots scattering over the same field of legal fruits and vegetables. Water-dripping irrigation system was also applied for more productivity. Currently, opium cultivation is not only run by the hilltribes alone but also encouraged and financed by drug syndicates. Opium outcomes were mainly for drugs business and the rest was for the local consumption still.



¹ See more details in Narcotics Law Enforcement Section.

Opium Survey

Opium cultivation survey and the monitoring of cultivation trend has been one of ONCB's top priorities since 1979. With its combination of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies, Narcotic Crops Survey and Monitoring Institute (NCSMI) is responsible for conducting of opium cultivation survey in a northeastern province and 17 northern provinces, namely, Loei, Kamphaeng Phet, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Tak, Nakhon Sawan, Nan, Phayao, Phichit, Phitsanulok, Phrae, Phetchabun, Mae Hong Son, Lampang, Lamphun, Sukhothai, Uthai Thani, and Uttaradit, respectively. There were 76 highlands where have high potential of illicit opium growing.



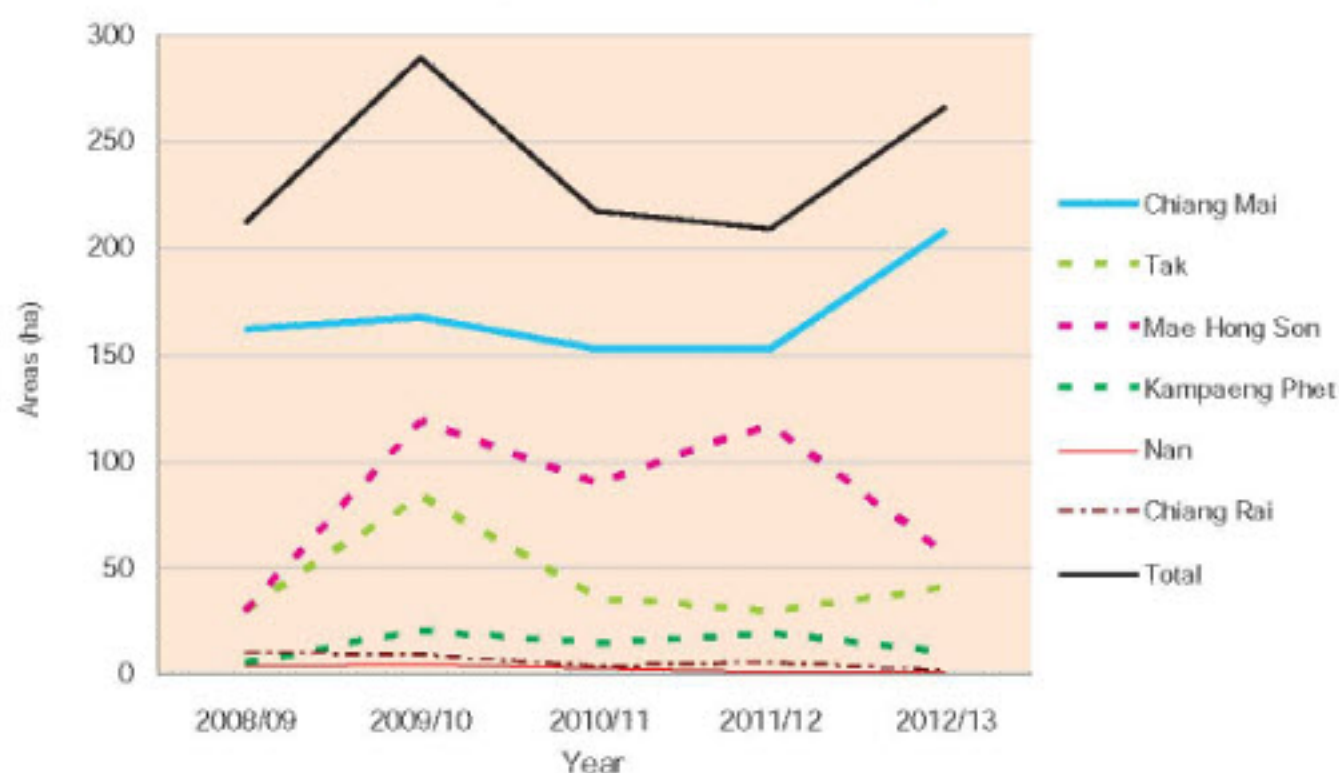
Opium poppy fields area at Ban Kong Da, Om Koi district, Application of using Geographic Information System to Chiang Mai province, acquired from IKONOS satellite produce thematic map 1:50,000 scale, localization imagery; February 25 th, 2012, opium poppy fields map at Ban Kong Da.

According to the aerial and ground survey of opium cultivation in 2012 -2013 (August 2012 to September 2013), 265.44 hectares of opium cultivation areas were found in 6 provinces of the northern Thailand. The most 3 provinces where had the highest opium cultivation areas are following; Chiang Mai (208.03 hectares), Tak (39.39 hectares) and Mae Hong Son (9.01 hectares). So, the 264.17 hectares of opium cultivation were eradicated (99.52% of all cultivated areas). By comparing the recent year in 2011 - 2012, opium cultivation areas increased to 56.85 hectares (27.26%).

Statistics on Opium Cultivation Areas during 2011/2012 – 2012/2013 Season

Province	Cultivated Areas 2011/12 (ha)	Cultivated Areas 2012/13 (ha)	Difference	
			+/-	%
Chiang Mai	152.25	208.03	55.78	36.64
Tak	28.25	39.39	11.14	39.64
Mae Hong Son	18.66	9.01	-9.65	-51.70
Kampaeng Phet	3.81	6.48	2.67	70.11
Nan	0.57	1.36	0.79	139.04
Chiang Rai	5.05	0.95	-4.10	-81.13
Lampang	-	0.12	-	100.00
Loei	-	0.05	-	100.00
Phetchabun	-	0.04	-	100.00
Total	208.59	265.44	56.85	27.26

Statistics on Opium Cultivation Areas by Provinces



There were many factors that persuaded local people to cultivate opium. Firstly, the very high price of opium yield was the most motive. Secondly, there was still a demand on the local use while there was lesser supply left from authority eradication in many villages. Lastly, there were still the mobs and interest groups who financed villagers for opium growing in the remote areas.

Anticipated Trend in 2013-2014

Opium cultivation during the 2013-2014 assumable increasing by the following reasons:

1. **Cost Push, Demand Pull:** The higher price of raw opium will be a great factor that motivates villagers for illicit growing.
2. **Climate and Temperature** trend to be suitable for opium cultivation.
3. **Lack of Control:** Prominent budget constraint among concerned authorities
4. **Re-plantation:** Since some targeting plots have been harvested before authorities' breaching, the illicit re-plantation in the same target plots is feasible.

DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGY

Demand Reduction Strategy

In accordance with the national drug control strategy “The King’s Unity for Victory over Drugs,” seven plans have been implemented namely; community empowerment, demand reduction and treatment, potential demand reduction, supply reduction, international drug control cooperation, border interdiction, and integrative management. Drug demand reduction has been operated under two plans as follows;

Plan 2 : Demand reduction and treatment : Within the year 2013, proper treatment must be provided to 300,000 users/addicts. As well as, aftercare service will be provided to 560,000 released drug users/addicts during 2012-2013 aiming to reduce the relapsing rate.

Plan 3 : Potential demand reduction : Drug control activities has been arranged to concrete targets of drug risk includes

(1) to build up immunity to drug risk groups of 1.5 million primary students of grade 5 and 6,

(2) to encourage 11,490 schools to put in drug prevention program and vigilance,

(3) to control and reduce factors and places at risk of drug abuse across the country,

(4) to support 2,000 industrial estates to take part in drug prevention and vigilance system in the workplace.

Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation

1.1 Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Development for the Prisoners

With proactive drug control in risk area, it shows that a number of prisoners are drug users. Department of Corrections and ONCB jointly created the project on drug treatment and rehabilitation development for the prisoners. The project is 4-month intensive treatment and rehabilitation consisting of 3 kinds of therapy. Firstly, therapeutic community for behaviour shaping approach that conducted by Department of Correction officers. Secondly, psychological therapy for mental development is conducted by Public Health specialist. Thirdly, livelihood development which is designed to improve living skill and right decision making so the released drug users will not be backward to drug again.

On 23 July 2012, Deputy Prime Minister Pol. Capt. Chalerm Yubamrung presided over the MOU signing ceremony between Office of the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Public Health, Office of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, Department of Corrections, Department of Medical Services, Department of Mental Health, and ONCB on the project for 7 prisons. In 2012, 4,331 prisoners were taken to the treatment and rehabilitation system.



In 2013, the project has been adopted by 39 prisons all across the country. With ONCB support and 10,340 prisoners were taken into rehabilitation program which excess the target of 10,000. According to Department of Corrections report, the support gives the fruitful result of 88.77 percent satisfaction.



1.2 Religion and Drug Control

Religion has played an important role to drug control in Thailand. Religion teaching is adapted to drug control programs and also religious places are used to be drug treatment centre. Under Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 (1979), there are currently 20 religious places certified as drug treatment and rehabilitation centre



and being help centre providing by religion network e.g. Christian Prison Ministry Foundation's Project and Muslim Rehabilitation Camp-Yalannanbaru New Life Project.

In line with the order of NCCDE, No. 8/2555 dated 28 March 2012 and the order No. 13/2556 dated 9 May 2013. "84th Majesty the King Birthday Celebration Mosque Project" has launched in 2013 to deal with drug problem in Muslim community. The project has been moved under the strategy of "3-No, 4-Coordination, 5-Plan, and 8-Step" as describe below;

3-No was no producers, no sellers, no users.

4-Coordination was cooperation among religious leader, community leader, private sector leader, and local authority leader.

5-Plan was prevention plan, suppression plan, treatment plan, community and society empowerment plan, and management plan.

8-Step was 1) analysing drug situation and problem in the community 2) building anti-drug Muslim community 3) strengthening capacity of Muslim community 5) coordinating with drug suppression and treatment agency 6) job evaluation 7) King Birthday Celebration Mosque declaration 8) monitoring, vigilance, and sustainability building

The fruitful results of the project are as follow;

(1) 77 mosques all across the country and 253 join the project and 253 mosques was made to be the King Birthday Celebration Mosque.

(2) 1,030 addicts out of 2,385 addicts found were taken to Muslim way of drug treatment and rehabilitation.

(3) The operational centre are formed in 38 provinces, 72 districts, and 320 mosques to persuade drug users to Muslim drug treatment and rehabilitation system as well as to perform vigilance system in the community.

Best Practice for Drug Treatment

Voluntary System

NCCDE Chonburi is one of drug control offices with practical voluntary drug treatment operation. Drug user searching will be performed by two working groups; searching team (provincial administrators) and screening team (Public Health Officers). To implement the function, community involvement is the key to success while the searching will be done through several methods e.g. informal conversation, community forum, drug checkpoint, remote screening team, etc. Drug users searched will be divided into five types based on the frequency of use and each type will be taken to different drug treatment programs/centre;

Type 1: Rare drug user-community base program

Type 2: Occasional drug user- rehabilitation camp

Type 3: Addict-hospital

Type 4: Physical and mental complication user-mental hospital

Type 5: Severe drug user-drug specialist centre e.g. PMNIDA, drug treatment centres.

Compulsory System

Chachoengsao Provincial Probation Office put much effort on drug user screening by focusing on physical, mental, and social aspects of drug effect. All three aspects have to be accounted to provide proper drug treatment to drug users. According to the law, each drug treatment program will take maximum of six months long. After treatment result will be considered by the committee consists of Provincial Chief Public Prosecutor (Chairman), psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, expert, and probation officer. The users who show positive result will receive the certification and finish the treatment, while ones with negative result have to return to the treatment.



Program 1: New users have to be presented to the probation officer and being urine tested every six month.

Program 2: 3-6 month users with high doses have to be out-patient in provincial hospital. It is 4-month program consists of detoxify and group activities. After four months, the specialist will report the treatment result to the *Provincial Probation Office who has to continuously monitor the user for two months.*

Program 3: The users with high doses and seizure record will be controlled in military camp for 120 days. Aftercare service will be performed to make sure that the users will not get back to drug. Within one year, the user will be at least four times evaluated by people volunteer network for instance probation volunteer, community justice centre, and school teacher. First evaluation, the user who finished the treatment have to present themselves to provincial probation office, attend the last orientation and be informed about aftercare activities and next evaluation appointment. Next evaluation, the list of the treatment passers will be sent to the chief of district and sub-district probation volunteer for closer monitor.



Correctional System

Under *The Juvenile and Family Court and Its Procedure Act, B.E. 2553 (2010)*, Juvenile and Family Court has the right to work with the related cases on the basis of juvenile protection. Welfare and future of the juvenile is the priority in juvenile drug treatment and rehabilitation, thus advisory and coordination centre on drug treatment and rehabilitation of juvenile and family is established. The court's psychologist would search the juvenile offenders for profoundly cause of guilty from physical, mental, and social aspects. According to the psychologist's search, 70 percent of all juvenile offenders are drug related. In this amount, they are divided in to three groups;

1) 50 percent are occasionally user who use drug because of friend persuasion. This group will be individually advised by court's psychologist and the judge.

2) 40 percent are aggressive drug user. Rehabilitation camp is being used together with the court advisory service. Provincial Juvenile and Family Court Songkhla, Songkhla Provincial Health Office and Narcotics Control Office Region 9 have signed MOU on drug rehabilitation camp providing the camp with self-discipline, drug effect education, and decision making skill for not going back to drug.

3) The rest of 10 percent are drug abuser. This group will be taken to specialist drug treatment centre of the Ministry of Public Health.

The monitoring of the juvenile who passed the treatment program will be done 4-7 times a year.



International Cooperation on Drug Treatment

Bilateral Cooperation

1. Thailand-Cambodia

Princess Mother National Institute on Drug Abuse Treatment (PMNIDA) and ONCB jointly created Thailand-Cambodia Human Resources Development on Drug Treatment during 2011-2013 with the support from Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA). The activities are as follow;

(1) Study Visit on Drug Treatments during 21-26 January 2013 in Bangkok, Chonburi, Rarong, and Chachoengsao Province. There were 5 Cambodian Drug Treatment Centre's Executives leading by H.E. Lt. Gen. Meas Vyrith, Secretary General of National Authority for Combating Drugs (NACD).

(2) Training on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation is held during 13-16 January 2013 at PMNIDA. The training focuses on therapeutic community, harm of drugs, and FAST Model (Family, Alternative Treatment Activity, Self Help, and Therapeutic Community). There are 15 Cambodian attendants from 3 central agencies and 5 operational agencies.

(3) The Supervision on 6-month after training of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Training during 23-26 September 2013 in Cambodia. It aims to follow up after-training attendants

2. Thailand-Lao PDR

Princess Mother National Institute on Drug Abuse Treatment (PMNIDA) and ONCB jointly created long term Thailand-Cambodia Human Resources Development on Drug Treatment Project in Champasak Province, Lao PDR with the financial support from TICA. The last year of cooperation in 2013, the follow up meeting is held during 23-26 April 2013 at ONCB . In the meeting, Laos asked for the support of office supply, vehicle, medical tools, medical training, and knowledge exchange.

3. Thailand-Bhutan

Thailand and Bhutan have 3-year plan of technical cooperation on drug control during 2010-2012 which has been extended to 2013. The cooperation includes 2 activities as follows;

(1) The placement of short term technical expert team from Thailand to assist the treatment and rehabilitation centres in Thimphu, Bhutan during 3-16 June 2013. The placement aiming to

- follow up the progress of on-the-job training on drug treatment and rehabilitation for Bhutan staff in 2012,
- educate Bhutan staff on drug treatment and rehabilitation,
- strengthen Thailand-Bhutan cooperation on drug control.

There are 5 technical experts from PMNIDA and ONCB provided the lesson of MATRIX and FAST Model to 27 attendants from Bhutan narcotics control agencies. In addition, Thailand-Bhutan drug treatment policy and guideline are discussed.



(2) Monitoring and Evaluation of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Project to Bhutan during 17-20 September 2013 in Thimphu, Bhutan. The project aims at

- monitoring and evaluate the project,
- proposing the future coordination plan,
- strengthen Thailand-Bhutan cooperation on drug control.

The evaluation team of 6 PMNIDA and ONCB's officers attended a study visit at Serbithang Rehabilitation Centre, Department of Psychiatry, Jigme Dorji Wangchuk National Referral Hospital and the meeting on monitoring and evaluation of drug treatment and rehabilitation with the executive of Bhutan narcotics control agency namely the representative of police agency, Food and Drug, Bhutan Youth Development (YDF), Ministry of Public Health, and Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre. The meeting is chaired by Mr. Phuntsho Wangdi, Director General, Bhutan Narcotics Control Agency.

4. Others

1) Asian Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals (ACCE) Thailand aims at setting the standard and developing human resource on addiction. The roles of ACCE Thailand are as follows;

(1.1) National Certification Board of Addiction Professionals has been appointed in line with the order of the Ministry of Public Health dated 26 April 2011, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health being an advisor.

(1.2) The Director of PMNIDA was appointed to be Senior Officer of ACCE Thailand

(1.3) ACCE Thailand arranged the Thai Ideal Trainer training for 15 Thai selective attendees during 26 March-5 April 2013 at The Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok to providing 3 Curriculum consisting of Physiology and Pharmacology for addiction professional, Treatment for substance use disorders-the continuum of care for addiction professionals, and Ethics for addiction professionals.



(1.4) ACCE's curriculum will be translated from English to Thai for Thai addiction related officers with the support from PMNIDA.

2) PMNIDA hosted the 14th National Conference on Substance Abuse: Quality Network of Drug Abuse Treatment in ASEAN during 17-19 July 2013 at IMPACT Convention Centre Hall 9, Mung Thong Thani, Nontaburi Province. There are the 30 attendants who are the representative of the central drug control and public health agencies from 9 ASEAN member countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Myanmar, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, and Thailand). The participants have been discussed on the pattern and guideline of drug treatment.

3) The Study Visit on ATS Treatment and Rehabilitation in Thailand for ACCORD Member Countries is held during 11-16 November 2013 in Bangkok, Phatum Thani, Chonburi, and Rayong Province. The attendees includes the representatives of 10 ASEAN member countries, China, South Korea, ASEAN Secretariat, and UNODC. During the study visit, there were the briefing on Thai drug control strategy and the visit of

- Efficiency Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation for Prisoners Program, Woman Correctional Institution for Drug Addicts (Klong 5), Phatum Thani Province,
- Treatment and Rehabilitation for ATS Addicts, PMNIDA, Phatum Thani Province,



- The Buddhist Way of Voluntary Drug Treatment, Wat Rat Atsadaram, Pluak Daeng District, Rayong Province,
- Compulsory Drug Treatment using FAST Model, (Fast Model) Wiwat Ponlamuang School, Second Naval Area Command.

Immune Building and Drug Prevention in School

1. Drug Control Trainer Development

Buddhist Monk Gospel Instructor has been started in 2012 with the financial support from Transnational Crime Affairs Section (TCAS). In 2013, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University and ONCB conducted seven trainings on Drug Preventive Education to 560 Buddhist monks in 7 provinces.

2. Youth Network for Drug Prevention and Vigilance

The Workshop on Guideline Consideration and 2013 Operational Plan Review of Youth Work was held for youth worker network during 1-3 March 2013 at Cholapruek Resort, Nakorn Nayok. The youth worker network declared to accomplish the operational plan by develop the capacity of all provincial NCCDE nationwide especially to encourage the provincial drug preventive education trainer, anti-drug and immune building activities, and voluntary camps.



International Organization of Good Templars-Thailand (IOGTT) collaborated with ONCB organizing National Youth Mentor Workshop during 7-9 September 2013 at Baan Pla Loma Resort, Chachoengsao Province aiming to exchange the knowledge of national youth work and discuss on 2014 operational planning.

3. 2nd Thai Youth Initiative against Drugs Program

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Asia-Pacific NGO on Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention, and ONCB have conducted the project on Thai Youth Initiative against Drug in 2012. The project was run under social media, facebook, to gain a direct impact on the teenager risk group over their favourite piece of social affiliation.

The program gave fruitful result in 2012, the second phase of the program have been continuously conducted in 2013. The contest on the project idea on drug demand reduction in youth has been posted and disseminated through www.facebook.com/ThaiYouth. The applicants have to be a trio group, age between 14-18 years old, including an additional coach. There are 130 project idea submitted. Ten most outstanding teams will be selected for presentation and receiving fund. After accomplishment, the project has to be presented to the committee in English. Finally, the winner will be rewarded the study visit on drug control in Indonesia.

Immune Building and Drug Prevention in School

1. Drug Control in Out-of-School Youth

Department of Provincial Administration, Ministry of Interior and ONCB under the Drug Demand Reduction in Out-of-School Youth Project encourages all related party to control risk factors and areas and develop out-of-school youth to change the risk group into the power group. The first emergence is to screen for out-of-school youth all over 77 provinces nationwide especially in risk groups such as gangsters, thief, nightlife groups, homeless and outlaw motorcycle gangs. After screening, drug users have to be taken to Voluntary Youth Program for 4 days 3 nights for behaviour shape. The overall result of the program is as follows;

- (1) 67,029 risk youths put on probation
- (2) 38,450 risk youths are taken to behavior modification program
- (3) 24,415 families attend family strengthen activity
- (4) 19,247 out-of-school youths are provided working sills
- (5) 42,805 voluntary youths



2. Drug Control in Workplace

Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Ministry of Labour and ONCB conducted Drug Control Standard in Workplace Project to support the private sectors to take part in making drug-free workplace environment. Several conducts have been complied to the targeted industrial estates. For instance, drug prevention education, drug demand reduction development, and the firm that meet standard will be received and honour certification.

In 2013, five main drug control activities are conducted as follows;

- 1) 3,006 firms screen employees for drug users and take drug users to drug treatment
- 2) 3,479 firms employ ex- drug users
- 3) 5,555 firms arrange drug control activity for their employees
- 4) 1,587 firms arrange drug control activity for risk group of foreign employees
- 5) 2,666 firms meet drug control standard



3. Narcotics Education Centre

In 2000, Narcotics Education Centre has been established with the area of 240 square metres in ONCB, Din Daeng Road, Phya Thai, Bangkok.

In 2013, the centre's construction has been renovated and modern equipment and visual aids also added. The area is expanded from 240 square metre to 288 square metre with nine exhibit zones presenting drug control education through multimedia and hi-technology visual aids. The target groups are youth age 10 - 20 years old. The renovation has been completed in December 2013 and the centre was reopened again on 10 January 2014.



4. Narcotics Education and Knowledge Management

According to Narcotic Act B.E. 2522 (1979), Kratom is classified in Narcotic Category V but it has been commonly used as alternative medicine among local people over decades. Thus, the working on Kratom control brings the big gap between the local and the officer. Due to the widespread of a disputation on Kratom legalization, Minister of Ministry of Justice assigned ONCB to reconsider the legalization of cannabis use. ONCB has been set policy and law on Kratom working team consists of Deputy Permanent Secretaries for Justice, Public Health Officer, Educators, related parties and Secretary General NCB.

On 10 September 2013, Mr. Charnchao Chaiyanikij, Deputy Permanent Secretaries for Justice presided over the 1st meeting of policy and law on Kratom working team at ONCB. The major discussion was the Kratom legalization in Thailand with three considering issues whether to keep Kratom remains Narcotic Type 5, decriminalize, or legalize it. However, the use of boiled Kratom leave was stated the serious concern in the southernmost provinces of Thailand with the need to control. After all, the meeting discussion and recommendation are submitted to the Ministry of Justice for further consideration.



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Human Resource Development

The Human Resource Development Institute on Narcotics Control is the key government agency that conducting domestic and international drugs control training programs in Thailand. Its mandate is to organize the training courses not only for the ONCB officers but also all counterpart agencies personnel. In addition, it also obligates to improve all workforces to gain better skill and knowledge in serving national narcotics control strategy as well as international agreements and treaties.

In 2013, the training course program was categorized into 3 main aspects as follow:

1) The training course on narcotics law enforcement was emphasized on developing the knowledge for those who responsible on narcotics investigation, law enforcement and asset forfeitures. Furthermore, the international training course was expected to gain better international cooperation and interpersonal relationship among the region, such as;

- The Training Course on Narcotics Law Enforcement Agent
- The 16th and 17th Training Course on Narcotics Law Enforcement Officer
- The Training Course on Narcotics Suppression Knowledge and Strategies Development
- The Training Course on Asset Forfeitures
- The Training Course on International Narcotics Law Enforcement (CICA)
- The Training Course on Precursors and Chemical Control for ASIAN Narcotics

Law Enforcement

2) The training course on prevention and drug demand reduction was emphasized on developing the knowledge of those who were from the counterpart agencies working in the field of the compulsory rehabilitation program as well as that of the health education teachers in private schools, such as;

- The 1st and 2nd Training Course on Local Areas Coordinating Facilitators
- The 4th Training Course on Drug Prevention and Demand Reduction
- The 1st and 2nd Training Course on Giving Motivational Interview to the

Addicts

- The 1st and 2nd Training Course on Drug Prevention Skill Development for School Teachers

3) The training courses on integrated management was emphasized on developing the skills of the personnel of ONCB and the counterpart agencies according to the national narcotics control strategy in order to assure that they be able to adapt and apply the knowledge into their works in effective way. Moreover, they will gain abilities to encounter with all variable factors and changes, such as;

- The 3rd Training Course on Job Coaching
- The 19th and 20th Training Course on Primary Narcotics Control Officer
- The Training Course on Knowledge Management Personnel Capacity

Building

- The Training Course on ONCB Executives Inspiration Integration Building
- The Training Course on CCDE Administrative Personnel Capacity Building

Besides, in 2013, the HRD Institute organized the training courses on foreign languages for ONCB personnel to assure their readiness for the 2015 ASEAN Community, such as;

- The Training Course on English Language E-Learning
- The Training Course on Neighboring Country Languages
- The Training Course on English for Specific Purposes
- The Training Course on Speech and Minute Writing in English

Highlight Activities

Human Resource Development on Narcotics Law Enforcement

The Training Course on Narcotics Law Enforcement Officer

Organized during 27 May – 2 July 2013 at the ONCB Headquarters, Naresuan Camp in Phetchaburi Province, We-Train International House, and field practices in Bangkok, the course was designed for the ONCB personnel who had Bachelor's degrees or above and worked in the field of narcotics law enforcement. It was aimed to develop the personnel fundamental knowledge and skills so that they could perform their tasks effectively and be able to give advice and consultations to the agencies concerned.

The Training Course on Narcotics Law Enforcement Agent

Having approved by Narcotics Control Board, 3,556 selected officers from concerned agencies, i.e., soldier, police, customs, immigration, ONCB, and etc., were appointed as Competent Officials under the Narcotics Control Act B.E. 2519 (1976). These officers were required to take an immediate course on 25 April 2013 before empowering this authority. In addition, it meant to elaborate them on the given jurisdiction upon the Competent Official under the stated Act. Their certificates will be valid for two years.

The Training Course on Narcotics Suppression Knowledge and Strategies Development

The 19 - day course was organized during 24 July – 11 August 2013 at the ONCB Headquarters and the Royal Police Cadet Academy. It was aimed for developing the narcotics suppression knowledge and strategies of the 52 new ONCB officers who worked in the field of narcotics suppression.

ASEAN Plus Three Narcotics Law Enforcement Training on Countering ATS and Other Narcotics Substances

The Project was aimed at providing intensive training in narcotics law enforcement primarily to the officials working in this field from AMS and Plus Three Countries. The Project was held from 21 October – 1 November 2013 in Bangkok and Chonburi, Thailand. At the end of the course, drug law enforcement officers from ASEAN member states plus China, Japan, and Korea, were able to develop skills of on ATS suppression.

Moreover, they were able to gain and enhance knowledge and understanding on drug suppression of concerned officials who work in this field. Furthermore, it was a good opportunity for drug law enforcement officers to review the drug situation and identify problems and challenges of drug suppression in order to set up guidelines for addressing those impediments. This course was also a forum to strengthen regional collaboration among drug law enforcement officers of ASEAN plus 3 countries which will promote drug control networking in this region.

Human Resource Development on Prevention and Drug Demand Reduction

The 1st and 2nd Training Course on Local Area Coordinating Facilitators

Organized during 29 January – 1 February 2013 and 5-8 February 2013 at Pinehurst Golf and Country Club, Pathumthani province, 79 participants attended the course which was aimed to make the team of local area coordinating facilitators to serve the guiding principle on making strong community leaders and to develop the knowledge in making safe communities for sustainable victory over drugs.

The 1st and 2nd Training Course on Motivational Advice for Drugs Patients

Organized during 8-10 and 29-31 July 2013 at Asia Airport Hotel, Pathumthani Province, 133 officers who worked in the field of compulsory treatment and rehabilitation system from the Royal Thai Army, the Royal Thai Navy, the Royal Thai Air Force, the Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters, the Royal Thai Police, Department of Provincial Administration, Department of Probation and Department of Corrections participated the course in order to equip themselves with the knowledge, skills and experience in giving motivational advice for drug patients and their families to help them stop being addictive to drugs.

The 1st and 2nd Training Course on Drug Preventive Education for Teachers

Organized during 13-15 and 19-21 August 2013 at Pinehurst Golf and Country Club, Pathumthani province, it was aimed to develop and enhance health education class teachers in elementary schools under the Office of the Private Education Commission (Bangkok office) with the knowledge and understandings to handling the most appropriate drug preventive education for the youth.

The Training Courses on Integrated Management

The 20th Training Course on General Narcotics Control for Practitioners Officers

Organized during 1-19 July 2013 at ONCB Headquarters, We-train International House Bangkok, and the study visit area in the north provinces, the course was aimed to equip the officers at the practitioner level with the knowledge and understandings about the policies, roles, and missions of ONCB in order that they could utilize all of those as the guidelines for their work, and have all the necessary attitudes and manners for being good and competent government officials.

The 4th Training Course on Narcotics Control for Senior Officers

Organized during 19-24 August 2013 at Princeton Hotel, Bangkok and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, it was aimed to equip the participants with the true knowledge and understandings on drug control as well as enable them to exchange the way they perform their tasks. The trainees from the concerned agency were also expected to build up the working networks so as to perform their tasks effectively. Moreover, visiting and attending the briefing at the Standing Office on Drugs and Crime (SODC), Drug Treatment Center No.4 and C.P. Vietnam Corporation, the participants could learn a lot to apply for their job.

The ONCB Knowledge Management in 2013

ONCB has started the Knowledge Management (KM) process since 2005. In 2013, there were 21 KM working groups from every bureau. Each bureau chose 1 topic related to their main responsibilities and planned the process of gathering data and idea to make the KM reports. All the reports were then contested to choose the best KM report of the year. The objective of making KM report was to make the working handbooks on the particular kind of job so that there will be a working standard.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

International Cooperation

As a matter of fact, transnational organized crimes became a worldwide malignant tumor jeopardizing public security and hindering national economic and infrastructure development; as a result, an international cooperation is crucially needed to cope with this global dilemma.

Thailand has long been working on mutual drugs control cooperation with neighboring countries, foreign countries, foreign agencies, international organizations and international non-government organizations bilaterally and multilaterally. Numbers of mutual cooperation on drug law enforcement, drug treatment & rehabilitation, potential demand reduction, narcotic crop control and alternative development have been provided and implemented by Royal Thai Government. In 2013, there were outstanding activities as follows:

Bilateral Cooperation

Thailand – Cambodia

The 7th Thailand - Cambodia Bilateral Meeting on Drug Law Enforcement Cooperation



During 20 – 23 February 2013, Thailand hosted the 7th Thailand - Cambodia Bilateral Meeting on Drug Law Enforcement Cooperation in Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan Province. Thai delegation led by Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary General, NCB, and Cambodian Delegation led by Pol.lt.Gen. Ly Kimlong, Deputy Secretary General of NACD, attended the meeting. The forum covered the updated drug situation in both countries and discussed many aspects of drug control cooperation: drug law enforcement, drug analysis, and drug treatment and rehabilitation, as well as capacity building of Cambodian officers.

Thailand – China

The 11th Thailand - China Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation



During May 29 – June 1, 2013, Thailand hosted the 11th Thailand – China Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation in Bangkok and Krabi Province. Thai delegation led by Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary General, NCB, and Chinese delegation led by Mr. Han Xuguang, Deputy Secretary-General, NNCC cum Deputy Director – General, Department of Intelligence and Forensic Science attended the meeting.

The venue covered the review of current drug situation of both countries, and the mutual cooperation progress made over information sharing on common targets, including West African and the previous year on Iranian syndicates, as well as keeping close watch on the new trafficking air routes.

Thailand – Iran

Thailand – Iran MOU on the Cooperation In Combating Illicit Trafficking In Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors



On April 23, 2013, the ONCB organized the Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors at the Ministry of Justice, Chaeng Watthana Road.



Field Excursion at Doi Tung Development Project

On this occasion, the ONCB also provided field excursion on drugs control in Thailand for the Iranian delegates, i.e., the narcotics crop replacement in the highland by sustainable alternative development program of Doi Tung Development Project, Mae Fah Luang Foundation, Chiang Rai Province on April 24, 2013. On the following day, the group observed on drugs treatment and rehabilitation program in Thailand at Princess Mother National Institute, Pathumthani Province.



Observed Royal Thai Army Camp along Thai-Myanmar border in Chiang Rai



Observed and attended briefing at Princess Mother National Institute

Thailand – Malaysia

The 36th Thailand - Malaysia Drug Law Enforcement Meeting



During 6 - 9 November 2013, the Narcotics Crime Investigation Department (NCID), Royal Malaysia Police hosted the 36th Thailand-Malaysia Bilateral Meeting on Narcotics Law Enforcement Cooperation in Penang. Thai Delegation was led by Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB and Malaysian Delegation was led by CP Datuk Noor Rashid Bin Ibrahim, Director of NCID. The meeting covered the updated drug situation in both countries, intelligence sharing on target traffickers, and operational cooperation in suppressing illicit drug trafficking networks between the two countries.

Thailand – Vietnam

The 8th Bilateral Meeting on Drugs Control Cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand



The ONCB conducted the 8th Thailand - Vietnam Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation, during 23 – 27 December 2013 in Bangkok. Thai Delegation led by Miss Rachanikorn Sarasiri, Deputy Secretary – General, NCB and Vietnamese Delegation led by Police Major General Do Kim Tuyen, Deputy General Director of the General Police Department on Criminal Prevention and Suppression, Ministry of Public Security. The meeting covered two working groups on demand reduction and drug law enforcement. Drug situation in both countries was reported to the meeting.

Multi-Lateral Cooperation

The 2013 ONCB-DLO Meeting and Study Trip on Alternative Crops Replacement



During 4 – 6 February 2013, ONCB conducted the ONCB-DLO Meeting and Study Trip on Alternative Crop Replacement in Chiang Rai. The objectives of the meeting were to discuss on the existing drugs control mechanisms in order to enhance future international cooperation and assistance in fighting against the global drugs crimes as well as to update Drugs Liaison Officers posting in Thailand with current drugs situation in Thailand, government drugs control strategy, and alternative development programs in the North of Thailand.



Meanwhile, the field excursion was aimed to reveal all international delegates on the success story and ongoing programme of crop replacement and alternative development projects of Thai-Germany Highland Development Project in Chiang Rai. In addition, all representatives have gained clearer picture of the problems and the difficulties faced by authorities carrying out drugs interdiction in the area as well as the coffee and tea business in changing the indigenous villagers to be independent from narcotics corps especially in Doi Wawi and Doi Chang areas.



73 participants of international drugs liaisons, concerned foreign agents, and Royal Thai Authorities, namely, Australia, Canada, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, UK, USA, Narcotics Suppression Bureau – RTP, Chiang Rai Provincial Police, 3rd Corps - RTA, National Command Centre for Combating Drugs and Elimination and ONCB, have enrolled.

The 56th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs

During 11 – 15 March 2013, Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol, Chairperson of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, was the Honourary Adviser of the Thai delegation to the 56th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria. Thai delegation led by Mr. Kittipong Kittayarak, Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Justice along with Mr. Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB.

Senior Officials Committee of the Signatories to the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control

H.E. Police General Pracha Promnong, Minister of Justice along with Mr. Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Deputy Secretary - General, NCB, led the Thai delegation attending the Senior Officials of the Signatory Countries to the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, during 6 - 9 May 2013. Six countries including Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam as well as the UNODC are the parties to the 1993 MOU's.

ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force (AITF)

Six Thai delegates including Immigration Bureau, Narcotics Suppression Bureau, the Customs Department and ONCB attended the 3rd AITF workshops during 20 – 21 May 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. 77 participants from 13 countries, namely, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and ASEAN Secretariat including observers from India and Australia. Signatory members from Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, China and South Korea were absent.

Since an international airport became the high risk gateway of transnational drug trafficking into Thailand and ASEAN member states. The past efforts of both local and international agencies in intercepting drugs at airports cannot mitigate this problem due to lack of a clear joint mechanism as a safeguard against current working obstacles such as deficiency of information and different capabilities among agencies concerned. As a result, the narcotics law enforcement of ASEAN, China, Japan and Republic of Korea were unanimously agreed and established the AITF in order to fight with these trans-organized syndicates.

12th ASEAN Regional Forum: Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime



Thai delegation led by Mr. Arthayudh Srisamoot, Director-General Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs along with Ms. Rachanikorn Sarasiri, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, and senior officials from the National Security Council and Ministry of Defence attended the 12th ASEAN Regional Forum on Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime held from 14-16 April 2014 in Bali, Indonesia. The meeting reconsidered ARF Work Plan on CTTC and the ASEAN Secretariat reported the implementation of plan. The meeting considered the draft Plan from 2014 to 2015. Action Plan content four sides that must be done before other sides consist of Illicit drug, CBRN (chemical, biological weapons, radiological and nuclear), “Cyber security (Internet), and cyber terrorism,” and the anti-radical concept (radicalization). In addition, the meeting also consider the future direction of the ARF ISM on CTTC and seeking the relation between ARF and other mechanisms or other stage. Thailand will be co-chair on behalf of ASEAN for the next ARF ISM on CTTC meeting.

The 34th ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD)

Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, led the Thai delegation to attend the 34th Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) during 24 – 27 September 2013 in Yangon, Myanmar. The Meeting was held in plenary and five working groups, namely, Preventive Education, Treatment and Rehabilitation, Law Enforcement, Research, and Alternative Development. ASEAN Member States presented their respective national efforts against drug problem which demonstrate the strengthened commitment to the maximum attainment of a Drug Free ASEAN by 2015.

The 18th Asia Pacific Operational Drug Enforcement Conference

The National Police Agency (NPA) has been funded Thai officers for the participating of the Asia Pacific Operational Drug Enforcement Conference (ADEC) since the 1990's. Recently, by courtesy of NPA as usual, Thai delegation attended in the 17th ADEAC in Tokyo, from February 26 – March 1, 2013. The forum was to share experiences on drug control in field operation among narcotic law enforcement officers of the Asia-Pacific countries.

The 23rd Anti - Drug Liaison Official's Meeting for International Cooperation

The Supreme Prosecutors' Office, the Republic of Korea, annually invites with full sponsorship for an ONCB senior officer to attend the Anti-Drug Liaison Official's Meeting for International Cooperation (ADLOMICO). In 2013, the ONCB delegation attended the 23rd ADLOMICO held during 26 - 28 June 2013 in Jeju, Korea.

The 37th HONLEA Meeting

During 21 – 24 October 2013, Miss Rachanikorn Sarasiri, Deputy Secretary - General, NCB, led the Thai delegation attending the 37th Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. The Meeting was organized by UNODC to discuss major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures and to



provide a venue to for practitioners and law enforcement agents to exchange expertise, share best practices and information on drug-related matters to develop a coordinated response to existing and emerging challenges. The Meeting was attended by 120 participants of 22 countries including 3 observer from Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), European Union, and International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/ INTERPOL).

International Visitors

January 3, 2013



Mr. Jorge Luis Hidalgo Castellanos, deputy chief of mission, the Embassy of the United States of Mexico in Thailand, made a courtesy call on Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB and discussed Thailand-Mexico drug control cooperation.

January 26, 2013

Maj. Gen. Meas Vyrith, Deputy Secretary-General, NACD, Kingdom of Cambodia, and his colleagues made a courtesy call on Mr. Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB. They were on a study visit to observe the treatment and rehabilitation programs in Thailand.

January 28, 2013

Four representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister, Negara Brunei Darussalam, headed by H.E. Dato Paduka Hamdan Hj Abu Bakar, the Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister, in charge of national security and law enforcement, made a courtesy call on Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB and discussed the preparation of Brunei to host the 2nd Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matter.



February 20, 2013

Mr. Jonathan King, Country Manager Thailand, Serious Organized Crime Agency (SOCA), the United Kingdom, made a courtesy call on Mr. Narong Ratananukul, Senior Narcotics Control Advisor and discussed Thailand-UK cooperation on drug control to interdict drug trafficking along Thailand-Myanmar border area.

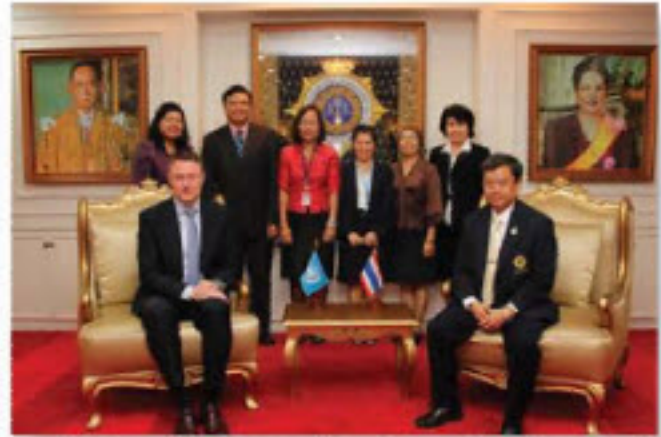
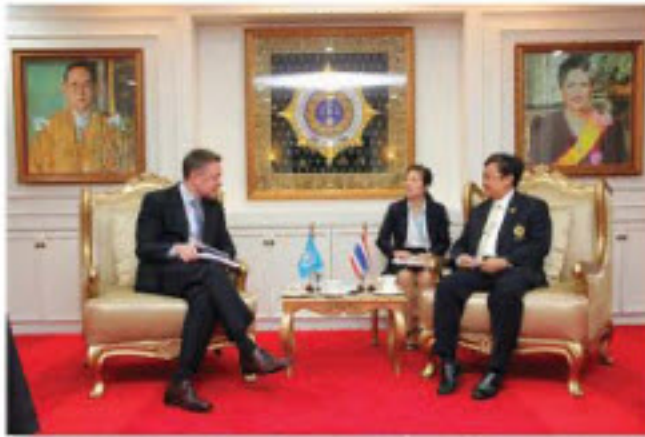


February 21, 2013



Representatives from National Police Agency (NPA), Japan made a courtesy call on Mr. Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB. They were on a Thai language training program and a study visit to Thai law enforcement agencies.

April 29, 2013



Mr. Jeremy Douglas, *UNODC* Regional Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, made a courtesy call on Mr. Narong Ratananukul, Senior Narcotics Control Advisor.

May 7, 2013



Twelve representatives from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam headed by Mr. Nguyen Hung Hiep, Deputy Director of Danang's Labour, Invalids and Social Affair (DOLISA) made a courtesy call on Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB. They were on a study visit on Drug Control work in Thailand.

June 21, 2013



Mr. Luc Stevens, the representative from United Nations Development Program (UNDP) made a courtesy call on Police General Pongsapat Pongcharoen, Secretary-General, NCB and discussed on the Leadership Academy for Muslim Women in Southern Provinces of Thailand Program which has the aim to promote Muslim women's role in human security services including drug prevention.

July 8, 2013



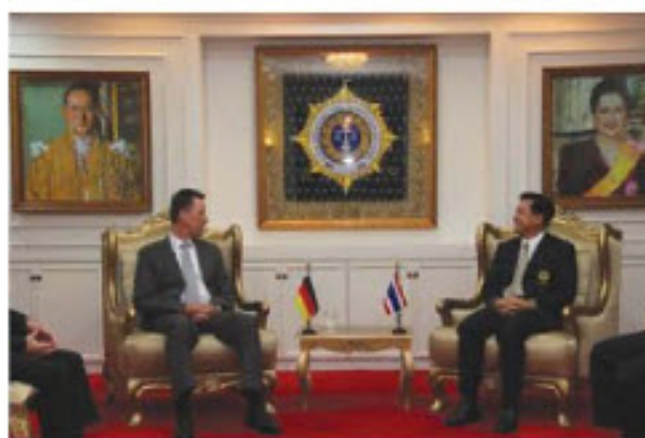
A delegation of military attachés in Thailand from Laos PDR, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Malaysia paid a study visit to the ONCB. They were warmly welcome by Police General Pongsapat Pongcharoen, Secretary-General, NCB. The group was on a study trip to observe the work on treatment and rehabilitation in Thailand.

July 13, 2013

Mr. Antonius Riva Setiawan, Director of *Colombo Plan Drug Advisory Programme* (CPDAP), made a courtesy call on Mr. Sukhum Opasniputh, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB and discussed the cooperation between ONCB and CPDAP.

July 25, 2013

Mr. Deitmar Erfurt, Police Liaison Officer of the Federal Republic of Germany to Thailand, made a courtesy call on Police General Pongsapat Pongcharoen, Secretary-General, NCB on the occasion of the end of his duty in Thailand. Also, Mr. Peter Pietzowsky was introduced as his successor.



September 2, 2013

Mr. Anti Avsan and Ms. Isabella Jenbeck, Member of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Sweden, and the Nordic drug liaison officers made a courtesy call on Mr. Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB.

September 10, 2013

Ms. Gloria Lai, Senior Policy Officer, International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC) made a courtesy call on Ms. Chuanpit Choomwattana, Senior Narcotics Prevention Advisor and discussed the development of the drug policy worldwide and the work of IDPC in Thailand.



November 23, 2013

Mr. Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Deputy Secretary - General, NCB and Ms. Rachanikorn Sarasiri, Deputy Secretary - General, NCB hosted a reception dinner for Brig.Gen. Kyaw Zan Myint, Deputy Minister of Interior of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and his delegation at the Summer Palace restaurant, Intercontinental hotel. They were on a study visit on alternative crop cultivation at the Royal Projects in Chiang Mai and Bangkok during 18-24 November 2013.



Methamphetamine (Yaba)



Crystallized methamphetamine (ICE)



Opium poppy



Cannabis



Kratom



Heroin



ASEAN-NARCO
ASEAN NARCOTICS COOPERATION CENTER

ASEAN-NARCO is set up with the strong determination
of ASEAN Member States to overcome drug peril
by working hands in hands toward
“Drug Free ASEAN 2015”

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