



# THAILAND NARCOTICS CONTROL ANNUAL REPORT 2020

OFFICE OF THE NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

# Preface

The Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), as the central agency for the national narcotics control, has the vision “To be the leading agency in developing and driving forward the drug control strategies of Thailand and ASEAN in order to make Thai society safe from drugs.” The ONCB also focused on the integration of drug control implementation with the concerned agencies both locally and internationally. Accordingly, the Announcement of the Narcotics Control Board, dated January 22, 2020 on Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020 was issued, consisted of 5 measures, namely, international cooperation, narcotics suppression and law enforcement, drug prevention, drug treatment and integrated management. The Announcement was aimed to drive for tackling drug problem and alleviate the seriousness of the problem as accordance with the National Strategy. It was also used as management framework on working coordination, resources allocation and monitoring and evaluation for the performances of the concerned agencies, which would lead to achievement of “The Thai Society to be Safe from Drugs.”

The ONCB prepared the report on narcotics control of the year 2020 to publicize the achievement on narcotics control of Thailand and in this regard, would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to all concerned agencies both public and private sectors, central, provincial and local agencies as well as civil society for their cooperation in narcotics control. Our thanks also went to foreign partners/countries and international organization for good cooperation extended to Thailand on narcotics control. The ONCB did hope that this cooperation would still prevail in the years to come.

Office of the Narcotics Control Board  
Ministry of Justice



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# 2020 Highlight





## **Plague of Honor to Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisiribajra Mahavajjarajadhita for the Dedication and Contribution to the Narcotics Control**

On Wednesday, 26 August 2020, at 14.00 hrs., Makawarnrangan Hall of the Thai Army Club, Thanon Vibhavadi Rangsit, Bangkok, H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister was granted the audience to present the Plague of Honor to Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisiribajra Mahavajjarajadhita for her dedication and contribution to the criminal justice, narcotics control and crime prevention during the Award Ceremony for Outstanding Performance on Narcotics Control of Personnel and Organizations organized by the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the Narcotics Control Board at the Thai Army Club. Her Royal Highness's duties with high performance at national and international levels is the driving force that leads to minimize drug problem in Thailand and to strengthen the international cooperation in fighting the world drug problem.

Her Royal Highness was named the Princess of Law and the Princess of Sustainable Development. She has devoted herself to the public welfare with her capacity and legal expertise. Many projects were initiated with her strong intention to improve the quality of life and well-being of the people, in particular the Kamlangjai or Inspire Project (2006) which provides moral support and opportunity to female inmates after their release with a view to return them back to the society as good citizens. This leads to Her Royal Highness's initiative to create the standard of treatment of female inmates called the Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates or ELFI (2008) and pushed forward to be the United Nations' minimum standard treatment for female inmates. Her Royal Highness continues the utilization of alternative development approach to solve the drug problem in northern border area, Roi Jai Rak Project which could be the model to be implemented in parallel with narcotics law enforcement for the area facing the problem of illicit drug trafficking. Being the attorney, Her

Royal Highness played the pivotal role in the administration of the fairness in justice system in many significant narcotic drug cases. Moreover, Her Royal Highness graciously accepted to be the Chair in giving the fund against drugs under the Mother of the Nation's Fund, the initiative of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother, to villages and communities that had strong will to overcome drug problem; they were named the Mother of the Nation's Fund Villages that became the important power in solving drug problem in their local area.

Apart from the national profile, Her Royal Highness received well recognition by the international arena with her highest profile of her initiatives that are witnessed by her multifarious duties, in particular the standard treatment for female inmates which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2010 as United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measure for Women Offenders or the Bangkok Rules as well as her driving force, under the scheme of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs when Her Royal Highness was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Republic of Austria and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations in Vienna, Republic of Austria during 2012-2014, on the adoption of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development (UNGPs on AD) in 2013 by United Nations General Assembly which is the instrument in addressing the drug problem in a sustainable manner that is in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Her Royal Highness promotes the Royal Wisdom of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great on alternative development; Her Royal Highness graciously chaired the opening of Thailand's exhibition on alternative development during the Commission of Narcotic Drugs and graciously accepted to be the panelist at the side event on alternative development organized by Thailand. Her Royal Highness always stresses that alternative development could be applied to address drug related challenges in other contexts such as in urban settings.

Her Royal Highness was granted the honor and awards by countries and international organizations. Significant awards were in 2008, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

invited Her Royal Highness to be UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador in recognition of Her Royal Highness's initiative known as Kamlangjai (Inspire Project) as well as the anti-violence against women. Later in 2009, Her Royal Highness received the utmost award of Medal of Recognition from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in recognition of Her Royal Highness's duties on anti-violence campaign against children and women, Kamlangjai (Inspire Project), ELFI Project. In 2017, UNODC invited Her Royal Highness to be the Goodwill Ambassador on the Rule of Law for Southeast Asia to raise the awareness of UNODC Regional Programme for Southeast Asia in connection to the rules of law, peace, stability and the Sustainable Development Goals.

With the most grateful gratitude to the grace of Her Royal Highness's dedication to the narcotics control work which is the boundless and gracious kindness to Thai citizens, Office of the Narcotics Control Board, Ministry of Justice, as the loyal subjects would like to honor Her Royal Highness as the "Princess of Sustainable Development to Secure Thai Citizens from Drugs."



# Strategic Policy on Narcotics Control

## Framework and Connectivity

The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Plan as accordance to the Cabinet's resolution on December 4, 2007, the devising of the plan was in line with the National Strategy, the National Reform Plan, the National Economic and Social Development Plan, the Policy and Plan on the National Security and the government's policy declaration to the Parliament. This was in consistent with the criteria, methods of integrated budgeting and work plan of the year 2020 as accordance to the Cabinet's resolution on August 6, 2019. The details were as follows:

### The 1<sup>st</sup> Level Plan

#### **The 20-Year National Strategy (2018-2037): Security, Prosperity and Sustainability:**

The drug prevention and control were the national agenda under the National Strategy on Security, which was aimed at building up the national security and the people's happiness, in 4.2 agenda, prevention and overcoming the problem that impacted the national security and in 4.2.1 overcoming the current security problem. This was done by driving forward the analysis of the root causes of the problem in all sectors covering all issues systematically, promoting discussion, planning and improving problem solving by integrally pooling officials and resources as well as strengthening cooperation between the core and non-core agencies in preventing and tackling the problem as well as helping the people from threats and problems that impacted security.

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Level Plan

#### **The 12<sup>th</sup> National Economic and Social Development Plan (2007-2021)**



The drug prevention and control was connected to the 5<sup>th</sup> Strategy on strengthening the national security for the national development towards prosperity and sustainability focusing on the goal no. 4 which stated that Thailand maintained good relationship and security cooperation with the ASEAN Member States, other friendly countries and the countries world-wide in preventing various forms of threats, at the same time protected the national interests by setting up KPI 4.4 to decrease number of drug offences.

### **The National Reform Plan**

Tackling drug problem was in consistent with the national reform in the field of justice process on the 4<sup>th</sup> reforming agenda which was paradigm shift in justice management to ensure security and fairness in society by setting up policy and law enforcement measures which were evidence-based drug policy with the aim to have the empirical drug policy and law enforcement.

### **The Policy and Plan on National Security (2019-2022)**

Drug control supported the 5<sup>th</sup> Policy and Plan on the National Security: enhancing the potential on prevention and overcoming the national threats and the 8<sup>th</sup> policy: fostering the strength and immunity of the local security, which had the strategic target in alleviating drug epidemic and the Thai society was free from drug.

### **The Government's Policy**

The Cabinet led by H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, declared its policy to the Parliament on Thursday, July 25, 2009, in which priority was put on drug problem under the main policy on building up national security, peace and safety. Drug control problem was defined as an urgent problem which needed to be addressed from the source, mid-stream and down-stream to achieve the clear result and to be in line with the Master Plan under the National Strategy on Security which was aimed to reduce drug problem with significant results.

### **The Urgent Agenda under the National Strategy**

During the 1<sup>st</sup>/2019 Meeting of the National Strategy Committee on January 25, 2019, the meeting agreed in 15 urgent agenda which needed to be addressed within 5 years, drug problem was under the 1<sup>st</sup>

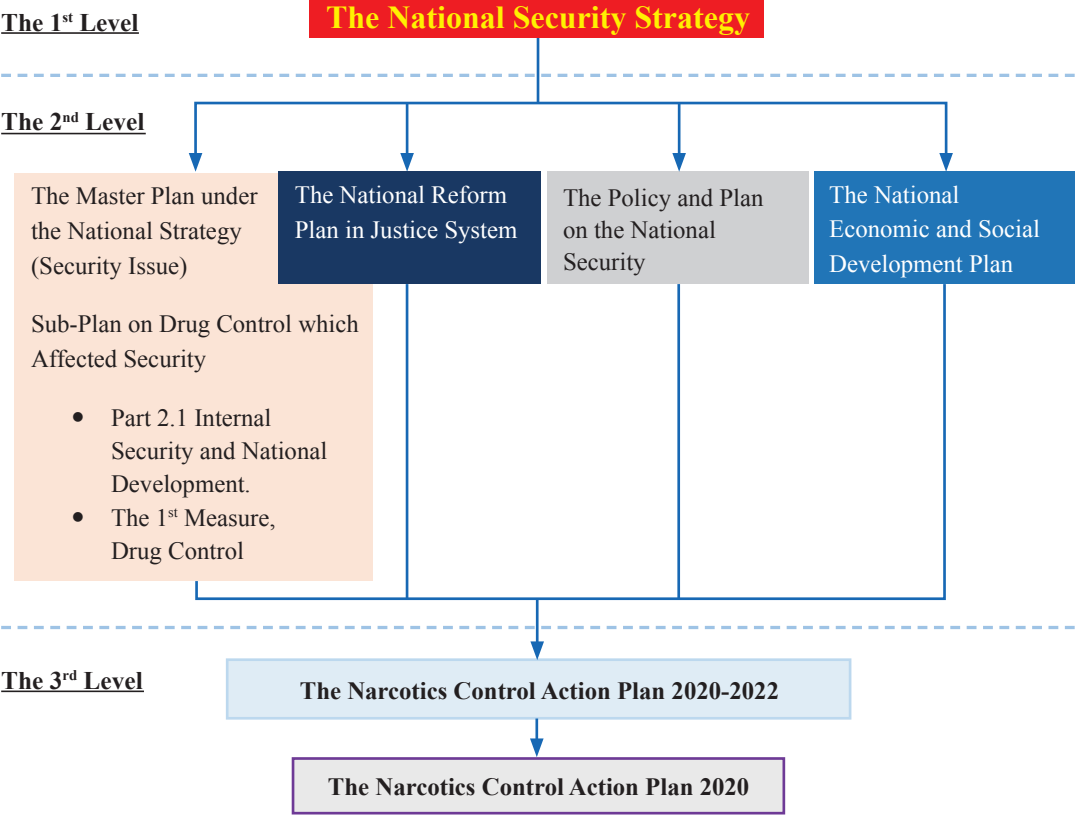
agenda which was subset of security, prosperity and sustainability and was the 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda on security problems which needed to be urgently tackled.

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Plan**

#### **The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020-2022**

The Cabinet on November 3, 2020 approved the Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020-2022 to be used as directional framework, management tool, coordination, resource allocation, following-up and evaluation of the performances of all concerned agencies, with the following vision “Thailand is secured and safe from drugs in a sustainable manner with the participation of all sectors in society and international cooperation.”. The vision covered 5 measures, namely, (1) International Cooperation. (2) Suppression and Law Enforcement. (3) Drug Prevention. (4) Treatment of Drug Abusers. (5) Integrated Management Measure. To achieve the set target which was “The drug situation was under controlled and did not affect the safety in the people’s life and their property when the plan ended, and could reduce the number of drug dealers, abusers and the ratio of repeated offences at local area level.”

### Connection of the Plan



## The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020

The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020 was used as the framework and guidelines in devising the narcotics control operational plan of the ONCB and the concerned agencies, comprised 5 measures namely, international cooperation, suppression and law enforcement, drug prevention, drug treatment and integrated management, with 9 measures, 18 work plans and 49 significant projects. The objective was to reduce the seriousness of drug problem and led to successful result that was “Thai Society is Free from Drug” by integrating policy and related plans in every level to create the harmonization in tackling the problem. Moreover, it would be used as the framework on management, operational cooperation, resources allocation and supervision, following-up and evaluation of the performances of all concerned agencies. The details were as the following;

1. International Cooperation Measure, comprised 1 measure i.e. pro-active international cooperation which focused on pro-active development in all dimensions to compel and stop drug producing sources outside of the country, building up cooperation in intercepting precursor, chemical and producing apparatus, and launching the Golden Triangle Operation 1511 under the 4 Year (2019-2022) Safe Mekong Operation Plan to Control Drugs among the 6 Countries, namely, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR., Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand.

2. Suppression and Law Enforcement Measure, comprised 2 following guidelines;

- 2.1 Interception measure on drug, precursor and chemical by focusing on integrated cooperation with security agencies to improve the interception to be more intensive in the border areas in 15 provinces, 40 districts and 19 channels, international airports and ports.

- 2.2 Suppression of drug syndicates which was aimed at eradicating drug trafficking network by investigation, suppression and law enforcement, alleviation of the people’s distress through ONCB hotline number 1386 and reduction of violence and drug epidemic area by working in 23,140 villages/communities in 5,387 sub-districts/96 Kwaeng, 846 districts/42 counties in 76 provinces and Bangkok Metropolitan.

### 3. Drug Prevention Measure, comprised 3 following guidelines;

3.1 The guideline to strengthen villages/communities along the border areas and to use alternative development by analyzing the root causes of the problem and their motivation that drove those people who had difficult condition and were under privileged to involve with drugs in the border areas and the inner areas of the country. Alternative development would be used to overcome the problem holistically and to improve their quality of life in terms of infrastructure development, solving the disparity in economy, social condition, education and health-care dimensions as well as promoting economic opportunity in the field of knowledge, skills, fund and marketing to support their ways of earning income in good faith.

3.2 The guideline on drug prevention which focused on demand reduction to lessen drug demand domestically by adhering to the fact that if there was no buyer, there would not have seller. Priority was given to the children and the youth to protect them from becoming drug users and drug dealers. Appropriate and concrete drug prevention activities were conducted for each target group by emphasizing on building up perception, increasing immunity to reduce new drugs users.

3.3 The guideline to build up appropriate environment by focusing on providing safe area for drug prevention in the children and youth group, labor group and the general public. Support and care were given to the risk group to add positive factors and to control risk factors which would create safe area for them.

### 4. Drug treatment measure comprised of the following guideline;

The guideline to ensure that the drug users could access to treatment and harm or impact reduction from drug by focusing on Community Based Treatment and Care (CBTx), in which community would take part in taking care of their children who were drug users both during and after treatment. To develop the following up guidelines to help the persons who completed treatment.

### 5. Integrated Management Measure, comprised 2 following guidelines;



5.1 The guideline on special task by controlling, making use of narcotic crops and using alternative measures such as case diversion, decriminalization, legalization of drugs for medical and scientific purpose, recidivism reduction and mobilization in implementing plan in special area.

5.2 The integrated management guideline by integrating the mobilization of drug prevention and control systematically and developing innovation to support the drug control performances.

### Implementation Targets

**A. Built up international cooperation** at all levels and mechanism to stop drug producing sources outside the country by using diplomatic channel/approach, intelligence and appropriate data and information operations.

**B. Strictly enforced the laws** to cut drug trafficking cycle both at network level and syndicate level, drug traffickers, influencers, government officials and local drug dealer who caused troubles to people in villages/communities.

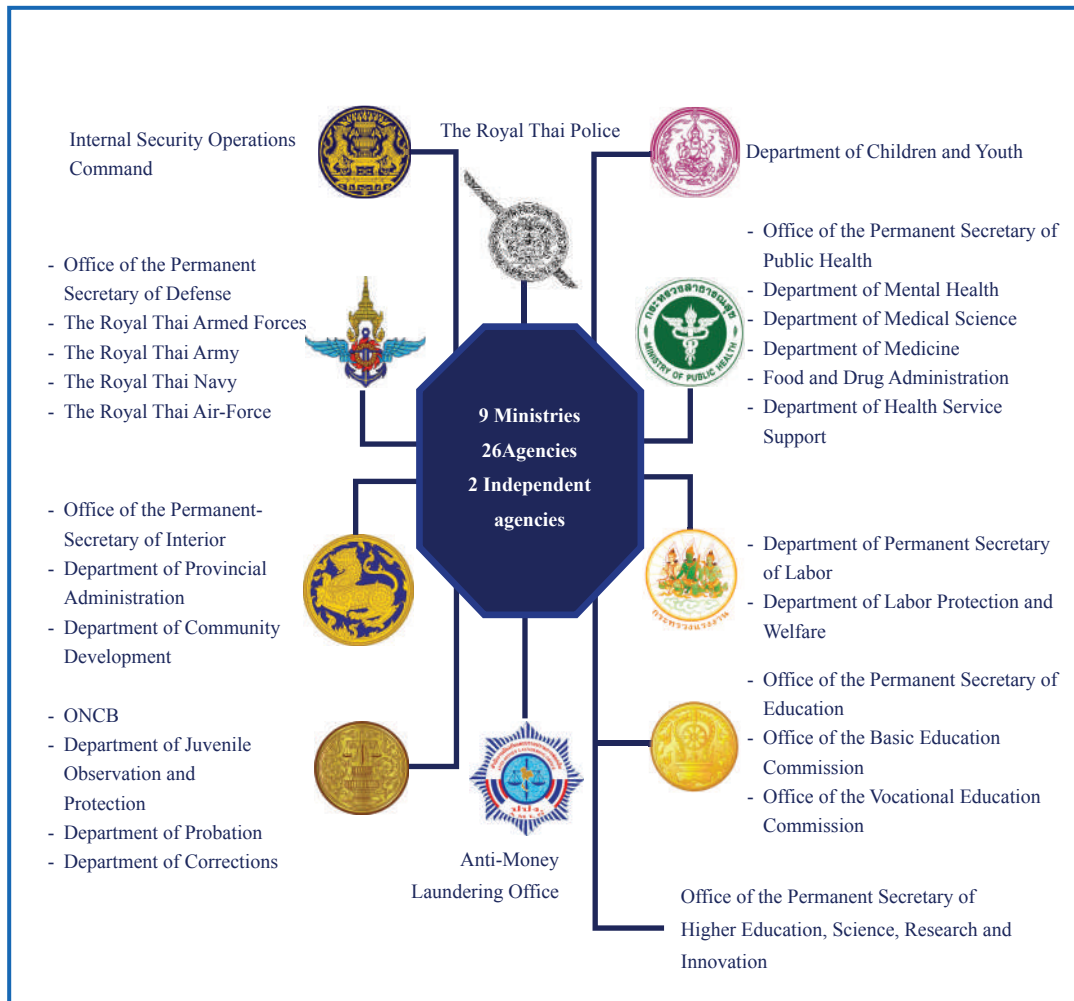
**C. Reduced drug demand factors** by cutting the cycle of new drug users, treatment of drug users, preventing them from relapse as well as built up immunity in person, community and society by educating them on the danger of drug to prevent the new user and the new drug involving person.

**D. Built up peace and safety from drug at village/community level** by integrating with the related government agencies and supporting the people sector to take part in watching out and safeguarding their area.

**E. Defined the concise mechanism to control narcotic crops**, so that it would not create social impact as strictly provided by law, push for and support study research and technology development for medical use of narcotic crops.

## Integrated Management

The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020 was the integrated management of all concerned agencies with the Office of the Narcotics Control Board as the main host in integration with 9 ministries, 26 agencies and 2 government agencies which were not under the Office of the Prime Minister, ministries or bureaus, totally 28 agencies.



# Drug Situation

## 1. World Drug Situation

### 1.1 Global Drug Situation

According to the data from the World Drug Report 2020 by UNODC, it was found that in 2018, there were altogether 269 million drug users or about 5.3 percent of the global population. The most popular drugs of abuse were cannabis with 192 million users, followed by opioids users' group with 58 million users, amphetamine and its derivatives with 27 million users, ecstasy with 21 million users and cocaine with 19 million users. As for the drugs that were most seized, it revealed that cannabis was seized most at 5,610 tons, followed by cocaine at 1,131 tons, opium at 704 tons, methamphetamine at 139 tons, opioids for medical use at 73 tons, amphetamine at 21 tons, and ecstasy at 12 tons.

The illicit cultivation of opium poppy had tendency to decrease world-wide as in 2019, there were about 1,505,000 hectares of opium poppy cultivation which yielded 7,610 tons of opium which could produce 472-722 tons of heroin. The countries which had the largest opium poppy cultivation areas was Afghanistan with 1 million rai of cultivation, next was Myanmar with 260,875 rai. As for coca cultivation world-wide, there were about 1,526,250 rai which could produce 1,723 tons of cocaine, 70% of coca cultivation area was in Colombia, followed by Plurinational State of Bolivia

The global situation of synthetic drug had tendency to continually expand, the most found drugs were amphetamine-type stimulants: ATS especially methamphetamine which was likely to increase during the past several years. In 2018, 228 tons were seized, the areas where the drug was mostly seized were North America, East Asia and Southeast Asia.

### 1.2 Drug Situation in Southeast Asia

The Golden Triangle area remained to be the world major drug producing area, many types of drug were produced namely, opium, heroin, Yaba, Ice and ketamine, though the overall picture of illicit opium poppy cultivation was likely to continual decrease since 2014, it was still the main global producing area of opium and heroin. Whereas the situation of synthetic drug producing had tendency to increase continually especially the illicit producing of methamphetamine (Yaba and Ice), The UNODC's data revealed that the methamphetamine market in East Asia and Southeast Asia expanded as in 2019, 115 tons of Yaba were seized, over 80% were seized in Southeast Asian countries, which comprised 511 million pills of Yaba, 63 tons of Ice, increased from 2018, reflected the increasing potential in Ice production of the region.

The epidemic of methamphetamine in Southeast Asian Region was likely to grow according to market dynamics of methamphetamine in the region especially, Ice which had high purity of methamphetamine; whereas, its price fell to the lowest in 10 years, reflecting the lower price and capacity in getting access to chemical/precursor as well as new synthesizing method which adjusted chemical/new precursor to substitute the former chemical which had come under control.

The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report of 2019 revealed that varieties of illicit drugs were found in the Southeast Asian Region comprised 8 kinds of drugs which were ATS, opiate/opioids, cannabis, cocaine, New Psychoactive Substance (NPS), Central Nervous System (CNS) depressants, hallucinogens and other substances which included caffeine, precursor chemicals. ATS was the most common of drug of abuse in the region, followed by opiate/opioids and cannabis, respectively. The major seizures were ATS group (crystalline methamphetamine-Ice, methamphetamine tablet-Yaba, amphetamine, ecstasy), cannabis, NPS, opiate/opioids while CNS, cocaine, hallucinogen were minor seizures. It was found that crystalline methamphetamine, amphetamine increased while ecstasy was almost stable. Across the ASEAN's total population, the most numerous number was the ATS users but ATS admission for

treatment was dropped to 120,000 cases which was less than the ATS admission in 2018 whereas the drug offenders arrested in the region in 2019 was 75.1 per 100,000 population, equivalent to 492,461 drug offenders which was not much different from the year 2015 which was 75.3 per 100,000. This phenomenon kept on happening in 2020, particularly the number of ATS users and seizures of methamphetamine tablets and crystalline methamphetamine.

## **2. In-country Drug Situation**

### **2.1 The Illegal Narcotic Crops Cultivation**

According to the Narcotic Crops Survey and Monitoring Institute 2020 fiscal year survey, it revealed 23 hectares of illicit opium poppy cultivation, which were comparatively decreasing from 42.86 hectares cultivating area of last year. Most cultivations were in the northern which were Chiang Mai Province, Chiang Rai Province, Mae Hong Son Province, Phayao Province, Nan Province and Tak Province. While illicit cannabis cultivation was 53 plots of 1.4 hectares and 150 square meters in 2020 fiscal year including closed-system hidden farming in commercial-row type building was frequently found in Bangkok area.

### **2.2 The Illicit Drug Smuggling**

Thailand still faced the problem of drug epidemic and being used as the main drug smuggling route from the Golden Triangle area including Yaba, Ice, heroin, ketamine and cannabis from neighboring countries. During the past several years, drug producing in the Golden Triangle Area continually increased which led to the large amount of drug seizure. The smuggler still used the northern border in Chiang Rai Province (Mae Fah Luang District, Mae Sai District, Mae Chan District, Chiang Saen District and Chiang Khong District) and in Chiang Mai Province (Chiang Dao District, Wiang Haeng District, Fang District and Mae Ai District) as their main trafficking route. As for the lower northern border area in the west in Phop Phra District, Mae Sot District, Tak Province, the large amount of Ice and ketamine were seized.



The illicit drug smuggling from the northeastern border, Nakhon Phanom Province and Nong Khai Province were the areas that had the most severe illicit drug smuggling, reflected from the seizure of the large amount of drug including Yaba, Ice, heroin, ketamine, and cannabis. Most of the smuggling was made through the border districts that connected to the Mekong River, namely, Nakhon Phanom Province (Ban Phaeng District, Tha Uthen District, That Phanom District); Nong Khai Province (Muang Nong Khai District, Tha Bo District, Phon Phisai District, Ratanawapi District, and Sangkhom District). Later, it was found that Mukdahan Province (Wan Yai District, Muang Mukdahan District, Don Tan District) was used more often. Besides, Loei Province (Dan Sai District) was found to be used as the smuggling route of large amount of Ice. While in the lower northeastern region, the serious smuggling was in two main areas, namely, the border of Ubon Rachathani Province (Khemarat District), and Amnat Charoen Province (Chanuman District).

In the West, a high volume of Ice, ketamine, and bulk amount of ten thousand to hundred thousand pills of Yaba packages have been smuggling via the Three Pagodas Checkpoint, Sangkhlaburi District, Kanchanaburi Province.

The Lower South, kratom leaves have been smuggling from Malaysia. In 2020, 68.2 tons of kratom leaves were mostly seized in Sadao District, Nathawi District, and Saba Yoi District, Songkhla Province. Because of the high profit street price and high demand of the 4x100 Formula drink, kratom-base with other three drugs interchangeable mixer, among the local abusers. Moreover, Thailand faced with the illicit smuggling of cocaine by western African group, from South America passed through various airports, arrests were made on continual basis, in 2020 the arrests were made at 3 areas, namely, Suvarnabhumi International Airport, which had 3 offences with the seizure of 5.24 kgs. of cocaine, Phuket International Airport had 1 offence with the seizure of 2.04 kgs. of cocaine, and another case passed through road border of Nong Khai Province with the seizure of 3 kgs. of cocaine. Besides, there was an increasing of the trafficking of ecstasy (Ya-E) through international postal parcel, in 2020, 46 cases

were found with the seizure of 312,232 pills, most of the source countries were in Europe such as Federal Republic of Germany, Portuguese Republic, French Republic, Kingdom of Belgium and Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Comparative statistics on drug cases and seizures for major drugs of abuse was made for the year 2019 and 2020 as follows:

2019 - 2020 Yaba Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Tablets</b> |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2019        | 873          | 353,254,513    |
| 2020        | 791          | 319,638,602    |

The smuggling route of Yaba in 2019 was mostly in the northern border whereas in 2020 the route was change to the northeastern border but the smuggling into the northern border remained in less amount.

2019 – 2020 Crystalline Methamphetamine – ICE Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Kilograms</b> |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| 2019        | 148          | 16,883           |
| 2020        | 197          | 22,489           |

The smuggling route of Ice in 2019 was mostly in the northern border but in 2020 the smuggling route was changed to the northeastern border and went down to the South. In 2020, it was found that Ice was smuggled into the western border.

2019 – 2020 Cannabis Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Kilograms</b> |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| 2019        | 47           | 9,025            |
| 2020        | 131          | 31,196           |

The smuggling route of cannabis remained the northeastern border and was the inner area of the country and went down to the South.

## 2019 – 2020 Heroin Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Kilograms</b> |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| 2019        | 35           | 530              |
| 2020        | 25           | 1,891            |

The smuggling route of heroin in 2019 and 2020 was mostly in the northern border and northeastern border for further transported to the inner area.

## 2019 – 2020 Ketamine Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Kilograms</b> |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| 2019        | 31           | 1,359            |
| 2020        | 29           | 2,590            |

The smuggling route of ketamine in 2019 was in the northern and northeastern border but in 2020, it was mostly found in the lower northeastern and partially found in the western border.

### 2.3 The Drug Trafficking Situation and Drug Epidemic

As a result of the continual influx of the drug smuggling during the past several years, both in terms of frequency and quantity, the large amount of drugs was seized, the statistical data of the Royal Thai Police in the fiscal year 2020 revealed that there were 324,552 offences with 338,560 offenders, the amount of seized drug comprised, 319 million pills of Yaba, 23,872 kgs. of ICE, 597 kgs. of heroin, 1,342 kgs. of ketamine and 510,223 pills of ecstasy.

The smuggling in of the large amount of drug from both the North and Northeast regions would be delivered and kept in storages in the central region area, Bangkok's perimeter and Bangkok area. This indicated that these areas were the main areas of drug distribution and drug epidemic as well as the areas for delivery and being waiting areas before distributing to other epidemic area. It reflected the overall picture of drug epidemic which did not mitigate its seriousness.

The current drug trafficking, apart from the general trafficking channels, it was found that drug trafficker used more on-line channel in parallel with postal parcel to distribute to users. Drug trafficking changed its pattern by introducing new pattern using technology in selling via various applications such as Line, Twitter, Facebook, IG etc. especially Twitter channel which was the largest number of drug trafficking. Moreover, there were many channels for delivery such as making appointment or sending through postal parcel of both public and private sectors and the present transport was convenient and quick.

The most epidemic drugs were Yaba (77.9%), followed by Ice (9.7%), cannabis (4.8%), heroin (2.3%), in the fiscal year 2020 there were altogether 180,483 persons underwent treatment as according to the National Data on Treatment and Rehabilitation, most of them were new users or about 67.0%, and most of them were male or 89.9%, their ages range were between 20-24 years or about 18.7%, followed by those between 25-29 years or 18.6% and those between 30-34 years about 15.3%, most of them were abusers or about 57.4%, followed by addicts or about 38.6% and users or about 4.0%. As according to the data received from the persons who underwent treatment and rehabilitation, it was found that the drugs that needed to keep watched were Ice and heroin which had tendency to have increasing number of people who underwent treatment.

### **3. Trend of the Drug Situation**

3.1 The expansion of synthetic drugs producing in the Golden Triangle Area led to the increasing of arrest statistics in various countries in the region.

3.2 The illicit smuggling of chemical and precursor to the producing area had tendency to grow, mostly from China, whereas the Lao PDR was used as transit route before distributing to other countries including Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia.

3.3 The drug smuggling groups still used the northern border area in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai Provinces as their main smuggling

routes, whereas in the northeastern area, there was the increasing of drug smuggling especially in Nakhon Phanom Province, Nong Khai Province and Mukdahan Province, in the western border on the border of Tak Province (Phob Phra District and Mae Sot District), Kanchanaburi Province (Sangkhlaburi District) had tendency to be used for smuggling in the large amount of Ice and ketamine.

3.4 The expansion of on-line drug trafficking in couple with drug distribution through postal parcel were the main factors that increased the number of drug dealers quickly and reached out to more abusers especially through Twitter which was easy to get access to.

3.5 The most epidemic drug was Yaba, the drugs that needed to have a close watch were Ice, which was found increasing in term of epidemic, and heroin which was found to be spread among the children and youth in Bangkok area and Kanchanaburi Province.

3.6 The pandemic of COVID-19 broke out in the late of 2019 and had kept on going up to 2020 but it did not affect much to the illicit drug production and trafficking in the production source in the Golden Triangle. Drug traffickers did not stop their illegal business but during the first half of 2020, when the Government locked down the border areas and strictly controlled both domestic and international travel, the drug traffickers paused their business for a while to collect their supplies and to explore new techniques and modus operandi in distributing drugs. During the second half of 2020, the drug traffickers and dealers resumed back and took advantage from the new normal lifestyle of consumers, particularly online marketing, and delivery services of public and private companies as mention in 3.4. The illicit traffic by air route was increasingly found at the end of 2020 after the eased control of international travel as same as the Illicit drug smuggling by sea and postal parcels also increased both in frequencies and amount.

## 4. The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic and Drug Control

The Royal Thai Government launched many nationwide



measures to counter the COVID-19 pandemic and infections, especially the announcement of Emergency Decree on March 25, 2020 that prevents the people to enter the risk or infected area, to close the entry points as well as channels of transportation into the Kingdom of Thailand either by planes or by cars or by boat or other vehicles, to strictly travelling routes either air route or waterways, or land routes, to set up various screening check points between provinces, to announce the curfew for night-time restriction, not to allow some activities to be organized, etc., or other in order to curb with the spreading of the COVID-19.

During the first phase of Emergency Decree, three months of lock down around March – April - May 2020, the entry points were closed, therefore, the illicit drug checkpoints might be less strict. In the first month of the lock down, the seizure cases over a hundred thousand methamphetamine pills smuggled through the northern border were rarely found. The smuggling of drugs remained operating by the same existing drug syndicates and drug related fugitives in neighboring countries, 72.4% of smuggling activities were disrupted by border defense forces. Drug traffickers turned to conceal and transport drugs alongside agricultural products in medium-sized lorries or in bulk on cargo trucks. During the second and third month of the lock down in May, 2020, the cases over a million up to ten million methamphetamine pills smuggled through the northern and northeastern border were seized in 9 districts in 6 provinces. Moreover, drug trafficking groups exploited online platforms in parallel with various concealment methods as well as postal and courier services to facilitate their illegal business and rapidly deliver illicit drugs to targeted drug users. During the Emergency Decree, in April 2020, the online posts in illicit drug trade were reported, a one-fold increase from 383 posts reported in March, 2020. The online transactions of a wide range of illicit drugs were found. The different delivery options were also offered, including pick up service, public and private courier services, crystalline methamphetamine (Ice) was the most traded online. Cannabis was become the second most traded one, followed by methamphetamine tablets (Yaba). Twitter was the most commonly used online platform or illicit drug trade, accounted at 91% which was increased from 74% as



previously reported. It was assumed that the outbreak of the COVID-19 created a new normal way of life which could prevent its spreading and at the same time it facilitated the illicit drug trade but it did not affect the illicit drug production which remained going on in the production area with raw material, producing tools which still were available.

The Royal Thai Government continued strictly controlled illicit drugs as according to the Narcotics Control Action Plan through the cooperation with concerned government agencies. The drug control work plan was adapted in accordance with the drug situation and in response to the new normal life affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 as the following;

- **International Cooperation Measure**

The information of UNODC on the current trend of illicit drug revealed that the outbreak of the virus Corona – 2019 had the limit impact on drug markets in East Asia and Southeast Asia due to the fact that the availability of illicit precursor and chemical trafficking for illicit drug production kept on going, the synthetic drug producing groups assembled in the South of Mekong Sub-region, the Ice production increased, the organized criminal groups were flexible enough in adjusting themselves to the situation and changed the drug trafficking route and synthesis method. Moreover, it was found that the trend of illicit trafficking by sea had increased, variety of precursors and chemicals was used. Consequently, Thailand and countries in this region should enhance the international cooperation at regional and international level in countering drug problem.

Thailand and countries in Southeast Asia remained facing the illicit synthetic drug trafficking from the Golden Triangle, the Royal Thai Government placed the priority to the international cooperation with countries in Mekong Sub-region under the Safe Mekong Operation. Thailand proposed the Operation 1511 which is the joint operation implemented since December 2019 among 6 member countries. The Operation received good cooperation from member countries and proceeded with progress. For Thailand's part, the Operation received collective cooperation from concerned agencies (civilian, police, military) in interdicting and controlling illicit drug

smuggling along the border which made the traffickers changed the trafficking routes, entry channels, smuggling methods. The ONCB coordinated with the concerned authorities of Lao PDR and Myanmar which led to the seizures of drugs in large amount.

- **Suppression and Law Enforcement Measure**

The drug trafficking syndicates tried to smuggle drugs into Thailand continuously, the social media was used for selling and buying drugs online in parallel with the postal parcel service run by the government and private sectors. The strict measures were issued to continual control the risk group or the risk areas so that the drugs could be more difficult to reach the targeted people. Moreover, drug law enforcement was more intensive in conducting the extended investigation to cut the cycle of drug money flow or confiscate the assets of the masterminds or the financiers who helped the drug syndicates.

- **Drug Prevention Measure**

During the pandemic of COVID-19, it was found that the drug use tended to decrease or some users did not use drug at all. This was because of no gathering among friends and the self-quarantine measure announced by the government, requesting people to stay at home. Besides, the administrative officials and health officials visited the infected area more frequently, selling drugs at night time could not be done easily due to the night curfew, including the social distancing measure. All of those measures led to decrease the risk factors towards health and people were mobilized to take good care of themselves more, therefore the activities to build up the drug immunity was adjusted to suit the changing situation and the high risk group through the online campaign and creating awareness on drug more via social media.

- **Treatment Measure**

In order to reduce the risk factors of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Drug Treatment Plan was revised to suit the situation by reducing the number of patients who came to treatment centers or hospital or adjusting the activities in Behavior Adjustment Center and carrying out the online counselling or telecommunication. Moreover, community

leaders and family were encouraged to join in solving the problem of drug abusers by searching for drug users in community, taking care as appropriate according to their stage of addiction, follow-up and after care the drug abusers who underwent treatment by community mechanism. When the situation was better, the health service unit would conduct the search for drug abusers in order to refer them to normal drug treatment process in order to prevent the risk which might occur from the serious symptom of drug addicts or they did not complete the treatment process and relapse.

- **Integrated Management Measure**

According to the Government to control the spreading of COVID-19, the concerned agencies that were integrated their implementation under the Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020, had to adjust their work plan and implementation in response to the situation and the New Normal way of life and kept on moving forward in solving drug problem in accordance with the objectives of Plan and in reducing the seriousness of the problem as in accordance with the National Strategy as well as in achieving the accomplishment towards “Thai Society is Safe from Narcotic Drugs.”

## New Normal Life



Take Good Care of Yourself and Your Family

Always Wear the Mask and Wash Your Hands  
to Prevent the Spreading of Coronavirus-19

# Supply Reduction Strategy

## Narcotic Crop Control

In Thailand, there were 3 major narcotic crops jeopardizing Thai economic and society, namely, opium, cannabis, and kratom plant. Opium is the most vulnerable narcotic crop that has been cultivated by various highland ethnic groups in the northern region of Thailand along Myanmar and Lao PDR border lines since the past century. In the midst of mountainous heights in Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Rai, Loei, Lampang, Nan, Phayao, Phrae, Tak, Kamphaeng Phet, Phetchabun and Phitsanulok provinces, illicit opium growing still be able to pinpoint. To avoid being spotted by Authorities, the cultivation site was moved to afar area with smaller cultivation plots scattering over the same field of legal fruits and vegetables.

The control of the illicit narcotic crops cultivation consisted of surveying and monitoring implementations as follows;

a) Maintaining survey and monitoring all narco-crops cultivation with precision and updated data that gained from aerial photo along with ground survey, together with, satellite coordinates and plot size readouts from Geographic Information System (GIS).

b) Improving aerial survey technique by using unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) or drone replacing the costly airborne helicopter.

c) Promoting academic research and development on information technology on indigenous narcotic crops, especially, on kratom data base with public participation input, as well as settling agencies/academic networks on regional narcotic crops.

d) Developing geoinformatics system on narco-crops monitoring and report with smart phone application access mobilizing online information not only for the ONCB users but also the authorized counterparts.



## The Outcomes of the Survey and Monitoring Narcotic Crops

### 1. Opium Poppy

During the opium poppy cultivation season in 2019/2020 (during August 2019-April 2020), the ONCB by the Narcotic Crops Survey and Monitoring Institute, the ONCB, conducted the survey in the potential area in 76 highland areas covered the area of 2 million hectares in 12 provinces (Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Rai, Loei, Lampang, Nan, Phayao, Phrae, Tak, Kamphaeng Phet, Phetchabun and Phitsanulok). The aerial survey by helicopter and ground survey were conducted, 224 plots of opium poppy cultivation were found covering the area of 23.176 hectares in 6 provinces.



| Province        | Opium Poppy Cultivation |               | Area (District)  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|--|
|                 | Plot(s)                 | Hectare(s)    |  |
| 1. Chiang Mai   | 124                     | 12.909        | Chiang Dao, Mae Taeng, Om Koi, Wiang Haeng, Prao, Chai Prakan, Mae Chaem |
| 2. Tak          | 55                      | 7.000         | Tha Song Yang, Mae Ramat, Umphang, Ban Tak, Sam Ngao                     |
| 3. Mae Hong Son | 16                      | 1.224         | Pai  |
| 4. Chiang Rai   | 13                      | 0.986         | Wiang Pa Pao, Mae Suai   |
| 5. Nan          | 15                      | 0.822         | Wiang Sa, Thung Chang  |
| 6. Phayao       | 1                       | 0.075         | Mae Jai  |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>224</b>              | <b>23.176</b> |  |

## 2. Cannabis

The ONCB by the Narcotic Crops Survey and Monitoring Institute conducted aerial survey and monitoring the illicit cultivation of cannabis by 6 flights of helicopter, 14 plots of cannabis were found covering the area of 0.32 hectares in Kutbak District, Sakon Nakhon Province.



## 3. Hemp

Hemp was categorized as narcotic drug under Category V, but there was the permission to grow hemp under the Ministerial Regulation on License Application and License to Produce, Distribution and Have in Possession of Drug in Category V, only for Hemp 2016, which came into effect on January 1, 2018 onwards. This was in couple with the controlling and supervising measures on hemp cultivation as economic crop, as according to the Order no. 7/2017 of the National Narcotics Command Center on Drug Prevention and Suppression, permission for hemp cultivation was granted in 177 plots



covering the area around 100 hectares in 9 provinces, namely, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Tak, Phisanulok, Khon Kaen Nakhon Ratchasima, Buri Ram, Nakhon Nayok, and Pathum Thani provinces. Some parts of hemp cultivation or 35.84 hectares were under the supervision



of Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization)-HRDI, the objectives were to make a comparison research on THC, to get the species which had the least narcotic substance and to promote the hilltribes to earn income from hemp fibers and develop into textile industry, as for its seeds, they could sell back to the HRDI to be used as seeds for the next crop cultivation.

| Provinces            | Hemp Permitted Areas |               |                | Area (District)  |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|--|
|                      | Plot (s)             | Hectare (s)   | Sq.meter (s)   |  |
| 1. Tak               | 82                   | 59.04         | 800            | Phop Phra  |
| 2. Chiang Mai        | 62                   | 26.40         | 52             | Samoeng, Mae Wang, Hangdong, Fang, Mae Chaem, Doi Lor, Mae Taeng, Mae Rim, Chiang Dao, Chomthong |
| 3. Chiang Rai        | 27                   | 14.72         |                | Wiang Pa Pao   |
| 4. Phitsanulok       | 1                    |               | 258            | Muang Phisanulok   |
| 5. Khon Kaen         | 1                    |               | 1,664          | Muang Khon Kaen  |
| 6. Nakhon Ratchasima | 1                    |               | 80             | Muang Nakhon Ratchasima  |
| 7. Buri Rum          | 1                    | 0.48          | 900            | Muang Buri Ram   |
| 8. Nakhon Nayok      | 1                    |               | 72             | Muang Nakhon Nayok   |
| 9. Pathum Thani      | 1                    |               | 153.6          | Klong Luang  |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>177</b>           | <b>100.80</b> | <b>3,979.6</b> |  |

The ONCB by the Narcotic Crops Survey and Monitoring Institute, conducted the aerial survey by using helicopter, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) and ground survey, it was found that in the permitted area, there were only 67 plots, 26.72 hectares and 811.6 square meters of hemp cultivation, as the suitable season for hemp cultivation was over, a lot of cultivation were cancelled. The large hemp cultivation area was also found in Phob Phra District, Tak Province.

#### 4. Kratom



In 2020, the following work towards legal use of kratom was carried out;

4.1 The preparation of the pilot area in 135 villages/communities which were proposed to be the permitted area for kratom consumption and possession, without any charges as accordance with Section 58/2 and complete every steps of permission process; 10,329 households registered in the information technology system and 23,317 kratom plants were registered (The ONCB applied for permission of having in possession of kratom from the Food and Drug Administration), and registered the number of kratom users in totaling 12,557 persons.

4.2 The survey area which was permitted to use kratom and to have it in possession according to the people's way of life without any offence as stated in Section 58/2, as proposed by the Member of the House of Representatives from Palang Pracharat Party in the area of 13 provinces. It was found that only 7 areas in 2 provinces met with the ONCB's criteria as announced, i.e. 2 areas in Phetchabun Province (Muang Phetchabun District) and 5 areas in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province (Muang Nakhon Si Thammarat District and Pak Phanang District)

4.3 The preparation of the area in Chang Raek Subdistrict, Bang Saphan Noi District, Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, 8 villages were registered in the information technology system, 476 households

registered for 795 kratom plants and 636 persons registered as kratom users. Currently, the ONCB was in the process of applying license from the Food and Drug Administration.



### Alternative Development Achievement

As the measures to strengthen the villages/communities in the border area, alternative development projects have been complied. The analysis on the root cause of the problem and the motivation that drove the local people, who had difficulty in life as well as being underprivileged, to get involved with drugs in the border area and in villages/communities in the inner part of the country was conducted. The alternative development was introduced to solve the problem holistically and to improve their quality of life in terms of developing living infrastructure, solving the problem of inequality both in economic and social dimensions, education, public health and promoting their economic opportunities on knowledge, skills, funds, and marketing to support them to earn their living in good faith. The following work was carried out;

#### **The 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary of the Royal Project**

On the occasion of the Royal Project's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Royal Project Foundation and its partner, Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization) – HRDI consider it is timely to organize the International Conference on Rising to the Challenge of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Sustainable Highland Development: The Royal Project Model on 22 – 24 December 2019 at the Royal Park Rajapruek, Chiang Mai with



the cooperation of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board. Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisiribajra Mahavajjarajadhita graciously opened the meeting on 22 December 2020 at the Royal Park Rajaruek and visited the exhibition on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Project to commemorate the benevolence of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great's profound wisdom and graciousness in bestowing the Royal Project for the benefit and happiness of the Thai highland people.

The meeting was intended to provide an important platform for portraying the experiences of the Royal Project's 50-year journey on highland alternative development shedding light on how the Royal Project Model could be a means to realizing the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). The meeting was also to promote an exchange of knowledge, experience and best practices among different stakeholders to create a model that is sustainable and inclusive for prosperity of the highlanders regionally and globally. Participants attending the meeting were those who have worked on alternative development, those who



were experts on alternative development and those who were interested in alternative development work from foreign countries, UNODC and within Thailand. ASEAN Member States were invited to participate in the meeting; participants from Lao PDR and Myanmar joined the panel of discussion.

In addition to the meeting, the field visit to the Royal Project Foundation and Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization) - HRDI operation areas was organized in 3 routes in Chiang Mai to demonstrate the achieved sustainable solutions through holistic approach in economic, environment and social dimensions. Each area was representing the 3 pillars of sustainable development i.e. economic, social and environment, they were as follows:

- Mae Hae Royal Project Development Centre (economic aspect)

Mae Hae is a Hmong and Karen village with 750 households. Mae Hae used to be an opium village where a slash-and-burn was generally practiced by the villagers. The Royal Project Development Centre, Mae Hae was established in 1978 to help hill tribe grow alternative crops mainly temperate vegetables and fruits as replacement



crops for opium and develop sustainable cultivation methods to enable the farmers to increase their earnings and to improve their living standard as well as to promote reforestation. In 2018, 586 farmers under the responsibility of Mae Hae Royal Project Development Centre produced about 3,500 tons of farm products generating the value through the Royal Project markets at about 3 million US dollars and another 6 million US dollars through the local market.

- Pa Miang and Teen Tok Royal Project Development Centre (environment aspect)

Pa Miang and Teen Tok Villages are close to each other about 30 kilometres. The villagers in these areas were formerly local tea growers with environmental protection. More than 40 years ago, they





faced difficulties of low price of tea leaves. However, due to its topography features of complex steep mountainous terrain, mushroom and Arabica coffee could be cultivated. His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great then gave his personal fund to the Royal Project Development Centre to set up demonstration plots for shitake mushroom and Arabica coffee cultivation for tea farmers to have alternative crops for their income generation without disturbing the environment. Arabica coffee is cultivated under soil and water conservation system. Later the farmers have expanded to other potential crops including flowers and fruits to gain more income, to improve their quality of life as well as to restore and conserve the environment.

- Pang Dang Nai Highland Development Project Using the Royal Project System (social aspect)



Pang Dang Nai Village is situated on a steep mountainous terrain at 548 – 900 metres above sea level with 62 households



comprising more than 300 Pa-long hill tribe who migrated from Shan State, Myanmar due to political instability and ethnic minority conflicts. Their main problems are poverty, low productivity, deforestation and debt. The Highland Research Development Institute (HRDI) stepped in this village in 2006 using the Royal Project System to help develop the community. The villagers had been introduced to grow corn as their main crop intercropped with vegetables, fruit trees such as mango, longan, passion fruit and custard apple to minimize the loss of soil fertility, protect natural resources and environment as well as diversity income sources. The community became self-reliant with strong participation from villagers for their sustainable self-sufficiency. At present, the villagers have freed themselves of huge amount of debt. Pang Dang Nai has been on its path as a no-burn community for more than 10 years.



After the field visit, each group of field visit presented their learning and reflection from the field visit in Group Presentation and Open Discussion. The meeting expected that the knowledge and experiences for over 50 years of the Royal Project on sustainable highland development was shared and strong connection and network between international organizations and relevant stakeholders on sustainable highland development would be made and leading to the SDGs in 2030 as well as the establishment of the Royal Project Learning Institute: The Royal Project Wisdom of Alternative Development for the Highland Sustainability Development.

## **Roi Jai Rak Project : Solution to Solve Drug Problem in Community through the Utilization of Alternative Development Approach**

Alternative development for drug demand reduction in the special area under “**Roi-Jai- Rak Project**” at Thaton Subdistrict, Mae Ai District, Chiangmai Province has been operated by the ONCB with the cooperation of Mae Fah Luang Foundation under the Royal Patronage and other government and private agencies. The working mechanism comprised the Steering Committee of the Roi-Jai Rak Project and the Working Sub-Committee in the area level. The project started on November 15, 2017, in 2020 the outcomes were as follows;

a) On alternative development, development activities were carried out covering 10 dimensions, namely, water system, soil, forest, education, health-care, agriculture, livestock, handicraft, increase value-added products and tourism.

b) On drug prevention, curriculum and activities to increase immunity were developed with the cooperation from Ministry of Education, School Board, parents, community’s leaders and 3 schools in the project area which were Sueksanari Anusorn 3 Border Patrol Police School, Chotekanakasem Ban Muang Ngam School, and Ban Suk Ruethai School. The 3 schools covered the target group aged between 9-15 years at the number of 703 students led to the building up of refusing skills in the children and youth and they could explain the impacts of drug towards themselves and the people around, their knowledge could be extended to design the measures to help their friends to keep away from drug.

c) On treatment, following-up, caring and helping the persons who underwent treatment under the Volunteer to Do Good Project were carried out for 146 persons, of these number, 91 persons received fund for their vocation, 130 persons who were in the Volunteer to Do Good Project were followed up, on monthly basis, of these number 18 persons relapsed to drug use.



d) Drug problem watch-out, 19 drug offenders were arrested, followed-up the suspicious conducts of 5 persons by arranging drug vigilance and area patrol teams in 4 main villages, training to increase the potential of drug problem vigilance volunteers.

e) The expansion of Roi-Jai-Rak Project model to other target areas as according to the Northern Border Action Plan in 4 Provinces and 19 Districts, and the Restoration and Development Measures by training and practicing to apply the working guidelines based on the Royal Initiatives in the area where there were drug smuggling to management level, officials, community and people of Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Subdistrict Municipality. The trainings were organized for 107 classes with 6,632 participants. Practical training on applying the King's Philosophy were organized for 11 classes with 402 participants.



## Alternative Development Networking

- **The Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development (EGM) on Advancing Alternative Development and Development-oriented Drug Policies.**



The Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage (MFLF) co-hosted the Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development (EGM) on Advancing Alternative Development and Development-oriented Drug Policies on 15 – 17 December

2019 at the Riverie Hotel and Doi Tung Development Project in Chiang Rai together with the Office of the Narcotics Control Board, the Governments of Germany, Peru and UNODC. Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Senior Narcotics Control Advisor (position at that time) chaired the Opening Ceremony and welcomed the participants together with Mr. Daniel Brombacher from GIZ, Mr. Alvaro from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, and M.L. Dispanadda Diskul, Chief Executive Officer of MFLF and Mr. Jorge Rios from UNODC. The meeting was attended by 60 participants from 14 countries and government agencies from Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, South America, international organizations, civil society, private sector and academia. The Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development is an important platform for alternative development experts to have an open debate and advance development-oriented drug policies. In order to tackle the



drug problem at its root cause, development and provision of opportunities should be extended to both rural and urban areas. Involvement of private sector and rule of law play an important role in ensuring success of alternative development and urban development programmes.

The meeting comprised panel discussion and field visit to Doi Tung Development Project. Alternative development experts were invited to join the panel. M.L. Dispanadda Diskul, Chief Executive Officer of MFLF, emphasized the importance of human-centred approach and provision of opportunity, Rule of Law and culture of lawfulness also serve as a foundation for ensuring sustainability of the development. The result of the meeting was presented at the 63th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March in 2020 at Vienna International Centre, Austria.



Apart from the meeting, a study visit to Doi Tung Development Project was organized to showcase Doi Tung in the present which has moved beyond livelihood development in agricultural sector but also empowers the community to pursue diverse licit occupations including handicraft, processing and value addition, and entrepreneurship – all of which could be applied in the urban context.





### ➤ Myanmar – Thailand Alternative Development Project

The cooperation between Thailand and the Republic Union of Myanmar as according to the Thai-Myanmar Alternative Development for the Sustainable Livelihood Project, which was aimed to develop the quality of life through the setting up of basic infrastructure and to create honest career to the target communities in 2 areas, namely, Naungtaya, Pinlao District, Southern Shan State and the upper area of, Thachileik District, Eastern Shan State. The outcomes were as the followings;

A. In Naungtaya, Pinlao District, Southern Shan State comprised 4 house-groups, namely, Pinkhin, Po In, Mawaypin, and Loy Mo, emphasis was given to knowledge transferring on development and technical skills to the government concerned agencies through practical work with community. The activities were 1) Building-up understanding and reaching out to the community to let them participate in the activities. 2) Development of highland water system. 3) Agricultural development, developing and increasing rice yields, setting up of the fund for production factor. 4) Development of producing process of Assam tea to create value-added and 5) Development of livestock and organizing training for community development volunteers to prepare them for animal husbandry service in the community.

B. In the northern area of Thachileik, Tachileik District, Eastern Shan State which comprised 3 house-groups, namely, Muang Go, Maung Lin, and Maung Hae, priority was put on area development by focusing on solving basic problems i.e. 1) Building up understanding of



the concerned people. 2) Developing the potential of personnel by organizing study visit for local officials and 3) Development of water system for consumption and 4) Supplement the career in livestock, setting-up the fund for nursing animals and fund for livestock.

### Illicit Drugs and Precursor Chemicals Control

#### The Measures to Intercept Drug, Precursor and Chemical



The integration with the concerned agencies in the interception of drug, precursor, chemical and drug producing apparatus as well as the suspects who had drug involving behaviors to control drug smuggling and bringing in along the border by land, marine

and air routes especially in the northern border area, and the northeastern area which were the main areas as they were close to the drug producing area. The demolition of waiting area to intercept drug before they were spread into the epidemic area in the internal part of the country by setting up permanent border crossing point, relief point, checkpoint and interception point on the main and secondary transport routes and risk points as well as checking the illicit drug smuggling which was hidden in every transport system and postal package system (logistics) before it would be spread into villages/communities. In the fiscal year 2020, rigidity was upgraded in the main channels that were often used, which comprised 3 following areas:



- **The Interception along the Border**, define the focus area to the channels which drug smuggling was often found in 15 provinces, 40 districts and 19 channels by supplementing technology measure at the inspection point, checkpoint/ interception point, which led to the seizure of 224,276,238 pills of Yaba and 17,388.74 kgs. of ICE of which 71.56% of Yaba and ICE was the interception in the border area at inspection point, checkpoint/interception point on transport routes and logistics system.

- **The interception at the international airports** was carried out in parallel with the interception of on-line drug trafficking as it was the order from foreign countries to trade in the country and to send drug through postal package/international postal service or hidden in the travelling bags, goods, and baggage etc. Moreover, awareness building was conducted for the people to realize the access and the use of the social media carefully and creatively, as a result, it was found that the most trafficked drugs were ecstasy, followed by ICE and cocaine respectively and 65 suspects were arrested with the seizure of 5,783 pills of Yaba, 29.16 kgs. of ICE, 2.73 kgs. of heroin, 6.8 kgs. of ketamine, 21.71 kgs. of cocaine and 343,639 pills of ecstasy.

- **The interception at ports**, through the international cooperation to intercept drug smuggling which were hidden in container and transshipped by liner to the destination country, led to the extension in 3 drug offences with seizure of 100 kgs. of ICE, 75 kgs . of heroin and 169,780 kgs. of opium seeds.

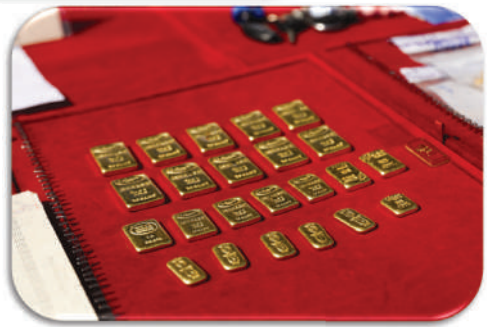
## Drugs Suppression



### **The suppression of major drug traffickers and the influencers in drug trafficking**

The government by the Prime Minister and Minister of Justice had the policy to suppress drug trafficking syndicates by focusing on demolishing drug trafficking structure by asset forfeiture measure, the extensive investigation by conspiracy measure, enforcement of other related laws, and introducing new tool and technology to support the operation for concrete outcomes. As a result, one fourth of drugs cases, 29.17%, were key drugs syndicates of 105,228 offenders, 31.08%, out of 94,684 offenders of totaling drugs cases. In addition, Secretary-General, NCB approved/alleged arrest warrants of 3,528 suspects under the Act on Measures for the Suppression of Offenders in an Offence Relating to Narcotics B.E.2534. 1,853 suspects have been detained and their assets of 2,107.75 million baht have been frozen. Eventually, assets of 790.57 million baht was forfeited, and assets worth 1,317.18 million baht were on trials.





Stopping and inhibition drug trafficking through on-line social media by following up, checking various on-line social media, if suspect behavior was found, the ONCB would coordinate with the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society to close the trafficking channel. So far, the ONCB sent the list of on-line channels to the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, altogether 248 accounts, 41 accounts were closed and the other 207 accounts were in the working process. Extensive investigation was carried out and 15 suspects were arrested with the seizure of 257,737 pills of Yaba, 5.12 kgs. of ICE and 1.45 kgs. of heroin.

By focusing on reducing drug dealers in 23,140 communities, authorities could diminished the serious street drugs cartels in the target areas. Currently, this measure was carried out nationwide resulting in the apprehension of 10,543 drug dealers with the seizure of 55,737,297 pills of Yaba, 4,488.59 kgs. of ICE, 72.42 kgs. of heroin, 9,163.57 kgs. of cannabis, 42.80 kgs. of ketamine and the asset seizure worth

60,850,636 million baht. The government has set up a call-center, so call, “1386 Hotline” along with other social media in receiving complaints/information related to drugs. There were totally 17,547 complaints/information, and 14,864 cases or 84.71% have been forwarded through.

From the driving of the suppression and law enforcement measures, in 2 dimensions both international cooperation and internal cooperation which led to the arrest of 324,552 cases, with 338,560 suspects, and the arrests were made with 5 major offences (produce, import, export, distribution and have in possession), altogether 94,237 cases with 104,590 suspects and the seizure of 319,111,537 pills of Yaba, 23,872.25 kgs. of ICE, 9,227.60 kgs. of cannabis, 597.33 kgs. of heroin, 1,342.43 kgs. of ketamine and 23.39 kgs. of cocaine.

### Statistics on the Drug Cases, the overall picture during the fiscal year 2016-2020. (October 2016-September 2020)

| Fiscal Year | Number of Case (s) | Number of Offender(s) |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2016        | 223,247            | 249,109               |
| 2017        | 261,112            | 287,238               |
| 2018        | 331,941            | 357,585               |
| 2019        | 363,769            | 385,771               |
| 2020        | 324,552            | 338,560               |

(As of 30 October 2020)

### Statistics on the Arrest with 5 major offences during the fiscal year 2016-2020. (October 2016-September 2020)

| Fiscal Year | Case(s) | Percentage* | Offender(s) | Percentage** |
|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 2016        | 69,637  | 31.19       | 85,606      | 34.36        |
| 2017        | 77,008  | 29.49       | 92,391      | 32.17        |
| 2018        | 83,711  | 25.22       | 99,312      | 27.77        |
| 2019        | 81,784  | 22.84       | 95,207      | 24.68        |
| 2020        | 94,237  | 29.04       | 104,590     | 30.89        |

\* Percentage compared to the overall picture of drug offences

\*\* Percentage compared to the overall picture of drug offenders

(As of 30 October 2020)



## Statistics on the Seized Drugs during the Fiscal Year 2016-2020. (October 2016-September 2020)

| Fiscal Year | Yaba<br>(x million pills) | Heroin<br>(kilograms) | ICE<br>(kilograms) | Cannabis<br>(kilograms) | Ketamine<br>(kilograms) |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2016        | 93.74                     | 147.49                | 1,161.03           | 11,183.85               | 30.91                   |
| 2017        | 214.93                    | 376.56                | 5,200.75           | 13,797.46               | 658.38                  |
| 2018        | 339.69                    | 940.63                | 19,347.92          | 16,401.94               | 551.44                  |
| 2019        | 518.90                    | 941.85                | 16,284.52          | 14,342.71               | 734.82                  |
| 2020        | 319.11                    | 597.33                | 23,872.25          | 9,227.60                | 1,342.43                |

(As of Friday, 30 October 2020)

## Narcotics Control in Special Area Plan

### Integrated Drug Control Operation along the Upper Northern Border

The Action Plan had the target to intercept drug from outside the country by creating effective border defense, with area-based target in 4 provinces, namely, Chiang Mai Province, Chiang Rai Province, Mae Hong Son Province and Phayao Province. The main targets were aimed at 19 districts, 33 subdistricts and 47 villages, with the ONCB as the core responsible agency under the driving mechanism of the Narcotics Control Command Center in the Northern Border which comprised 4 working groups, namely the Working Group on Drug Interception, the Working Group on Investigation and Suppression, the Working Group on Special Joint Operation and the Working Group on Development Coordination.

The key outcomes were as follows;

- In the field of solving the structure-based of drug problem in the area where special target was set up with the operational plan that suited to the situation was conducted by gathering the data from 46 sources from 47 target villages (about 97.87%) and analyzing the structure-based problem in each area in order to solve drug problem appropriately that responded to the drug situation.

- As for drug interception, the Management Center for Drug Interception along the Northern Border was established by the Narcotics Control Management Center on the Northern Border, regular meetings were organized to check, report and solve operational problem on weekly and monthly basis and recommendations on the development of drug interception network on the northern border were proposed on using different interception technologies : Border Sensor, data linkage between the concerned agencies, setting up checkpoints to fully cover the area and training and developing the officials' capacity of the interception units. As a result, 749 offenders were arrested with the seizure of 80.11 million pills of Yaba, 1,741 kgs. of ICE, 53.09 kgs. of heroin and 94.11 kgs. of cannabis.

- In the area of investigation and suppression, there were 1 case of extended investigation/asset forfeiture/ asset investigation, 2 cases of the involvement of government officials, 6 cases of ethnic group. The overall picture, arrests were made in 5 main charges, there were 2,182 cases in 4 provinces, namely Chiang Rai Province, Chiang Mai Province, Mae Hong Son Province and Phayao Province.

### **Integrated Drug Control Operation along the Lower Northern Border**

The Action Plan focused on drug interception from the upper northern region and the border area before being smuggled into the inner area and strengthened the villages along the border, the important outcomes were as follows;

- Regarding drug interception and suppression of drug syndicates, operational units were set up at 20 check points/inspection points, each point had 2-3 operational units, each unit had 7 officials. The checkpoint/inspection point worked on time-lapse, led to the arrest of 912 cases with 943 offenders and the seizure of 2,426,094 grams of ICE, 8,671,047 pills of Yaba and 241,045 grams of cannabis.

- As for the support of villages/communities to watch out drug problem under the Project on Building up Safe Area in 6,009 villages/

communities, the ONCB supported the budget for drug prevention and for drug monitoring to the Subdistrict Prevention and Drug Solving Network Committee, at Tambon level of 5,995 villages/communities. As a result, 5,838 of those villages/communities reported drug situation through QR-Code during October 1 - September 30, 2020 or about 97.2%, and activities were organized as according to the received budget in 5,775 villages/communities or about 96.1%, the activities included organizing meeting to explain the implementation on drug demand reduction, organizing prevention activities, drug vigilance activities, and lesson learned from drug demand reduction. According to the survey on the situation of drug abusers/dealers during April-June 2020, 8,479 drug abusers were found, and 1,420 drug dealers were identified; among these number, 1,763 drug abusers received support and assistance, and 322 drug dealers were prosecuted.

### **Narcotics Control in 3 Southern Provinces**

The National Narcotics Control Command Center issued the Order no. 11/2018 dated June 19, 2018 on the Drug Control Strategic Plan in the Southern Border Area 2017-2021, of which the main measures were to build up strong community and volunteers, to promote integrated management, to conduct drug interception and suppression, drug prevention, drug treatment and to follow up the persons who underwent treatment in order to develop their quality of life and to increase security in order to reduce violence from drug trafficking and epidemic which should not cause troubles to the local people, to support the strength of community and to expand the measures from the King's Philosophy in solving drug problem in a sustainable manner. The target was 1,000 villages/communities in the area where drug problem could be solved/ could be alleviated within 5 years. Implanted prevention system to build up immunity in the risk youth group both in and out - of - school, drug abusers who underwent treatment to be taken care of and could return to society and enjoyed better quality life. The outcomes in 2020 were as following;

- Built up strong communities and encouraged the people's

participation in 2,145 villages/communities (the target number were 2,145 villages/communities, with the special focus in 1,287 areas, with 143,433 households became members of anti-drug household, included 12,600 persons from Yalannanbaru Group.

- As for drug interception and suppression, there were 14,801 cases with the arrest of 15,718 offenders, and the seizure of 6,924,930 pills of Yaba, 130.40 kgs. of cannabis, 10,936.38 kgs. of kratom (leaves/residue), 2,207.97 kgs. of ICE and 57.37 kgs. of heroin.

- For drug prevention, activities for the youth were organized in 3,456 educational institutes (the target were 3,385 institutes) and in 71 pondoks and 42 TADIKA (the target was 361).

- In the area of treatment, 6,078 drug abusers were brought for treatment and rehabilitation (3,424 persons were in voluntary system, 2,069 persons were in compulsory system and 586 persons were in correctional system).

- The following up of the persons who underwent treatment to develop their quality of life, 8,589 persons were followed up and 812 persons received support.

### **Financial Investigation / Asset Forfeiture**

The seizure/forfeiture of asset in major drug offences, the Operational Center on Asset Forfeiture of Drug Syndicates was set up by the Order no. 5/2020 of the National Command Center on Drug Control (NCCDC), the composition of the committee members of the Operational Center were from all concerned agencies, namely, the ONCB, Royal Thai Police, Office of Attorney-General, Ministry of Interior, Royal Thai Army, Department of Special Investigation, Anti-Money Laundering Office and Revenue Department. Later, the NCCDC issued 2 orders, i.e. the Order no. 6/2020 of the National Command Center on Drug Control to set up the Working Group on Asset Investigation and Forfeiture of Drug Syndicates and the Order no.7/2020 of the NCCDC to set up the Working group on Extensive Investigation for Asset Forfeiture of Drug Syndicate. The ONCB could seize/forfeit the asset of major drug syndicates as follows;





- The asset seizure of 5 drug syndicates, namely, 1) Mr. Adisak's syndicate, 2) Mr. Sutthichai's syndicate, 3) Mr Attapon's syndicate, 4) Mr. Somkiat's syndicate and 5) Chang Sue syndicate, the seized asset worth 70 million baht.

- Seized the asset of Pamornwichit syndicate, 4 suspects were arrested with 147 items of asset worth 202,585,000 baht.

- Seized the asset of Junebordin syndicate, 19 suspects were arrested and the asset worth 80 million baht.







**Statistics on the Asset Seizure from Drug Offences during the Fiscal Year 2016 - 2020 (October 2016 - September 2020).**

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>The Number of Offenders (Person)</b> | <b>The Value of Asset (Million Baht)</b> |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 2016               | 2,053                                   | 1,410.00                                 |
| 2017               | 1,919                                   | 1,667.72                                 |
| 2018               | 2,237                                   | 1,228.66                                 |
| 2019               | 1,819                                   | 949.59                                   |
| 2020               | 1,853                                   | 790.57                                   |

(As of Friday, 30 October 2020)

**Drug Detection and Analysis**

The ONCB by the Narcotics Analysis and Technical Service Institute (NATSI) conducts drug analysis on the seized drug in accordance with the Office of the Prime Minister’s Regulation on Narcotic Drugs Seizure, Forfeiture and Analysis. Furthermore, NATSI studies and analyses the identity and composition of the seized drugs tracing back the originals and spreading areas as well as develops and

supports techniques on drug analysis nationally and globally, along with, makes a recommendation on drug analysis standard, supervising and monitoring system as to guarantee its performance. In the fiscal year 2020, the NATSI has analyzed the seized drugs from 2,885 cases of 5,270 units, weight 223,767.585 kgs. as the following details;

**1. Classified by Analysis Types**

| Analysis Types    | Number of Offences | Number of Units | Weight (kilograms) |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Quality Analysis  | 1,203              | 1,595           | 184,342.048        |
| Quantity Analysis | 1,682              | 3,675           | 39,425.537         |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>2,885</b>       | <b>5,270</b>    | <b>223,767.585</b> |

**2. Classified by Types of Drugs**

| Types of Drugs  | Seizure Amount (kilograms)        |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Yaba  | 19,502.028<br>(204,150,079 pills) |
| Ecstasy (Ya-E)  | 182.514<br>(430,478 pills)        |
| ICE   | 16,065.916                        |
| Heroin  | 354.024                           |
| Cocaine   | 21.694                            |
| Ketamine  | 842.334                           |
| Cannabis  | 14,958.026                        |
| Kratom  | 1,576.963                         |
| Opium   | 169,579.660                       |
| LSD   | 0.009                             |
| Psychotropic Substances                               | 669.360                           |
| Toluene   | 1.673                             |
| Neither narcotic nor psychotropic substances detected | 13.384                            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>223,767.585</b>                |

### 3. Drugs Signatures

#### 3.1 Yaba

203,921,237 of Yaba pills from major cases, over 10,000-pill seizure totaling of 154 offences. 691 samples have been analysed as follows;

##### 3.1.1 Physical Characteristics

It was a thin round pill of 0.6 centimetre diameter and 0.25 centimetre thickness in orange and green color tones. Each pill weighed around 900 milligrams. 98.98% of them had the stamp mark of “wy” on one side with deep engraved, and plain on the flip side.

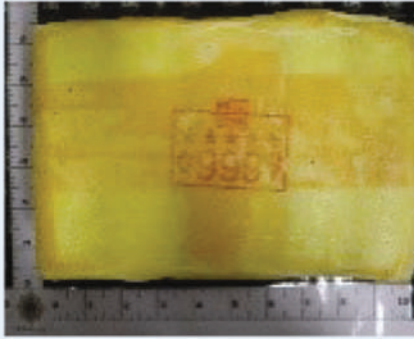


Varieties of stamps on Yaba pills

Fewer had various marks, such as, an apple, an orange, a horse’s head, letter “A” and etc.. They were put into small zip-locked plastic bags. Each bag contained around 200 pills. Those small bags were tied together with rubber band into a set of ten, then wrapped with mulberry paper into one carton. 3-5 cartons bind together to make them into larger package. The outer wrapping, mostly coated with yellow candle, sealed and stamped with symbol or picture or letter(s) or number(s) with blue, red or green ink. There were 6 types of the package and printed stamps that could be summarized as follows;

- A. “999” printed, 145,318,013 pills or 71.26% of Yaba sample
- B. “Y1” printed, 50,467,045 pills or 24.75% of Yaba sample
- C. “1 2” printed, 1,300,000 pills or 0.64% of Yaba sample
- D. “Other printed” at the amount of 3,911,722 pills or 1.92% of Yaba sample
- E. “Without printed” at the amount of 1,650,059 pills of 0.81% of Yaba sample
- F. “Tea Bag” at the amount of 1,274,398 pills or 0.62% of Yaba sample

999



Y1



12



Other printed







### 3.1.2 Yaba Precursors and Contaminated Substance in Major Cases

153,337,879 pills (75.19%) of the seizure were Ephedrine (Ep)/Pseudoephedrine (PSE) precursor and 43,690,196 pills (21.43%) of them were Phenyl-2-Propanone (P2P) precursor, and 6,893,162 pills (3.38%) of the seizure were unable to identify substances.

### 3.1.3 Chemical Composition of Yaba

The compound substances that mainly found in Yaba were methamphetamine hydrochloride and caffeine at 15.01%-20.00% and 70.01%-80.00% in a single Yaba tablet, respectively. By comparing the content ratio of methamphetamine hydrochloride and caffeine in a Yaba tablet, there was no significant change of Yaba compound from last year.

## 3.2 ICE

The special characteristics of Ice in major cases (over 1 kg. seizure) in 142 cases with 253 units, weight 16,011 kilograms were as follows;

### 3.2.1 ICE Package Signature in Major Cases

Most ICE packages have been concealed in the Chinese-brand tea bag, 6-6.5 inches width, around 1 kilogramweight. 16,054 bags of seized ICE in Chinese-brand tea package could be categorized as follows:

- I. “GUANYINWANG” type, 9,547 bags (59.47%)
- II. “QINGSHAN” type, 1,444 bags (9.00%)
- III. “No Logo” type, 553 bags (3.44%)
- IV. “Alphabet” type, 3,178 bags (19.80%)
- V. “Other” type, 201 bags (1.25%)
- VI. “YUSHAN” type, 100 bags (0.62%)
- VII. “DAGUANYIN” type, 427 bags (2.66%)
- VIII. “ALISHAN” type, 600 bags (3.74%)
- IX. “XIANGRIKUI” type, 4 bags (0.02%)



### 3.2.2 ICE Precursors and Contaminated Substance in Major Cases

According to the cases, it was found that 7,022 kilograms (43.86%) of the seizure were Ephedrine (Ep)/Pseudoephedrine (PSE) precursor and 6,171 kilograms (38.54%) were Pheny-2-Propanone (P2P) precursor and 2,818 kilograms (17.60%) of the seizure were unable to identify substances.

| Fiscal Year | No of Cases | No of units | No of Bags | Weight (Kilograms) |       |              |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|-------|--------------|
|             |             |             |            | Ep/Pep             | P2P   | Unidentified |
| 2019        | 86          | 117         | 11,868     | 6,650              | 4,032 | 1,186        |
| 2020        | 142         | 253         | 16,054     | 7,022              | 6,171 | 2,818        |

### 3.2.3 Chemical Composition of ICE

The most psychotropic substance in Ice is methamphetamine hydrochloride at 90.01% - 99.86% of the weight of the sample and there was no significant different in ICE composition comparing to last year.








## 3.3 Cannabis

### 3.3.1 Cannabis Bar

#### a) Physical Characteristics

Cannabis bar is a dry compressed cannabis plant of 6 x 8.5 x 1.5 inches per bar that contains, approximately, 1 kilogram of it. Several of package appearances could be found, such as, clear plastic wrapper, gold-white paper wrapper, green-white paper wrapper, blue-white paper wrapper, red-white paper wrapper, grey-white paper wrapper, and no wrapper.

#### Seized Cannabis Bar Packages in Major Cases

|   |   |   |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Clear plastic wrapper   | Gold-white paper wrapper  | Green-white paper wrapper   | Blue-white paper wrapper  | Red-white paper wrapper   | Grey-white paper wrapper   | No wrapper  |
| 8,917 bars<br>(84.92%)  | 987 bars<br>(9.40%)   | 378 bars<br>(3.60%)   | 198 bars<br>(1.89%)   | 11 bars<br>(0.10%)  | 4 bars<br>(0.04%)  | 5 bars<br>(0.05%)   |



### b) Chemical Composition of Cannabis Bar

The significant substances of cannabis bar in major cases were tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) at 2%-8%, cannabidiol (CBD) at 0.1 – 0.8% and cannabinol (CBN) at 0.1 – 1.6%. Whereas, the rest were heavy metal contaminated substances, such as, arsenic, mercury, lead and cadmium.

#### 3.3.2 Cannabis Bouquet

Cannabis bouquets have been smuggling into Thailand as import shipments via postal service. Being vacuumed in plastic bag, cannabis bouquets have been put into 50-300 grams in each bag. There were 9%-14% of tetrahydrocannabinol substance found in them, which higher than those cannabis bar.



#### 3.3.3 Cannabis Oil

Cannabis oil has been found in various types of bottles with or without label sticker. There were 20.01%-50% of tetrahydrocannabinol substance found in this variant.





### 3.4 Heroin

**A. Physical Characteristics** have been categorised as follows;

\*Compressed white powder square bun weighed around 350 grams that wrapped with green plastic with “A” letter printed within yellow plastic bag of Double Lions label.



\*White powder put in plastic bag, plastic sleeve, bottle, tube and can.





\*White powder compressed into lump and wrapped with plastic.



### B. Chemical Composition

The most psychotropic substance was heroin hydrochloride at 80.01%-90.00% per unit or about 82.31% of the sample weight.

#### 3.5 Cocaine

The physical characteristics of cocaine that mostly found was crystalized powder that has been compressed into oval shape lump in white plastic wrap within plastic sleeve package. The psychotropic substance was cocaine hydrochloride at 90.01% and above per unit or 56.72% of the sample weight.



In addition, it was also found in the form of yellow liquid. Two bottles, weight 256.58 grams, contained 20.01%-40.00% of cocaine hydrochloride of the postal incident at Thailand Post Company Limited, Chon Buri Branch, Chon Buri Province.



### 3.6 Ketamine

The physical characteristics that mostly found were white powder and crystal form put in tea-brand plastic bag of 3.5-4 inches width, approximately 1 kilogram per bag. The most psychotropic substance in the seized items were ketamine hydrochloride at 80.01% and above 90.01% per unit or 99.97% of the sample weight.



### 3.7 Ecstasy (Ya-E)

Ecstasy was found in various shape of pills, with the average weight of 0.4 grams. The most psychotropic substance of major seized units were MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxy methamphetamine) at 40.01%-50.00% per unit or about 45.68% of the sample weight.





## Destruction of Seized Narcotic Drugs



## Cannabis Destruction

Since 2019, the ONCB received the permission from Ministry of Public Health to possess the seized cannabis nationwide, over 18 tons of seized cannabis had been occupied. Meanwhile, 3.8 tons of cannabis have been transferred to 15 concerned agencies and educational institutes for medical research and purposes. In 2020, the ONCB organized the destruction of seized cannabis, that were contaminated with heavy metal iod toxication, twice. 13 tons and 542 kgs. of wasted cannabis were destroyed on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020, respectively, at the Utility and Environment Management Centre, Bang Pa-in Industrial Estate, Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya Province. They were pyrolytic incinerated at the temperature of 850 degrees Celsius which will caused rapid destruction of molecules into carbon. The ceremonies have been witnessed by representatives from Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya Provincial Administration, Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau, Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya Provincial Police, Office of Police Forensic Science, Bang Pa-in Industrial Estate, Ministry of Public Health and Thai Customs.

## The 50<sup>th</sup> Destruction of Seized Narcotic Drugs

On June 26, 2020, Ministry of Public Health in collaboration with the ONCB and all concerned agencies organized the 50<sup>th</sup> Destruction of Seized Narcotic Drugs in commemorating of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at the





Utility and Environment Management Centre, Bang Pa-in Industrial Estate, Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya province. The ceremony was witnessed by international public reporters and foreign diplomatic representatives. Totalling over 25,000 kilograms of seized drugs at retailing price of 56,000 million baht have been pyrolytic incinerated at the temperature of 850 degrees Celsius as well. The destruction has been divided into 3 events on June 26, 8,466 kilograms, July 13, 8,275 kilograms, and July 14, 8,558 Kilograms. Since 1977, there were over 170,000 kilograms, worth more than 270,000 million baht, of seized narcotics had been destroyed. Methamphetamine / amphetamine was the most numbers of destruction followed by Opium, other substances, Heroin and Ecstasy, respectively.



# Demand Reduction Strategy

## Drugs Prevention

Being conducted by integrated agencies of the operational area concerned, national drug preventive strategy has been enhanced and focused through drug immunity building over children, youths, workers, and other potential demand groups in the communities. In addition, bundles of public awareness campaign including, health care, legal measure, and public motivation have been complied as demand reduction strategy tailoring the utmost suitable drug preventive condition to meet those targeted groups.

## Drugs Immunity Building

A proper and practical drug prevention measures that are needed to be tailored to meet those specific target groups. In addition, building up ‘drug immunity perception’ also necessary to prevent new-comer drugs user. High risk groups include 15-24 year-old youths and others involving ones have to be transacted. Series of building up drug immunity perception combined with moral and behaviors shaping, such as encouraging them to be part of drug prevention activities for their family, and community must be complied. Consequently, social recognition on “Safe Zone, No New Face” has been established as the new generation without drugs. This processes have been carried out through various approaches as follows;

- **Social media**

As to building up drugs-shield perception, 20 short video presentations titling, “Building up Inspiration for Drugs Prevention,” have been produced by various artists and celebrities. In addition, 16 sets of info-graphic have been distributed among drug-free networks, such as, youth network, Mother of the Nation’s Fund Network, People’s Network, labor volunteer network, industrial estates network, academic and educational personnel network.

- **Mass media**

By facilitating Information announcement tower in schools, factories, villages and communities along with radio broadcasting of counterpart agencies, i.e., Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor and Department of Public Relations, 9 short articles and 6 sets of info graphic were broadcasted and presented via Information announcement towers/speakers in 72,697 village, 37,108 schools and 39,654 factories along with 72 radio stations' network of Department of Public Relations broadcasted.

Upon the completion, the outcomes of the aforementioned measures effectively gained far more the projecting goals. Over 5 million people, 115.70%, have been educated beyond 4.9 million targeted population, high-risk target group, 15-24 years-old, have gained the perception on drug prevention and drug immunity. Furthermore, 53.2 million people (9.1 million youths, 1.7 million workers and 42.4 million civilians) of general public, 158.69%, have been educated above 33.5 million targeted population.

To enhance drug immunity by providing information and knowledge through all public relations media and organizing all sources of anti-drug campaign to make a direct impact to the target so that they should absorb appropriate life-style.

- **Save Zone No New Face Youtube Contest:** By facilitating, Youtube, a powerful social media network, an anti-drugs contest have conducted as an Youtube content. The contest group of 2 – 5 members, Youtuber, must be 15 – 24 year-old that produce a 3-minute, Save Zone No New Face, anti-drugs content video on Youtube. The contest expected to draw attention over the Senior High and Vocational Students at large.



- **“Getting to Know Yourself, No-one Wins or Loses” Group Discussion (talk):** In order to interact a better understanding with optimistic attitudes among the youths, as to share and exchange caring method and problems solving method on the youth, as well as to promote the setting up of parental network in adjusting and applying the knowledge in their families and in communicating the perceived information. The questions and answers session on related issues was also arranged, the project was organized 3 times as follows;



a) On Saturday 29, August 2020 with the topic on “Positive Energy, Home’s Fence, School’s Fence and Community’s Fence towards Drug Immunity in the Youth” by Associate Professor Doctor Suriyadeo Tripathi, Director of Moral Center (Public Organization).

b) On Saturday 5, September, 2020 with the topic on “How Difficult Is it, to be a Youth” by Doctor Jitrin Jaidee, a psychiatrist at the Mental Health and Rehab Center, Bangkok Hospital.

c) On Saturday 12, September, 2020, on the topic of “ Unlock the Popular Disease Caused by Teens” by Doctor Apisamai Srirangsan, Doctor Anothai Soonsawat, a psychiatrist at the Mental Health and Rehab Center, Bangkok Hospital.

The results of the above-mentioned measures can be summarized as follows:

### **In-school child and youth group**

1. The early childhood level, drug immunity was built up by developing brain skills to lay the foundation of drug immunity in the



long term to the childhood level in 39,234 childhood development centers out of 52,632 centers throughout the country, or about 74.54%, altogether 1,553,857 children received drug immunity.

2. Primary level, learning development in parallel with life skills development and morality instillation were conducted for 28,059 primary schools out of 31,394 schools which were the total target or about 89.38%. There were altogether, 3,486,140 students out of 4,778,141 students which were the total number or about 72.96% participated in the program.

3. Secondary level, vocational school and university level, drug immunity, drug prevention and supporting them to take part in social activities were conducted in 10,548 institutes out of 11,755 institutes which were the target number or about 89.73%. Altogether 4,034,460 youth participated in the program.

### **Out-of-school youth group**

An extension of the concept on “Change the Risk Group to the Powerful Group” was carried out by urging them to find themselves to continually build up immunity, activities to help, protect and take care of 107,125 persons who were in this group, such as helped 27,855 youth to continue their education, helped 17,324 youth on vocational training, and helped 43,967 youth on sports and recreation. Besides, trainings were organized for 7,088 Anti-Drug Volunteer Defense Corps.

### **Labor/Entrepreneur Group**

The campaigning to provide knowledge and understanding on drug prevention and to strengthen drug immunity to the labor were conducted as follows;

I. The workplace with more than 10 employees, with the total target of 1,200,000 people, campaigns were organized for 1,550,549 people or about 129.21%.

II. The small workplace with less than 10 employees, campaigns were organized for 40,443 people increased from the target number of 35,120 people or about 115.16%.

## Measure to Create Appropriate Environment

Encouraging villages/communities to have safe area which was based on the idea of “Secured Subdistrict,” which was the creation of environment for drug prevention with the purpose to urge the concerned agencies to create safe area, which would be managed to control risk factors/risk area that would lead to the environment that supported drug prevention and saved from drug epidemic. The main responsible agency was Ministry of Interior which pooled cooperation from all sectors to strengthen villages/communities by managing all sectors, namely, schools, workplaces, villages/communities and other agencies and organizations to take part in drug prevention activities and to overcome drug problem in 3 major dimensions, i.e. tending of the risk group, helping the people who had problem and increasing positive factors and area by organizing activities and positive area for drug prevention, drug eradication or control, watching out risk factors/ risk areas such as community mingling source, hidden shops, entertaining places and service places which had negative impact towards community.

In conclusion, the outcomes of this approach were as follows;

The safe areas were extended to cover 6,507 subdistricts/districts, 71,384 villages/communities, among these number, 5,505 subdistricts and 46 districts were the target epidemic area, with the total target of 5,542 subdistricts, 46 districts, or about 84.6% and 1,002 subdistricts/districts of the non- target areas or 15.4%. The main activities were training and development of leaders, operation mechanism in 3,331 subdistricts/districts, 30,800 villages/communities for 2,013,399 persons, strengthening families in 2,621 subdistricts/districts, in 26,483 villages/communities for 1,234,989 persons, and prevention activities for the youth risk group in 4,004 subdistrict/districts, in 38,448 villages/communities for 72,678 times.

In addition, in 2020, priority was put on the lower northern region, which was the strategic area as it was used as drug smuggling routes from upper northern region to the western border before entering into the inner area. The mechanism on drug prevention and drug vigilance was developed, coordination between the government

concerned agencies was firmed up to be ready for setting up strong community to prevent drug problem in villages/communities by using villages/communities as the center for overcoming drug problem. The safe area in the lower northern region were expected to set up in the target area of 6,009 villages/communities in 6 provinces, namely, Kamphaeng Phet Province, Tak Province, Nakhon Sawan Province, Phichit Province, Phitsanulok Province, and Sukhothai Province, in 2020 the safe area were set up in 5,775 villages/communities or about 96.1% of the target areas. The main activities were drug watch out such as setting up check point, patrolling etc. in 5,312 villages/communities or about 66.3% of the target, which led to the and inspection and the solution of the problem of 1,763 drug abusers in 523 villages/communities, the arrest of 322 drug dealers in 169 villages/communities.

### **The Mother of the Nation's Fund**

In the year 2003, Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother made the royal annual visit to the Northeast during which Her Majesty stayed at Phu Phan Ratchanivet Palace, Sakon Nakhon Province, and on Tuesday, November 25, 2003, the Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board, ONCB asked for H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's gracious permission to bring a group of local anti-drug volunteers to have an audience with H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother and to perform a play reflecting how the villagers overcame drug problem, and to forgive drug abusers in a peaceful way. The performance was organized at the Sakon Nakhon's Irrigation Project (Huay Diak Reservoir). Then, H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother kindly handed over her own personal money to the Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board. Later, the ONCB discussed the matter with the concerned agencies and leaders of the civil groups and came up with the conclusion that H.M. the Queen Mother's personal fund should be used as "**Seed Fund**", and the ONCB should allocate its budget matching fund to set up "**The Mother of the Nation's Fund**", the villages and communities which received the fund would be called "**The Mother of the Nation's Fund Villages**". On Sunday, August 31, 2013, Princess Ubonratana Rajkanya

Sirisopaphanwadee, on behalf of H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother, presided over the presentation ceremony of the Mother of the Nation's Fund to 672 villages/communities, for the first time.



### Objectives

1. To strengthen villages/communities to enable them to unite the people in villages/communities to solve drug problem by having the fund as spiritual anchor of the people and village/community and the center of faith to unify village/community as they received the Mother of the Nation's Fund which was considered the highest honor of villages/communities.

2. To restore social capital of villages/communities and to increase the potential of the people by developing them to solve the basic problem on social- traditional dimension of each area and promoting mind development to have self- dependency with the wisdom of villages/communities as accordance to the royal sufficiency economy which was the framework for problem solving covering all aspects.

3. To enhance and attach the people's loyalty towards the royal institution, as it was the people's goal in weaving H.M Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother's wish to solve drug problem and to bring back peace to villages/communities.

### Implementation Methods

- A. Integrate with all the concerned agencies, namely, Department of Community Development, Department of Local



Administration, Bangkok Metropolitan and the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) to work together with the Provincial Narcotics Control Management Center as the core agency.

B. Build up the people's mechanism for participation- based drive by setting up the committee on the Mother of the Nation's Fund at village/community level and the Network of the Mother of the Nation's Fund at village/community level to create the learning network and activities driving tool at district and provincial levels.

C. Strengthen villages/communities by the process of the Mother of the Nation's Fund which comprised the following working steps;

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Step: Inclusive Communication with Every Household.** Make everyone understand the drug epidemic problem in their villages/communities and the overcoming process by using the Mother of the Nation's Fund, so that they will be alerted to solve the problem.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Step: Set up the Mother of the Nation's Fund Committee.** The Committee will be set up on voluntary basis.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Step: Open for Membership Application.** There are both families which are safe from drug and families which are not safe from drug, after being members their families will be taken care of by the Fund Committee, at the same time each family has to take care of their family members as according to the rules of the Fund.

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Step: Set up Rules for Strong Community.** These rules are mutually agreed upon as a reference in taking care of each other.

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Step: Disseminate Knowledge on Drug.** To urge the people in villages/communities to see the common suffering, to have the same perception on drug problem, to share the common decision and to really understand the problem and approaches to solve the problem.

**The 6<sup>th</sup> Step: Set up the Drug Control Fund.** The frame work on expense/accounting will be clearly devised.

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Step: Classify the Targets with a Peaceful Community Process.** When villages/communities become strong, love and trust each other, with no doubt on each other in solving drug problem together, they are ready to classify groups of people in community as drug dealers-abusers-riskers to help take care and solve their problem in a peaceful manner.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Step: Implement Joint Anti-Drug Activities Continuously.**

**The 9<sup>th</sup> Step: Certify Safe and Drug Free Household.** The Mother of the Nation's Fund Committee will hold a regular meeting to share their views on certifying drug free households and to take care of each other.

**The 10<sup>th</sup> Step: Maintain the Status of Strong Community against Drug.** Continually carry out the working process of the Mother of the Nation's Fund, each household help take care of each other firmly.

Enhanced and supported the maintenance of quality of villages/communities under the Mother of the Nation's Fund by regular checking the status of the Fund (status level is classified into A, B, C). Activities were conducted to repair or build up or supplement the Fund. (To repair or to upgrade the status of the strength of the Fund for B level while C level was to build up or to increase the Fund annually, to supplement or to develop the Fund. A level was to serve as learning source on solving drug problem by the process of the Mother of the Nation's Fund.)

### **Implementation Outcomes**

- In 2020, 1,056 villages/communities passed the criteria to become seedling villages/communities to receive the fund from of the Mother of the Nation's Fund, among these number, 870 villages/communities were in countryside, 114 villages/communities in municipal/Muang area, 46 villages/communities were in Bangkok, 26 villages/communities in border area. Currently, the total number of villages/communities under the Mother of the Nation's Fund were 24,455.

- The main activities were aimed to honor H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother under the concept of “Join Hands to Do Good Deed for the Mother of the Nation” in August to create awareness among all sectors such as the government agencies, civil network concerned in the Mother of the Nation’s Fund, on H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother’s kindness in giving H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother’s personal money to establish the Mother of the Nation’s Fund. Activities were appropriately organized in according to the readiness of each area such as setting up altar table for H.M Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother’s picture, arranging for the place for blessing signing ceremony, offering alms to the monks to contribute to H.M. Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother, blessing candle lighting ceremony or activities according to their religions. Other activities on “Join Hands to Do Good Deed for the Mother of the Nation” were organized such as giving capital fund for vocation to the persons who completed treatment, organizing vocational training to the risk family/ the persons who were under privileged and organizing public service activities.



### **Alternative Sustainable Drug Demand Reduction (by ONCB Region Offices and Bangkok Area Office<sup>1</sup>)**

The Pilot Project on Alternative Development Programme has been implemented in 10 areas by applying the King’s Philosophy on alternative development, the outcomes were as follows;

<sup>1</sup> ONCB Bangkok Area Office is an office under the ONCB Head Office.

The ONCB Narcotics Control Offices Region 1- 9 and Bangkok Area supported the implementation of alternative development in those areas, assisted in setting up implementation tool for development in the target areas such as Provincial Narcotics Control Management Center, District Narcotics Control Management Center, Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Office of Community Development, the Network of the Mother of the Nation's Fund, Narcotics Control Management Center, village committee, club/network of civil society.

Development activities in the target areas have been carried out as follows; (1) Setting up drugs prevention measure and drugs monitoring system in villages/communities such as patrolling villages/communities, setting up checkpoint/interception point, building up drug immunity, organizing creative activities for the children and youth, providing drug treatment and following up and taking care of the people who underwent drug treatment. (2) Improving basic infrastructures, i.e., roads, irrigation system for consumption, supported agriculture and local handicrafts, promoted tourism in villages/communities and supported product processing.





## Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation

Since the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020, there has been the pandemic of corona virus (Covid-19) which affected drug treatment and rehabilitation process such as reducing the target of Behavior Modification Centers which were the model of drug treatment and rehabilitation for mass, adjusting treatment in clinic from group activities to personal counselling which included telecounselling as well as bringing in families and communities to take part in tending drug patients. The measures to reduce the impact of drug patients who have psychiatric problem were devised and focus was given on harm reduction from drug to lead to the target of setting up social safety which was defined in the National Strategy, and the development of measures to reduce recidivism to solve the overcrowded prison problem. The outcomes were as follows;



### **A. Bringing in Family/Community to Take Part in Solving Drug Abuser Problem**

The ONCB in cooperation with Ministry of Public Health and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration drove for the participation of family/community as at the 2/2020 Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation on May 28, 2020, the Meeting agreed to set up the target area for 2020 in 890 villages/communities (divided the area in 76 provinces with 879 villages and 11 communities in Bangkok) and to organize working team/village committee/

subdistrict operation unit to search for drug abusers and assist them from tending and providing the support appropriately as well as to transfer them for treatment or to conduct the community-based treatment and rehabilitation in their own villages including to follow up and conduct the aftercare to help them to get back to their normal life in society. As a result, 1,421 persons were assisted. (The data was from the National Data System on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation and NISPA as of September 30, 2020.)

In addition, the ONCB cooperated with the concerned agencies in supporting family to take care their children who used drug by organizing the Project entitled “Baan Lom Rak” during Friday, January 31, to Sunday, February 2, 2020 to develop the potential of family on communication skills, children and youth psychology and drug knowledge, which would create their awareness and capability to take care their children. Following up was conducted for the parents who participated in the project and it was found that the participants used the knowledge and skills learned from the project to take care their children or people in their communities. They said that their children had better behavior, they understood each other more. Thus, the conceptual framework on bringing in family to take part was expanded through social media and other channels both in form of animated pictures, Podcast and infographic to publicize and build up understanding and to provide knowledge to the general public extensively.



### **2. Harm Reduction**

The harm reduction service to every drug patient was aimed to reduce harm or impact which might happen from drug towards themselves, intimates or society. There were altogether 22,941 drug patients received harm reduction service or about 20% from 114,481 persons who underwent treatment in treatment center. Besides, 6,145 injected drug addicts were reached by NGOs, civil society sector, of these number, 1,430 persons were HIV positive. Potential development of the government's harm reduction service centers and that of the civil society were carried out, the pilot project in using Buprenorphine or Suboxone for substitution in the opioids group drug abusers in all 7 Thanyarak Hospitals under Princess Mother National Institute on Drug Abuse Treatment.

### **3. Reduction of the Impact of Drug Patients who had Psychiatric Problem**

The Handbook on the Measures to Reduce the Impact of Drug Patients Who Had Psychiatric Problem was published, the content contained the measures on prevention, watching out, referral for treatment, treatment and following up for and after care/assistance. The concerned agencies in the area were driven to turn those measures into action, with the purpose to reduce the impact and harm which might occur from the drug patients who had psychiatric problem. The evaluation of the outcomes was conducted through on-line questionnaire to the officials in the area and it was found that over 98% acknowledged the measures, but still had structure-based problems such as shortage of personnel, shortage of patient beds and the cooperation of psychiatric patients. The problems were reported to the Sub-Committee on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation for further improvement.

The production of media in various forms such as Video Motion Graphic to educate families and communities to tend drug patient. The preparation of working flowchart In the form of Infographic and “The Handbook on the Measures for Watching out, Referral, Treatment and Following up and Aftercare and Assistance to the Drug Patients Who Had Psychiatric Problem” in the form of E-Book to distribute to the

operational officials in the area to make use of it. The launching ceremony of the book was organized on Thursday, September 23, 2020 at Chidchai Vanasatidya Conference Room, ONCB.

#### **4. Psychosocial Clinic for the Prisoners and the Drug Offenders in the Court System**

Providing opportunity to the drug offenders who had severe penalty and might become criminals and to reduce recidivism, the Memorandum of Agreement on the Cooperation to Provide Counselling on Psychosocial to Prisoners or Drug Offenders in the Court System was signed between Office of the Court of Justice, ONCB, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Justice and Office of Thai Health Promotion Foundation. The Office of the Court of Justice



accepted to serve as the core agency in expanding the work. The signing was done on Thursday, January 30, 2020, there were 25 courts participated in the project, with 1,315 persons received counselling, and no recidivism was found, most of them or 86.54% were drug offences, the rest were the violence in family and other criminal cases such as drunken and assault. The ONCB served as the focal point in driving the work of the concerned agencies as well as supporting budget. The total budget which was allocated for the project was at 13,322,195 baht (for durable articles and computers worth 630,000 baht, the Fund Committee approved the budget and it was currently on the budget transferring process).

#### **5. The Outcomes of Referring Drug Abuser to the Treatment Process**



The number of 190,395 drug abusers were referred for treatment or about 97.59% from the target of 195,101 drug abusers, the details were as follows;

| The Types of Treatment                              | Goal (person)  | Enrollment (person) | Success rate (%) |
|---|----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>Voluntary System</b>                             | <b>110,701</b> | <b>76,118</b>       | <b>68.76</b>     |
| - Hospital  | 77,500         | 48,891              | 63.09            |
| - Rehabilitation Center                             | 33,201         | 26,065              | 78.51            |
| - CBTx  | 0              | 1,162               | -                |
| <b>Compulsory System</b>                            | <b>56,600</b>  | <b>89,261</b>       | <b>157.70</b>    |
| - Detention   | 20,600         | 14,289              | 69.36            |
| - Out-patient                                       | 36,000         | 74,972              | 208.26           |
| <b>Correctional System</b>                          | <b>27,800</b>  | <b>25,016</b>       | <b>89.99</b>     |
| - Department of Corrections                         | 24,800         | 21,722              | 87.59            |
| - Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection | 3,000          | 3,294               | 109.80           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>195,101</b> | <b>190,395</b>      | <b>97.59</b>     |

## 6. The Follow - up, Aftercare and Assistance Provided to the Persons Who Completed Treatment

➤ The mechanism to follow up the persons who underwent treatment in the fiscal year 2020, defined the concerned agencies to carry out the following work;

A. The Ministry of Public Health was to serve as the host in following up the persons who underwent treatment in voluntary system ( The Order no.108/2014 of the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) on Clinic and Treatment Center in accordance with the Narcotics Act B.E. 2522), by using the village public health volunteers and subdistrict health promotion hospitals as the main mechanism, and using the budget of the Office of the Permanent Secretary of Public Health for implementation in 76 provinces, except for Bangkok.

B. The Department of Provincial Administration would serve as the main host in following up the persons who underwent treatment in voluntary system ( The Order no.108/2014 of the NCPO on Behavior Adjustment Center, Community Based Treatment (CBTx) and Compulsory System for the In-Detention and the Outpatient), by using subdistrict mechanism which had subdistrict headman/village headman/community, leader/village health volunteer/and the District Narcotics Control Management Center and using the ONCB's budget by budget transferring and disbursement of budget on ONCB behalf, as well as the Department of Provincial Administration's budget.

C. Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) was the principle host in following up the persons who underwent treatment in voluntary system (The Order no. 108/2014 of the NCPO on Behavior Adjustment Center/Clinic and Treatment Center in accordance with the Narcotics Act B.E.2522) and compulsory system (in-detention/outpatients) who had their domiciles in Bangkok area by using the mechanism of the Coordination Center for Tending the Persons Who Underwent Treatment and Rehabilitation and the Public Health Care Service Center, and using the budget of the ONCB, and the BMA.

D. The Department of Corrections was the main host in following up the persons who underwent treatment in correctional system, in case of not being released, but in case of being already released and they agreed to be followed up, the Department of Provincial Administration should take the following up role by using the budget of the Department of Corrections and the budget of the Department of Provincial Administration Department.

E. The Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection, the major host in following up the persons who underwent treatment in the correctional system of the Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection.

➤ The outcomes of the following up, aftercare and assistance provided to persons who underwent treatment;

I. The number of 193,003 persons who underwent treatment and rehabilitation were followed up, from the total target of

254,555 persons or about 75.82% which comprised of 95,703 persons in voluntary system, 63,075 in compulsory system and 34,225 persons in correctional system.

II. Provided assistance to 3,030 persons who underwent treatment and rehabilitation out of the total number of 6,310 persons requested for assistance.

# Legislation Development

The ONCB reformed and developed the acts and regulations related to narcotics to be more updated and in line with the National Strategy and Reform Plan as well as the government's policy declared to the Parliament, including the amendment of some provisions to be in consistent with the outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem-UNGASS 2016. Moreover, the ONCB amended the narcotics related acts to be in line with the policy to control narcotic substances which was aimed to amend the acts that were obstacles or burdensome towards the livelihood of the people, so far 2 acts and regulations had been amended and came into effect in 2020, and 5 following acts were in the legislative process;

## **1. The Acts and Regulations that Came into Effect (2 Acts)**

### **A. The Office of the Prime Minister's Regulation on the Reward Payment to Narcotic Informant, the Reward Money to the Official and the Subsidy for Narcotic Operation ( The 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue) B.E. 2563**

The content of this Act was the adjustment of the reward money for the officials who work on narcotics suppression by focusing on the extension of investigation to arrest narcotics tycoon and financiers group who were behind the scenes and to eradicate narcotics trafficking syndicates. Increased the reward money for the arrest of narcotic dealers who sold narcotic to the children and youth in villages/communities. This regulation was published in the Royal Gazette on May 1, 2020 and became effective on May 31, 2020.

### **B. The Announcement of the Narcotics Control Board on the Setting up of Criteria, Methods and Conditions in Checking or Testing a Person or Group of Persons Whether They Had Narcotic Substance in Their Bodies dated July 8, 2020.**



The main content of this announcement was to increase the methods in checking or testing narcotic substances in the body which formerly used only urine testing, by amending that official could detect narcotics abuse by using hair for testing as well and increased the verification of testing result from hair and increased the criteria on the verification of testing result of narcotics or psychotropic substances in Category II, ketamine type. This announcement was published in the Royal Gazette on July, 17, 2020 and became effective on July 18, 2020.

### **2. The Acts and Regulations which were in the Legislative Process (5 Acts)**

**a) The Draft Act on the Enactment of the Narcotics Code B.E. ...the Draft Narcotics Code and the Draft Act on Narcotics Offence Procedures (Issue No. ...) B.E. ... (altogether 3 Acts) The details are as follows;**

#### **✓ The Draft Act on the Enactment of the Narcotics Code B.E. ...**

The Draft Act has the main principle on the gathering of the acts related to narcotic drug and their provisions which currently are many and are under the responsibilities of several agencies by classifying them into groups in the form of code of law, which would harmonize the solving of narcotic problem as well as to creating unity and make it easier for the people to understand and get access to

#### **✓ The Draft Narcotics Code**

The Draft Narcotics Code has the objective to define the mechanism to solve narcotics problem, to control and make use of narcotics for medical and scientific purposes, to suppress narcotics trafficking, to treat and to tend drug abusers as well as to devise related measures to be in consistent with international conventions on narcotics control and the outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem - UNGASS 2016.

✓ **The Draft Act on Drug Offence Procedures (Issue No. ...) B.E. ...**

The Draft Act has the following principles which are to amend the former Act on Drugs Offence Procedures B.E.2550 to increase working effectiveness, to be in line with the Narcotics Code, to devise the provision on the presence of defendant to court official while appealing, Writ of Certiorari, and file a petition to be in line with the Criminal Procedure Code.

The Cabinet's resolution on February 18, 2020 approved in principle the said 3 Draft Acts and to send them to the Office of the Council of State, the ONCB explained the Draft 3 Acts to the Council of State (The 11<sup>th</sup> Council), the Sub-Committee on Scrutinizing Draft Law in Legislative Process and the Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives on September 1, 2020. The joint meeting of the Parliament approved the 3 Draft Acts and set up an Ad-hoc Committee to consider all the 3 Draft Acts.

**b) The Draft Act on Narcotics (Issue No. ...) B.E. ...**

According to the policy of Minister of Justice, H.E. Mr.Somsak Thepsuthin, in promoting Kratom as an economic crop, the ONCB proposed to amend the Narcotics Act B.E.2522 to remove Kratom from the list of narcotics. The main content was as follows;

- (1) Remove Kratom from narcotics Category V.
- (2) Cancel the provision on declaring the area where Kratom could be cultivated without fault.
- (3) Cancel legal punishment for Kratom offence.
- (4) Set up the enforcement date after 180 days, of being published in the Royal Gazette.

The Cabinet's resolution on March 10, 2020 approved in principle the Draft Narcotics Act (Issue No...) B.E. and the ONCB explained the draft act to the Council of State (The 10th Council), and the Sub-Committee on Scrutinizing the Draft Law in the Legislative

Process, and on Thursday, August 13, 2020 the Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives approved to submit the Draft Narcotics Act (Issue no. ...) B.E. ... to the House of Representatives. Currently, it was under the process of the Office of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives to submit it to meeting of the House of Representatives.

### **c) The Draft Kratom Act B.E. ...**

As according to the submission of the Draft Narcotics Act (Issue no. ...) B.E. ... by the Ministry of Justice, to remove Kratom from the narcotics list, the Council of State (The 10<sup>th</sup> Council) had additional remarks that if the government had the policy to remove Kratom from narcotics Category V, the Ministry of Public Health as the responsible agency in controlling psychotropic substances and narcotics, should take responsibility in controlling that plant as well as should have the act to specially control that plant. The ONCB drafted the Kratom Act B.E... and organized the public hearings during Friday 10-Friday 24, July 2020 and during Monday 20, August-Thursday 3, September,2020 as well as held the meeting with the concerned agencies to consider the Draft Kratom Act B.E. ... on Friday 14, August 2020. The Draft Kratom Act B.E. ...had the main principle in setting up Kratom control measures to prevent the children and the youth from getting access to Kratom and prevent it from being abused, the essence is as follows;

I. It is forbidden for any person to produce, import or export Kratom in exception of being permitted by the Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board.

II. It is forbidden to sell Kratom to any person who are less than 18 years and pregnant woman.

III. It is forbidden to use, hire, ask or consent for a person under 18 years to sell Kratom.

IV. It is forbidden to sell Kratom in some places or by some methods such as in school, dormitory, public park, zoo, and amusement park or by using vending machine, through internet or hawking.

V. It is forbidden to advertise or to do marketing communications on Kratom.

VI. It is forbidden for any person aged over 18 years to abuse Kratom in illicit mixed drink, so called, 4x100.

VII. It is forbidden for any person under 18 years to abuse Kratom.

VIII. It is forbidden for any person to urge any person ages under 18 years or pregnant woman to abuse Kratom.

IX. The Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board or the assigned person has the authority to fine in the case that had only a penalty of fine.

X. Set up transitional provisions by allowing the provincial governor or the assigned person to give permission to produce, import and export Kratom as well as the authority to fine on behalf of the Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board after 10 years of the enactment of the law.

The Cabinet's resolution on October 12, 2020 approved in principle the Draft Kratom Act B.E. ..., as proposed by Ministry of Justice. Currently, the Draft Act is in the process of submitting to the Office of the Council of State and the Coordinating Committee of the House of Representatives for consideration before further submitting to the House of Representatives.





# Human Resource Development

The ONCB has conducted HRD programmes on drugs control, not only for law enforcement officers but also drugs prevention and rehabilitation personnels of ONCB and all affiliated authorities every year. Unfortunately, all international programmes have been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Numbers of training course and programme have been developed and improved as to increase personnel potential enabling their efficiency and performance in accordance with Strategic Plan on Drug Prevention and Control 2020-2022, as follows;

## ➤ **The Development of the ONCB Personalle**

The ONCB has conducted vary of HRD programmes to all level workforces from civil service officers to hired employees. Have been increased and developed, their knowledges, capacities, skills and attitudes, participants would be able to serve their duties on drugs control effectively and professionally. Numbers of developing approaches have been implemented as follows;

- a) The Workshop on Leadership's Skills for Success
- b) The Curriculum on Disruption Strategic Management, the 2<sup>nd</sup> class
- c) The Curriculum on Potential Development and Preparation for Narcotics Control Counsellor
- d) The Curriculum on Drug Investigation and Suppression on Online Social Media and Logistic Delivery and Postal Services
- e) The Training Course on Advanced Drug Investigation and Suppression on Online Social Media
- f) The Project on Financial and Procurement Management Capacity Building for Officer-in-Charge
- g) The Curriculum on Understanding the Point by One Page

- h) The Curriculum on Visual Thinking and Idea Mapping for Team Development
- i) The Project on Knowledge Management of the ONCB (organization recognition)



## ➤ The Human Resource Development of the Affiliated Authorities

Overwhelmingly, drugs problem was a dilemma threatening to all man kinds at large. It also has been deteriorated the living standard to the people causing a negative adverse to the national GDP, rising social problems which, eventually, weakened national economy and public securities. In order to cope with this problems, it needed mutual cooperation form all affiliated authorities and private sector. Therefore, the ONCB has conducted varieties of HRD programmes for those affiliated personnale in order to deal with those aforementioned menaces, for instance, the curriculum for Narcotics Law Enforcement Officer and etc.







# I nternational Cooperation

As a matter of fact that the international cooperation is a key mechanism on drugs control intervention. Therefore, the ONCB has taken her pro-active roles on this transnational protocols bilaterally and multilaterally. ONCB has been working on mutual drugs control cooperation with neighbouring countries, foreign countries, foreign agencies, international organisations and international non-government organizations since the establishment of her in 1976. Numbers of mutual cooperation on drug law enforcement, drug treatment and rehabilitation, potential demand reduction, narcotic crop control and alternative development have been supported by Royal Thai Government not only in Thailand, but also the Thai-aid projects in the neighbouring countries. In 2020, the summery of the aforementioned cooperation were as follows:

## **Bilateral Cooperation**

### **AUSTRALIA**

The ONCB and Australian Federal Police – AFP have mutually conducted the ONCB - AFP joint project on the Enhancement of Forensics Drug Profiling Capability. It has been proposed that this project will facilitate the following activities:

- Organize Drug Profiling Conference and/or training for concerned Thai and the five Mekong countries officers
- Conduct on the job laboratory training in Australia for ONCB officers
- Purchase, service and install new ONCB drug forensic profiling laboratory equipment
- Develop ONCB Drug Database and subsequent maintenance (over 4 years)

- Exchange methamphetamine drug samples between Thailand and Australia

The overall objective of this project is to enhance ONCB capability in relation to chemical drug profiling and increase tactical and strategic intelligence holdings on illicit drug manufacture in support of efforts to suppress drug trafficking activities, which are adversely impacting Thailand, Greater Mekong Sub-region and Australia.

### FRANCE



On 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, NCB, along with Mr. Michel Yves BERNARD-UGUEN, Police Attaché, and Mr. Denis BERTUIT, Customs Attaché from French Embassy, Bangkok, paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice. The topics of this official discussion were about a close cooperating between the French Republic and the Kingdom of Thailand on countering international drugs syndicates and related money laundering transaction. Both countries agreed to exchange their intelligence information in order to cut the deep root on international drugs and related crimes financial sources in which is the urgent agenda of Minister of Justice, H.E. Mr. Thepsuthin, on aggressive assets seizure measure against drugs masterminds.

## GERMANY

As the continued Thai-German cooperation on drugs harm reduction, the Global Partnership on Drug Policies and Development (GPDPD) under German International Cooperation (GIZ) has co-organized the Virtual Trainings on Selected Health-Oriented Drug Policy with the ONCB. Due to the global pandemic of COVID-19 and the restriction of international travel in both countries, a planned study visit to Germany on the topic of health-oriented drug policy could not take place and had to be postponed from 2020 to 2021. Therefore, ONCB and GPDPD agreed that an on-line training for the exchange of knowledge on health-oriented drug policy should be offered prior to the study visit. Three on-line trainings were conducted for government agencies working on harm-reduction related policies. Discussions took place between the representatives and experts from Germany including doctors, psychotherapists and social workers. The topics discussed and



shared in the three meetings included Germany’s national drug and addiction policy, the implementation of Harm Reduction approaches and Harm Reduction on stimulants. In 2019, the S3 Guideline “Methamphetamine-Related Disorders” was translated into Thai and



officially handed over to ONCB. Within the series of exchange, German experts and Thai implementing agencies discussed the understanding of Harm Reduction approaches along with responding to challenges related to the use of stimulants, especially Methamphetamine in Germany and Thailand.



Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary- General, NCB, chaired the on-line meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at the ONCB.

## MYANMAR

The ONCB and Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC) jointly agreed to conduct a video conference of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Thailand - Myanmar Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation on 24 November 2020. Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, NCB, and Police Lieutenant General Aung Win Oo, Secretary of CCDAC cum Chief of Police, Myanmar Police Force were the head of Thai and Myanmar delegations respectively.



The discussion topics were drug elimination efforts on the current drug situation, evaluation the implementation of the recommendations of the previous meeting (the 21<sup>st</sup> bilateral meeting), the control of precursor diversion, exchange of Intelligence information on transnational organized syndicates and wanted drug fugitives, the cooperation of Safe Mekong Action Plan, drugs and precursor profiling, sustainable alternative development project and Thai-Myanmar LOA project on drugs control cooperation.

## SINGAPORE



The ONCB and Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) conducted a video conference of the 14<sup>th</sup> ONCB– CNB Bilateral Meeting on 17 November 2020. Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, NCB, and Mr. Ng Ser Song, Director, CNB, were the head of ONCB and CNB respectively. ONCB has presented the delivery report of the 3 patrol boats that have been supported by the government of the Republic of Singapore under the ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle 2017-2019 (see more details in ASEAN, Multilateral Cooperation Section).

Furthermore, both sides have exchanged their drugs situation and intelligence information. Moreover, they have discussed for the tentative cooperation on narcotics law enforcement and drugs forensic training.



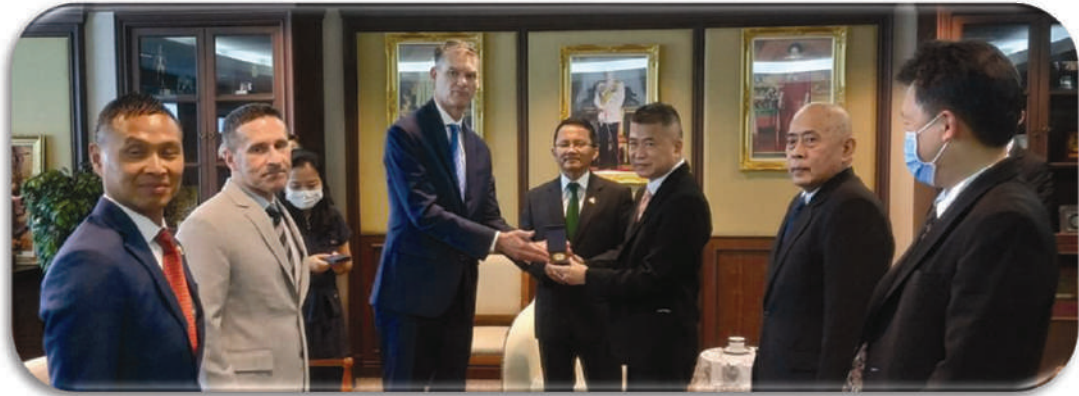
### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

On 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020, Mr. Eric McLoughlin, Regional Attaché, US Homeland Security Investigations – Bangkok, and Mr. Christopher A. Cantrell, Legal Attaché, US Federal Bureau of Investigation – Bangkok, paid a courtesy call on Mr. Niyom Termsrisuk, Secretary-General, NCB (at the period) at the ONCB. They have agreed on mutual cooperation on financial investigation and money laundering relating to transnational drugs syndicates. They also agreed to exchange





their intelligence information in order to cut the deep root on international drugs and related crimes financial sources as a countermeasure against drugs Masterminds.



On 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Mr. Christopher Nielsen, Regional Director, US Drug Enforcement Administration - Bangkok, made a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice along with Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, NCB, and representatives from the Department of Narcotics Litigation - Office of the Attorney General, Department of Special Investigation at the Ministry of Justice. The issues of the discussion were about the money laundering and social media trading relating to transnational drugs syndicates. Both countries agreed to exchange their intelligence information in order to cut the deep root on international drugs and related crimes financial sources in which is the urgent agenda of Minister of Justice, H.E. Mr. Thepsuthin, on aggressive assets seizure measure against drugs Masterminds.

## VIETNAM

On 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020, Mr. Niyom Termsrisuk, Secretary-General, NCB (at the period), led the Thai delegation attending the 13<sup>th</sup> Bilateral Meeting on Drugs Control Cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand at Phu Quoc Island, Vietnam. Vietnamese delegation led by Police Lieutenant General Pham Van Cac, Director of Director of Counter Narcotics Police Department, Ministry of Public Security. Both sides





have exchanged their drugs situation, intelligence information, and follow up their mutual cooperation on mutual study visit and Thai – Vietnam LOA on drugs control project, according to the previous meeting resolution.

## Multilateral Cooperation

### ASEAN

#### **ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle**

Republic of Singapore by the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) and the Police Coast Guard (PCG) collaboratively supported three vessels to support the implementation of ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle 2017-2019 which was extended to 2022 and to strengthen regional cooperation to solve illicit drug problems in the Greater Mekong Sub-region. As a plan initiator, ONCB received the three patrol boats from Singapore, one PT boat and two SU boats to be handed over to Lao People's Democratic Republic and Republic of the Union of Myanmar.



The deed signing ceremony of the handing over of the aforementioned assistance has been done by Mr. Niyom Termsrisuk, Secretary-General, NCB, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government and Commissioner Cheang Keng Keong, Commander, Police Coast Guard, on behalf of the Government of Republic of Singapore on 16 October 2019, at the Police Coast Guard Headquarters, Singapore.



Later on, the deed signing ceremony of the handing over of the 3 patrol boats to Lao PDR and Myanmar has been done by Mr. Niyom Termsrisuk, Secretary-General, NCB, on behalf of Thailand, Mr. Vongpeth Senvongsa, Deputy Secretary-General of Lao National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision, on behalf of Lao PDR and Pol.Col. Hla Min, Head of Administration Department, Drug Enforcement Division of Myanmar Police Force, on behalf of Myanmar. On this occasion, His Excellency Mr. Somsak Thepsuthin, Minister of Justice of Thailand, and His Excellency Mr. Kevin Cheok, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Thailand, honorably have witnessed the event.







Consequently, the delivery of two SU boats to Lao PDR and Myanmar Authorities was on 11 March 2020 at Chiang Saen Port, Chiang Rai Province and a PT boat has been delivered to Myanmar Authority on 27 March 2020 at Ranong Port, Ranong Province.



This remarkable assistance from the Republic of Singapore would benefit and supported the patrolling missions in intercepting precursor and drug trafficking in the Golden Triangle area as well as to prevent drug smuggling from the said area to ASEAN Member States. Furthermore, it would strengthen the ability of ASEAN to tackle drug smugglings in the region and keep our region free from drugs.



## Golden Triangle Operation 1511

On 15 November 2019, Ministers of the 6 countries from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam unanimously agreed on the establishment of the Golden Triangle Operation 1511 under the Safe Mekong Operation Plan among Six Countries (2019-2022) in Bangkok. The objectives of the mentioned operation are to enhance the joint cooperation and elevate the drug law enforcement field-operation on the diversion of drugs precursor chemicals into the Golden Triangle Area; hence, the potential drugs production will become scarcity. The outcomes of the Operation 1511 from 1 December 2019 – 30 September 2020 were as the following:

A. 10,736 operations have destroyed and naturalized factories/half-way storages of 29 sites/cases with the seizure of 377.4 Yaba tablets, 22.8 tons of Ice, 2.5 tons of heroin and 801.8 kgs. of Ketamine

B. Interdicted and seized 12.3 tons of caffeine, 17.3 tons of other precursor chemicals, and 1,046.3 tons of smuggling chemicals in which all these chemicals could produce more than 12,000 tablets of Yaba or 262.2 tons of ICE or 198 kgs. of heroin.



Operation 1511 in Cambodia



Operation 1511 in Myanmar



Operation 1511 in Thailand





### The 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Meeting



The ONCB normally organizes the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN) Meeting twice a year. Due to the pandemic of COVID-19, the 9<sup>th</sup> ADMN Meeting was postponed from March 2020 to be held online for the first time, hosted by ONCB Thailand and ASEAN-NARCO on 24 September 2020. The opening of the meeting was presided over by Mr. Paisith Sungkahapong, Deputy Secretary-General of NCB. In his opening address, Mr. Paisith Sungkahapong emphasized that the COVID-19 pandemic did not break out in each

ASEAN Member State (AMS) at the same time nor with the same seriousness. However, the pandemic had effected every country and every government had to put the COVID-19 pandemic in a higher priority than other problems. Despite the crisis, ADMN keeps on functioning though not in full capacity due to several factors and limitations. He was proud of the ADMN members since the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report (ADM Report) was mentioned in the Chairman's Statement of the 36<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit on 26 June 2020 and ASEAN-NARCO was referred as a key trademark of ASEAN cooperation in combatting drugs. He further reaffirmed that the ONCB would do every possible way to strengthen the cooperation in "Securing ASEAN Communities against Illicit Drugs." The meeting was attended by ADMN Team from AMS, representative of ASEAN Secretariat as well as ONCB Minister Counsellors posted in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam, including Thailand Substance Abuse Academic Network as the information analyst team of ADM Report. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Rachanikorn Sarasiri, Director of ASEAN-NARCO and moderated by Ms. Chuanpit Choomwattana, ADMN Project Coordinator. The meeting focussed on the content of the draft ADM Report 2019, particularly, the Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 of the ADM Report 2019 which were presented by Assc. Prof. Manop Kanato, Technical Advisor while Chapter 3 to Chapter 5 were presented by Ms. Chuanpit Choomwattana. The meeting was informed that the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ADMN was adopted ad referendum by AMS. Also, the meeting had reviewed and agreed to the proposed ADMN Work Plan 2020 - 2021 for regular cycle of data submission in the ADM Report System and data analysis for the formulation of ADM Report 2019 and 2020. Since the pandemic of the COVID-19 caused the delay in the data key-in, hopefully that the ADM Report 2019 could be released by the end of 2020.



### The 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters



On 1 December 2020, National Narcotics Board (BNN), Republic of Indonesia hosted the 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) which was the first online meeting of ASOD due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting was opened by Police Commissioner General Heru Winarko, Head of BNN and chaired by Mr. Puji Sarwono, Deputy for Legal Affairs and Cooperation, BNN. The meeting was attended by heads and representatives of national drug control agencies of ASEAN Member States as well as H.E. Hoang Anh Tuan, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Political Security Community (APSC), Department of ASEAN Secretariat. ASEAN Member States exchanged views on the efforts made at national, regional and international levels to fight against illicit drugs amidst the pandemic of COVID-19. The meeting took note of drug control activities and progress made by ASEAN Member States during the 40<sup>th</sup> ASOD Chairmanship in the implementation of ASEAN drug control projects namely ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force (AAITF), ASEAN Seaport Interdiction Task Force (ASITF), ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN), ASEAN-NARCO as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan on Securing Communities Against Drugs (2016-2025) and the ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and

Trafficking in the Golden Triangle (2020-2022); the mid-term review of both Work Plans will be conducted next year. In addition, the matters related to the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) was discussed, in particular the recommendations proposed by WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD) on the rescheduling cannabis and cannabis related substances. ASEAN Member States discussed and shared views with the grave concern that they might lead to the misinterpreted message to the public if the right message was not delivered. Lao PDR will host the next ASOD Meeting in 2021 while Cambodia will host the 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMD) next year.



The meeting ended with spirit of ASEAN cooperation, solidarity and understanding in fighting against drugs to ensure ASEAN security and safety from illicit drugs.

## UNITED NATIONS

### The 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

H.E. General Kampanat Ruddit, Privy Councilor and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Royal Project Foundation co-chaired the panel discussion on “THAILAND’S 50-YEAR JOURNEY ON ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE

DEVELOPMENT” side event on 2 March 2020. As to commemorate and the Fiftieth Anniversary of Royal Project Foundation, His Majesty the late King Rama IX’s Initiative, on sustainable alternative development, it demonstrated remarkable stories of her successful endeavours, lessons learnt and best practices of Royal Thai Government.

During the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Thailand by the Royal Project with the cooperation of the ONCB also organized the exhibition entitled Thailand’s 50-Year Journey on Alternative Development towards Sustainable Development to commemorate the initiative of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great in bestowing the Royal Project and demonstrate the successful achievements and experiences of the Royal Project on alternative development for the past 50 years that aligned with the SDGs. The exhibition was opened by H.E. General Kampanat





Ruddit, Privy Councilor and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Royal Project and Ms. Ghana Fathi Waly, Executive Director of UNODC, delivered the welcome address. All delegations to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of the CND were invited to join the opening of the exhibition and visit the exhibition.



Besides, Thai delegation led by Mr. Niyom Termsrisuk, Secretary-General, NCB, attended the 63<sup>rd</sup> CND during 2 - 6 March 2020 at Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria. Thailand was being a part in the global narcotics and crime control policy and guidance determination among the United Nations' member countries in collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board – INCB and World Health Organization – WHO protocols. In addition, Thailand has enrolled in other concerned side event activities, such as, “ADDRESSING THE DETERIORATING SYNTHETIC DRUG SITUATION IN THE MEKONG: A NEW LEVEL OF STRATEGIC COOPERATION” hosted by the Government of China as well as granted on the inclusion of methyl alpha-phenylacetoacetate (MAPA), including its optical isomers, in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.



## UNODC : Enhancement of Drugs Control along the Northern Border



On 16 July 2020, Mr. Apikit Ch.Rojprasert, Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, led Mr. Jeremy Douglas, Regional Representative, UNODC Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific and UNODC staff to visit the Safe Mekong Coordination Centre – SMCC, Chiang Mai. SMCC runs by the Royal Thai Government to serve the Safe Mekong Operation Plan (2019-2022) among Six Countries. The SMMC field co-operation along the border has been coordinated by Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) of the member countries. In fact, most BLOs originally established by UNODC project since the early of 1990's.



Both sides have exchanged the intelligence information and point of views, i.e., current drugs situation in the Mekong Sub-region, drugs production sites, significant drugs cases, drugs and precursor chemical smuggling routes, and etc.. In addition, both sides have discussed on the future training courses for SMMC members' officers under UNODC support.

On 6 August 2020, Mr. Apikit Ch.Rojprasert, Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, and Mr. Manit Komes, Director of the Narcotics Control Office, Region 5, organized a field excursion in Chiang Rai Province for MS. Gita Sabharwal, UN Resident Coordinator and Mr. Jeremy Douglas, Regional Representative, UNODC Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific. The UN



Photo courtesy by UNODC



representatives have experienced the cruising in Mekong River along the Golden Triangle area where Myanmar, Lao, and Thai borders meet. It was exposed the Operation Plan against Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle under the Six-Country-Safe Mekong Operation Plan among Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. Nonetheless, it manifested the cooperation among the neighbouring countries that has common determination and mutual efforts of Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand in drug and precursor chemicals trafficking interdiction.

### **The 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific**

Mr. Apikit Ch.rojprasert, Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, as head of ONCB delegation attended an Extraordinary Session Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Asia and the Pacific, (online video conference) during 1 – 2 October 2020. It was the substitute to the 44<sup>th</sup> HONLEA Meeting that has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations (Vienna). UNODC hosted the mentioned meeting as to be a forum of drug situation sharing and intelligence exchange among the heads of the Asia and the Pacific national drug law enforcement authorities.





## Cooperation under the Letter of Agreement (LoA Project)

### **The Project on Enhancing and Promoting the Cooperation with the Neighbouring Countries to Put an End to the Illicit Drug Production Sources and to Crack Down the International Drug Syndicates during the Fiscal Year 2020**

As according to the close coordination between the ONCB and the central narcotics control agencies of the neighbouring countries, namely, (1) **Cambodia**, (2) **Lao PDR**, (3) **Myanmar**, and (4) **Viet Nam**, the ONCB learned of their problems, obstacles and limitation in countering drug problem. The ONCB, therefore, initiated the Project on Enhancing and Promoting the Cooperation with the Neighbouring Countries to Put an End to the Illicit Drug Production Sources and to Crack Down the International Drug Syndicates in 2014, the Project has been continually carried out since then to the present to provide the financial support to the central narcotics control agencies of the 4 neighbouring countries. In the fiscal year 2020, the ONCB supported the narcotics control of the said neighbouring countries by disbursing budget from the ONCB's subsidy budget.

Since the beginning of the Project, the Cabinet approved the budget on yearly basis for the implementation of the Project as follows;

- **The 1<sup>st</sup>** allotment on January 13, 2015 at the amount of 30,000,000 baht
- **The 2<sup>nd</sup>** allotment on February 9, 2016 at the amount of 15,000,000 baht.
- **The 3<sup>rd</sup>** allotment on September 27, 2016 at the amount of 30,000,000 baht.
- **The 4<sup>th</sup>** allotment on June 20, 2017 at the amount of 20,000,000 baht.
- **The 5<sup>th</sup>** allotment on May 22, 2018 at the amount of 20,000,000 baht.
- **The 6<sup>th</sup>** allotment on March 26, 2019 at the amount of 24,794,000 baht.



- **The 7<sup>th</sup>** allotment on May 5, 2020 at the amount of 20,000,000 baht.

The Project on Enhancing and Promoting the Cooperation with the Neighbouring Countries to Put an End to the Illicit Drug Production Sources and to Crack Down the international Drug Syndicates during the Fiscal Year 2020 was aimed at the urgent and significant work plan that Thailand would like to jointly promote and push forward with member countries of the Safe Mekong Operation Plan, the details were as follows;

### **1. The Golden Triangle Area Blockade Operation**

The Operation was implemented under the 4- Year Safe Mekong Operation Plan (2019-2022) of the 6 member countries namely, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam with the objective to upgrade the interception of the illicit trafficking of drugs, precursors and chemicals.

### **2. The potential development of personnel and system in countering drug problem in Mekong Sub-region**

This is to develop the potential and capacity of narcotics control personnel and to improve the drug analysis system to be carried out in the same direction and standard.

### **3. Serving as the host of the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC) for the Safe Mekong Operation Project,**

Under the Operation Plan of the Safe Mekong Operation Project in 2020, it was the turn of Viet Nam to be the host.

## The Asia-Pacific Operational Drug Enforcement Conference



The National Police Agency - NPA has been conducting Asia-Pacific Operational Drug Enforcement Conference (ADEC) as to be an international forum in sharing experiences on drug control in field operation among narcotic law enforcement officers of the Asia-Pacific countries since the 1990's. The 25<sup>th</sup> ADEC has been convened during 18 - 20 February 2020 in Tokyo, Japan; representatives from 28 countries and 2 international organizations attended the meeting. Thai delegation led by Mr. Niyom Termsrisuk, Secretary-General, NCB, together with representatives from concerned agencies such as NSB led by Police Lieutenant General Chinnapat Sarasin, Narcotics Suppression Bureau Commissioner, Royal Thai Police, attended the meeting.

## International Drugs Liaisons to Thailand

Since the declining of the Vietnam War, drugs problem has arose, especially, in the North America and Europe. As a matter of fact that the drugs have been largely produced in the so called, the Golden Triangle Area where Myanmar, Lao, and Thai borders meet. Thailand is only the most geographically and politically suitable location for international protocols in coping with this global dilemma. Therefore, the concerned countries and bodies have appointed their drugs liaison officers to their Embassies, Consulates and offices in Thailand to coordinate with Royal Thai Authorities. In 1982, Foreign Anti-Narcotic and Crime Community of Thailand (FANC) has been established as an international alliance of drugs law enforcement group in order to fight against drugs effectively at macro perspective. Besides, there are some countries that are not FANC member but work closely to the ONCB. In 2020, there were 25 countries and 3 organizations, namely, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan, International Law Enforcement Academy, INTERPOL, and UNODC have cooperated with the ONCB.









The ONCB conducted the 2020 ONCB-DLO Narcotics Control Meeting and Study Trip Programme in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai Provinces during 20–22 January 2020. The programme presented comprehensive strategy of drug control along the northern border of Thailand, not only on the demand but also the supply reduction programmes. The field excursion has unveiled the active sustainable alternative development programme run by Mae Fah Luang Foundation under the Royal Patronage in the previous drug lord’s dominant area along the northern border next to the Golden Triangle area. In addition, it also providing DLOs with an opportunity in experiencing drug smuggling routes along the border.



During Wednesday 25 – Friday 27 November 2020 the ONCB-DLO Meeting on Narcotics Control over Andaman Sea has been conducted in Phuket Province. The programme presented drugs interdiction and related naval missions along the Andaman Sea by the Third Naval Area Command, Royal Thai Navy.





The meetings provided not only an update DLOs with current drugs situation in Thailand and government drugs control strategy in specific areas but also discussion venues on the future needs of mutual international cooperation and assistance in fighting against the global drugs and related crimes. Moreover, the field excursion would expose the obstacles and the difficulties confronted to competent authorities in the operational frontages.





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