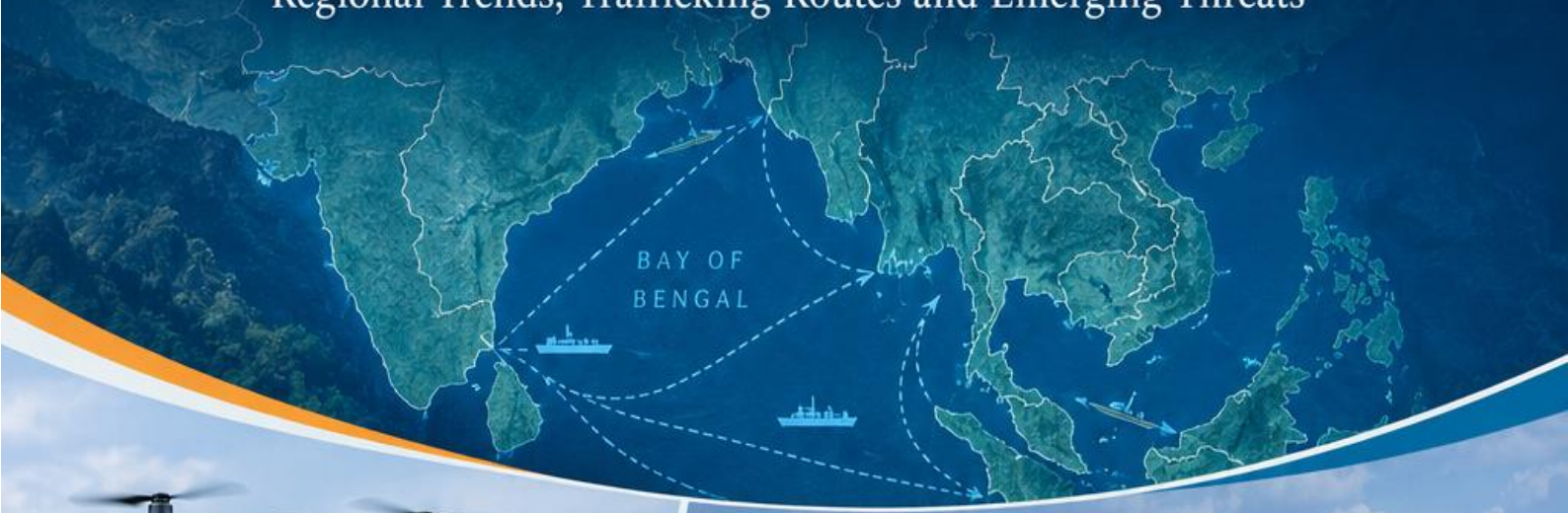
BIMSTEC
ANNUAL DRUG REPORT
2024

Regional Trends, Trafficking Routes and Emerging Threats













BIMSTEC ANNUAL DRUG REPORT 2024

THIRD EDITION

Regional Trends, Trafficking Routes and Emerging Threats

MEMBER STATES

BANGLADESH • BHUTAN • INDIA • MYANMAR • NEPAL • SRI LANKA • THAILAND

By

Narcotics Control Bureau

Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India

Published on behalf of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals (SG-NTPSC)

New Delhi • October 2026

FOREWORD

Secretariat of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) brings together seven Member States—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand—bound by geography, shared history and abiding commitment to regional security and development . Established under Bangkok Declaration of June 1997, BIMSTEC recognizes that sustainable and resilient development of its member States located adjacent to Bay of Bengal region cannot be achieved without addressing transnational threats to their security, including terrorism, transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking.

Under guidance of the Joint Working Group on the Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC), the Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals (SG-NTPSC) has been serving as the primary regional mechanism to coordinate law enforcement responses, supply control, demand reduction and intelligence sharing.

Following the parameters of the previous 2 Editions, the 3rd Edition of the BIMSTEC Annual Drug Report (2024) reflects the continued determination of the BIMSTEC Member States to confront the emerging challenges in drug trafficking, including growing prevalence of synthetic drugs, precursor chemical diversion, darknet logistics and maritime smuggling routes. Published by the Government of India, this report compiles official national contributions provided by all the seven BIMSTEC Member States without modification.

I commend the Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, for publication of this 3rd Edition. I am grateful to the BIMSTEC Member States for their commitment to collaborate and cooperate in strengthening the regional drug control framework.

Secretary General, BIMSTEC

PREFACE

The illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals continues to pose significant challenges to the security, public health and socio-economic well-being of countries across the Bay of Bengal region. Located in proximity to major illicit drug-producing regions, including the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle, the Member States of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) face an evolving threat landscape characterised by the proliferation of synthetic drugs, illicit diversion of precursor chemicals, clandestine drug production, illicit crop cultivation, and transnational drug trafficking through international boundaries.

Addressing these evolving threats requires stronger regional cooperation, real-time intelligence sharing, effective coordination among law enforcement agencies, and enhanced surveillance of land and maritime routes. Particular attention needs to be accorded to maritime drug trafficking, trafficking through porous land borders, the illicit diversion of precursor chemicals, and the disruption of transnational drug trafficking networks. Equally important is the identification and dismantling of illicit financial ecosystems that sustain drug trafficking operations, including networks facilitating the movement, concealment and laundering of proceeds of drug-related crime. Strengthening operational coordination, timely information exchange and joint efforts among BIMSTEC Member States will be essential to effectively address these interconnected challenges. The BIMSTEC Convention on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organised Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking provides an important framework for advancing such cooperation.

In its capacity as the Lead Country for the publication, India is pleased to present the **3rd Edition of the BIMSTEC Annual Drug Report 2024**. The report brings together official national submissions from all seven BIMSTEC Member States—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The respective national chapters provide an overview of country-specific legal and institutional frameworks, drug trafficking trends, enforcement efforts and seizures, precursor control measures, initiatives relating to illicit crop cultivation, prevention and rehabilitation programmes, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation undertaken during 2024.

Beyond documenting national developments, this report seeks to facilitate a better understanding of the regional drug situation, promote the exchange of knowledge and good practices, and strengthen mutual cooperation among Member States. It is intended to serve as a useful reference for policymakers, law enforcement agencies, judicial authorities, public

health institutions and international partners working towards a coordinated response to drug-related challenges.

I am confident that this publication will contribute to deeper regional engagement, stronger institutional partnerships and our shared resolve to combat illicit drug trafficking and its associated challenges. Through continued cooperation, mutual trust and collective action, BIMSTEC Member States can work towards a safer, healthier and more resilient Bay of Bengal region.

Director General,
Narcotics Control Bureau,
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India

List of Acronyms

Acronyms are expanded as used in the country contributions. Some terms may have country-specific meanings.

Acronym	Full form
ATS	Amphetamine-Type Stimulants
ANTF	Anti-Narcotics Task Force
ART	Anti-Retroviral Treatment
BFDA	Bhutan Food and Drug Authority
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
BSF	Border Security Force
CBN	Central Bureau of Narcotics
CCTNS	Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems
CND	Commission on Narcotic Drugs
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration
EXIM	Export-Import
FIR	First Information Report
HONLEA	Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies
ICG	Indian Coast Guard
ICJS	Inter-operable Criminal Justice System
INCB	International Narcotics Control Board
IRCAs	Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts
JCC	Joint Coordination Committee
KMS	Knowledge Management System
LIMBS	Legal Information Management and Briefing System
MANAS	Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochna Kendra
MoHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoSJE	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
NACO	National AIDS Control Organization
NAFIS	National Automated Fingerprint Identification System
NAPDDR	National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction
NCB	Narcotics Control Bureau
NCORD	Narco-Coordination Centre
NDIS	Narcotic Drug Information System
NDPS	Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIDAAN	National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-Offenders
NISD	National Institute of Social Defence
NMBA	Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan
NPS	New Psychoactive Substances

Acronym	Full form
ODICs	Outreach and Drop-In Centres
OST	Opioid Substitution Therapy
PEN	Pre-Export Notification
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PWID	People Who Inject Drugs
SAFEMA	Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act
SDOMD	SAARC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk
SG-NTPSC	Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TI	Targeted Intervention
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UAV	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
UMANG	Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance
WPR	Whole Person Recovery

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BANGLADESH



Bangladesh is not a drug producing country but it is vulnerable for drug penetration due to its geographical location as it is situated in between two major drug-prone belt; "The Golden Crescent" and "The Golden Triangle". Illicit drug dealers try to Capitalize the geographical proximities for drug trafficking. Bangladesh shares a long porous border with our two neighboring countries India and Myanmar. Law enforcing agencies of the country are working relentlessly to wipe out this menace with strong hand.

Bangladesh is signatory country of three international drug control conventions (UN conventions). Anti-drug activities are carried out in Bangladesh in line with these conventions. To comply with the provisions of such conventions, the government of Bangladesh had enacted the Narcotics Control Act, 1990 and established the Department of Narcotics Control. According to this Act, different rules were formulated. With the passage of time, the Narcotics Control Act, 2018 has been enacted repealing the previous Narcotics Control Act, 1990.

To control the illicit production of synthetic drugs like psychoactive substances and stimulants, Bangladesh has taken initiatives to regulate the precursor chemicals required to production of these drugs. The precursor chemicals is used to manufacture of synthetic drugs are scheduled as 'A' class drug in the Narcotics Control Act, 2018.

Current Drug Scenario of Bangladesh:

Bangladesh shares 4156 kilometers land border with India by three sides (West, North & East) and 271 km border with Myanmar. Out of which 208 km is land border and 63 km is water boundary at the south-east corner. Porous bordering areas made our country vulnerable to large extent.

Now our major concern is Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS) or YABA and Crystal Methamphetamine (Crystal meth / Ice) which are trafficked into Bangladesh from Myanmar. On the other hand Cannabis, Heroin, Codeine preparations (Phensedyl, Korex,

Escufets), Opioid based injecting drugs and are tablet like; Tapentadol, Tramadol, and Pentadol are trafficked into Bangladesh from India through western and eastern borders.

Measures taken to counter drug dealings:

All law enforcing agencies of our country are working unremittingly to confront this hurdle. We usually conduct regular drives to bring the drug dealers under the ambit of the law. Furthermore, we conduct special drives once in a while to bolster the anti-drug drives.

Statistics on drug cases, arrested persons and seizures:

Name of Drugs	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ATS (Yaba) (Tab. Pcs)	36381017	53073665	45868569	42977219	22857751
Heroin (in Kg)	210.438	441.221	338.279	700.928	502.686
Codeine (Bottle)	1007977	574301	706061	482433	572865
Cannabis (in Kg)	50078.549	86696.281	115367.863	112165.821	114345.2
Injecting Drug (Ampoule)	124608	113070	215511	180285	157977
Opium (kg)	71.6	68.476	46.763	15.663	20.84
Cocaine (in Kg)	3.893	1.55	4.57	13.003	130.184
Crystal Meth / Ice (kg)	0.065	36.794	113.331	186.632	112.344
Total No. of Cases	85718	93190	100321	97241	68461
Total Number of Accused	113543	122152	124775	120287	84847

We conduct regular anti-drug drives against the listed drug dealers. From time to time we conduct week long special anti-drug drives to bring the drug dealers under the judicial process. Our another mode of enforcement is to conduct mobile court drives to make demonstration among the drug dealers. The offences for which the penalty goes up to two years fall under the jurisdiction of mobile court.

We put surveillance on domestic as well as international postal services specially courier services to prevent the drug trafficking of both modes; inbound and outbound.

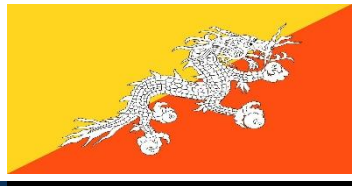
One Special Task Force has been formed to combat Amphetamine Type Stimulant (ATS) in Cox`s Bazar and Teknaf as these areas are considered entry point of inbound ATS

We regularly conduct anti-drug campaign over the country to inject the sense awareness among the community which may contribute to make them drug addiction free. We undertook a series of efforts: arranging seminar, symposium, discussion, class discussion, hanging anti-drug billboard, banner, anti-drug discussion at various institutions. We disseminate anti-drug messages to the community through Full Coloured Outdoor LED Display Billboard and KIOSK at populous places.

We try to bring the drug dependents to the mainstream of the society ensuring proper treatment so that they can contribute in nation building. Like the government organizations, a few non-government organizations work for the treatment of drug dependent population for smoothing the treatment facilities. A number of 4 Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres with 199 beds have been established under the ownership of the government while 396 Private Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres across the country.

As drug abuse is a global problem, it should be addressed and countered globally. With a view to combating drug menace effectively, Bangladesh signed a bilateral agreement with India in 2006 and with Myanmar in 1994. After signing the agreement, 7 bilateral meetings were held between Bangladesh and India and 5 bilateral meetings were held between Bangladesh and Myanmar. Beyond that, we are working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), The Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and SAARC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk (SDOMD), Colombo Plan.

BHUTAN



Introduction and Background

In 2024, the PEMA Secretariat continued to deepen Bhutan's collective response to substance use through a truly people-centred continuum of care, one that not only expanded access to treatment but also restored hope, dignity, and the possibility of a second chance. These efforts were carried forward in close partnership with national and international stakeholders who share the belief that recovery is not an individual struggle alone, but a shared national responsibility.

During the same period, Bhutan's drug situation entered a demand-driven phase, particularly in urban cities, where drug availability was sustained not merely by trafficking networks but by steady and recurring local demand. Royal Bhutan Police operations repeatedly identified the same individuals, indicating patterns of relapse, treatment discontinuity, and cycling through the criminal justice system rather than enforcement failure. Cannabis and solvents were increasingly used in the absence of pharmaceutical drugs, while Paro and Phuntsholing emerged as transition hubs for trafficking activities.

Taken together, these developments marked a strategic transition in 2024 from fragmented interventions toward an integrated, nationally coordinated continuum of care that aligned prevention, treatment, reintegration, and enforcement within a unified public health and public safety framework.

Current Drug Situation

Substance Trends: In 2024, cannabis remained the most commonly abused substance in Bhutan, closely followed by pharmaceuticals such as SP Plus, N10 tablets, and Tramadol. Inhalants, particularly correction fluid and paint thinner, continued to pose risks among youth.

Demographics: The majority of individuals apprehended for drug offences were male, with youth accounting for a significant proportion, highlighting both vulnerability and early

exposure to substance use. Repeat offenders were also prevalent, indicating challenges with relapse and treatment continuity.

Demand and Harm Reduction

In 2024, prevention efforts were strengthened through a coordinated and systems-based approach that placed mental health and early identification at the centre of drug demand reduction. School-based mental health and wellbeing programmes were enhanced in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Skills Development, while the National Mental Health Manual was updated with evidence-based inputs from national experts. Capacity building included the training of Gyalsung instructors, the development of standard operating procedures for mental health services within academies, and the training of Health Assistants to mainstream early identification within primary healthcare services. A standardised health and well-being screening system was also developed to enable early detection and structured referral of substance use and mental health concerns in schools and communities.

Treatment services expanded significantly in 2024, with hospital-based substance use disorder (SUD) treatment integrated into seven hospitals across the country. Structured treatment programmes were also implemented within Chamgang Central Prison and Lungzor District Prison to provide recovery opportunities for inmates convicted of drug-related offences. The formal adoption of Reintegration and Aftercare as a core pillar marked a strategic shift, recognising that treatment without structured social and economic reintegration risks relapse and recidivism. Vocational training in tailoring, bakery, and technical trades was introduced to create viable pathways back into society. A major milestone was the inauguration of the PEMA Rehab (Mitshey Yarab Lamzang), operating under a continuum-of-care model for voluntary and judiciary-referred clients. These initiatives collectively reframed recovery not merely as clinical stabilisation but as restoration of dignity, social participation, and long-term resilience.

Supply Reduction

In 2024, the Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA), aligned with national priorities and the BIMSTEC regional framework, implemented a series of capacity-building programmes to strengthen enforcement of the Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Substance

Abuse (Amendment) (NDPSSA) Act 2018. These initiatives aimed to enhance legal understanding, technical competence, and operational coordination among key enforcement agencies.

A total of 79 officials participated across five batches, representing the Royal Bhutan Police, the Department of Revenue and Customs and the BFDA. The training served as a central platform to strengthen human resource capacity in controlled substances regulation.

The programme focused on international drug control conventions and their national implications, enforcement provisions of the NDPSSA (Amendment) Act 2018, and classification of controlled substances under Schedules I–VI. Through a combination of legal briefings, technical modules, and practical case-based exercises, participants enhanced their ability to identify trafficking methods, apply forensic identification techniques, regulate precursor chemicals, and improve inter-agency response to drug-related cases. In addition, the Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Substance Abuse Rules and Regulations 2024 were drafted and enacted during the year, further strengthening the legal and regulatory framework for effective implementation and enforcement.

Supply reduction efforts in 2024 were intensified through focused enforcement operations, border surveillance, highway checkpoints, and joint operations with Indian counterparts. The annual seizure data for 2024 are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Annual Seizure Data 2024

S.No.	**Type of NDPS**	**2024**
A	**Narcotic Drugs**	
1	Cannabis Leaves (kgs)	13.15
2	Resin (Hashish - kgs)	1.26
3	Cannabis Plants (nos.)	337
4	Codeine (Litre)	17.2
5	Heroin (Brown Sugar- Kgs)	47.88
6	Tramadol (Capsules/Tablets in numbers)	155994
B	**Psychotropic Substances**	
1	Cathinone	0
2	Ketamine	0
3	Methamphetamine	0
4	Nitrazepam (tablets in numbers)	1015

C	**Precursor Chemicals**	0
D	**Solvents & Inhalants**	
1	Correction Fluid diluter(in bottles/pens)	24
2	Dendrite (Litres)	0
3	Thinner (Litres)	42.23
4	Petrol (Litres)	0

Emerging modus operandi revealed increasing sophistication, with drugs concealed in baby diapers, watches, ointment covers, dolls, pickle containers, and spare tyres. The Royal Bhutan Police also advanced digital enforcement through the Narcotic Drug Information System (NDIS), strengthening intelligence sharing, case management, and community engagement. Despite these efforts, stable arrest patterns suggested that enforcement disruptions alone were insufficient without sustained demand reduction.

Conclusion

The year 2024 marked a decisive transition in Bhutan's national response to substance use. While enforcement data reflected a demand-driven drug landscape characterised by repeat offenders and evolving trafficking patterns, the country responded not merely with intensified policing but with structural reform in prevention, treatment, and reintegration. The expansion of hospital-based SUD services, integration of treatment within correctional facilities, development of standardised referral mechanisms, and the inauguration of PEMA Rehab collectively established the foundation of a national continuum-of-care model.

However, stable arrest numbers and recurring cycles of relapse underscored a critical lesson: enforcement disruption alone cannot achieve sustainable impact without enforceable treatment compliance and structured reintegration pathways. By formally recognising reintegration as a core pillar and embedding mental health within schools and primary healthcare systems, Bhutan laid the groundwork for long-term demand reduction. In essence, 2024 was a foundational year, shifting the national approach from reactive control toward coordinated recovery, aligning public health and public safety within a unified strategic framework.

Emerging modus operandi











Capacity Building of the Law Enforcement Agencies







INDIA



1. India's Drug Trafficking Dynamics and Strategic Interdictions:

In 2024, India's strategic location between the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle continued to expose the nation to a complex drug landscape characterized by traditional plant-based narcotics alongside expanding synthetic supply chains. Demonstrating a decisive response, Indian drug law enforcement agencies registered 96,930 cases and arrested 1,22,224 individuals, including 660 foreign nationals. Furthermore, targeted crop destruction operations successfully eradicated 22,512 acres of illicit opium poppy and 34,018 acres of cannabis cultivation, most of which were located in remote, highly inaccessible hilly terrains along international borderlines.

Seizures of Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances (2024)

S.No.	Drug Category	Quantity Seized (in Kgs)
1.	Cannabis (including Ganja, Hashish, Hashish Oil)	5,40,810
2.	Opiates (including Heroin, Opium, Morphine, Poppy Straw)	5,21,366
3.	Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS)	8,406
4.	Cocaine	1,483
5.	Mescaline	25.04
6.	Methaqualone (Mandrax)	29
7.	Mephedrone	3559
8.	Ephedrine/ Pseudoephedrinem	264.49

Enforcement Operations Summary (2024)

S.No.	Metric	Quantity / Count
1.	Total Cases Booked	96,930
2.	Total Persons Arrested	1,22,224
3.	Foreign Nationals Arrested	660
4.	Illicit Poppy Crop Destroyed	22,512 Acres
5.	Illicit Cannabis Crop Destroyed	34,018 Acres

2. Emerging Modus Operandi and Enforcement Trends:

In 2024, illicit trafficking networks operating within the region exhibited heightened technical sophistication and adaptive tactics, utilizing complex multi-modal supply routes to evade detection.

i. Border Drone Incursions: Trafficking syndicates increasingly leveraged unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) along India's western frontier, recording 435 documented drone sightings, a 173% increase compared to 2022. These aerial platforms were systematically deployed to drop high-grade heroin, small arms and ammunition across key border sectors, including Punjab, Rajasthan, and Jammu & Kashmir.





ii. Maritime Concealment & Air Parcel Exploitation: Organized networks expanded their reliance on maritime trade routes and international logistics channels. Illicit consignments were sophisticatedly concealed within containerized commercial cargo, industrial machinery, processed food exports, and international express air parcel couriers to exploit high-volume global trade streams.



iii. Trafficking of Hydroponic Cannabis: Law enforcement agencies in India intercepted 303 kg of high-potency hydroponic cannabis in 2024. Sourced predominantly from North

America and Southeast Asia, these high-value shipments were routed via international air freight and cross-border land networks.

iv. Digital Anonymity & Synthetic Diversion: Traffickers heavily integrated privacy-enhancing technologies into their supply chains, utilizing darknet marketplaces, end-to-end encrypted messaging applications, and peer-to-peer cryptocurrency transactions to obscure financial and operational footprints. Concurrently, domestic supply dynamics shifted toward synthetic narcotics, marked by the dismantling of illegal clandestine laboratories and the diversion of precursor chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations (such as codeine-based cough syrups and controlled prescription tablets), a strategic pivot orchestrated primarily by transnational criminal kingpins operating from foreign jurisdictions.

3. Supply Reduction Initiatives & Field Operations:

To counter evolving transnational drug networks, the Government of India significantly strengthened its physical enforcement framework, relying on a robust multi-agency architecture, strategic institutional convergence, and expanded field operational capabilities.

i. Institutional Governance & Inter-Agency Coordination: Operational intelligence and field interdictions were driven through the four-tier Narco-Coordination Centre (NCORD) mechanism, alongside specialized state-level Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTFs). NCORD serves as India's central multi-agency platform to eliminate institutional silos and streamline counter-narcotics operations. Structured across four administrative tiers - Apex (national policy), Executive (operational strategy), State (regional coordination), and District (grassroots enforcement)—NCORD synchronizes efforts across defence, finance, health, and law enforcement agencies while utilizing a centralized digital portal for real-time intelligence sharing and tracking.

The state-ANTFs act as the specialized operational arms of this framework. ANTFs focus on dismantling complex inter-state trafficking networks, executing targeted interdiction drives, and systematically freezing illicit assets under statutory laws to neutralize financial support for organized drug syndicates.

ii. Expanding Operational Footprint: To strengthen front-line deterrence and close operational gaps, the Narcotics Control Bureau, India's nodal drug law enforcement

agency—substantially expanded its physical footprint across key maritime, land, and international transit corridors. This expansion featured the operationalization of new dedicated Field Offices and Zonal Units, across strategically vulnerable border regions and logistics hubs, accelerating real-time intelligence gathering, improving response times for joint interdictions, and reinforcing territorial surveillance against cross-border trafficking networks.

iii. Specialized High-Level Investigations & Joint Operations: Complex, high-value cases, particularly those involving the narco-terrorism nexus—were systematically monitored and directed by the specialized Joint Coordination Committee (JCC), chaired by the Director General of the NCB. The JCC integrates senior leadership from specialized intelligence, maritime security, cyber-crime, and financial investigation agencies. By pooling domain expertise and operational resources, the JCC ensures unified case management, uncovers multi-layered funding channels, and neutralizes high-value targets operating across state and international jurisdictions. Complementing this internal framework, Indian authorities aggressively executed Controlled Delivery operations in close coordination with foreign counterpart agencies, to target and dismantle entire transnational trafficking syndicates rather than isolated couriers.

iv. Tactical Interdiction Case Study: Demonstrating the impact of cross-jurisdictional intelligence sharing, on 3 August 2024, the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Gujarat Police conducted a targeted interdiction in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra. The operation successfully disrupted a major synthetic drug manufacturing hub, seizing 10.97 kg of solid Mephedrone and 781.46 kg of liquid Mephedrone, while apprehending two primary syndicate operators.

4. Regulatory Framework & Substance Scheduling

Vide S.O. 577 (E) dated 08.02.2024, India placed seven (7) New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) under statutory control under the NDPS Act, 1985, aligning with the recommendations of the 66th UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND):

a. Narcotic Drugs Scheduled:

- 2-Methyl-AP-237
- Etazene
- Etonitazepyne

- Protonitazene

b. Psychotropic Substances Scheduled:

- ADB-BUTINACA
- Alpha-PiHP
- 3-Methylmethcathinone

5. Precursor Chemical Control in India

In India, precursors are controlled under three different Acts namely the NDPS Act, 1985, the Customs Act, 1962 and the Foreign Trade Development & Regulation Act, 1992, and are enforced by three different agencies which are briefly discussed below:

(i) NDPS Act - Regulation of Controlled Substances (RCS) Order, 2013: The Government of India has notified twenty-seven precursor chemicals as Controlled Substances vide Regulation of Controlled Substances Order, 2013. The precursor chemicals have been classified into three Schedules. These are:

a. Domestic Controls:
   - Schedule- A (7 substances whose manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, import, export, consumption, offer for sale or distribution or mediate in sale/purchase through website, social media or in any other manner is subject to controls exercised by NCB)

b. Export/Import Control:
   - Schedule- B: (27 substances including substances of schedule- A whose export from India is subject to controls by Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN).
   - Schedule - C: (27 substances including substances of schedule A whose import into India is subject to controls by CBN).

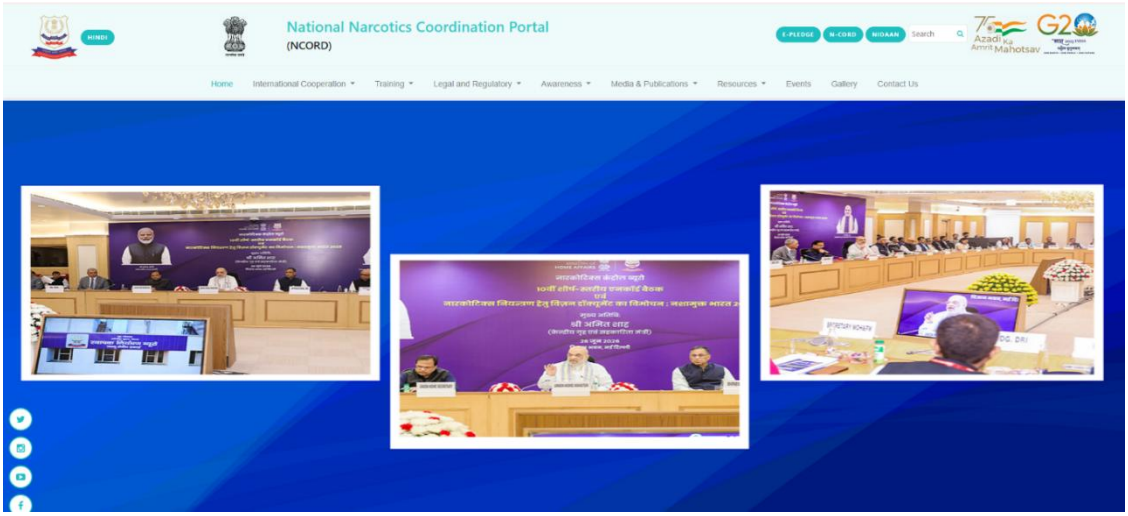
(ii) Border Controls: Border guarding forces such as Border Security Force (BSF), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Assam Rifles are empowered for search, seizure and arrest in cases of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Controlled Substances under NDPS Act, 1985.

(iii) Export & Import Controls: Controls imposed under the EXIM policy/ PEN Regime: India adheres strictly to the Pre Export Notification (PEN) regime. The Export-Import policy, framed under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992, imposes restrictions on the import and export of goods. Export/Import of Controlled substances listed in Schedule B&C of RCS Order, 2013 is subject to a "No Objection Certificate" from CBN.

6. Digital Initiatives in Drug Control & Administration

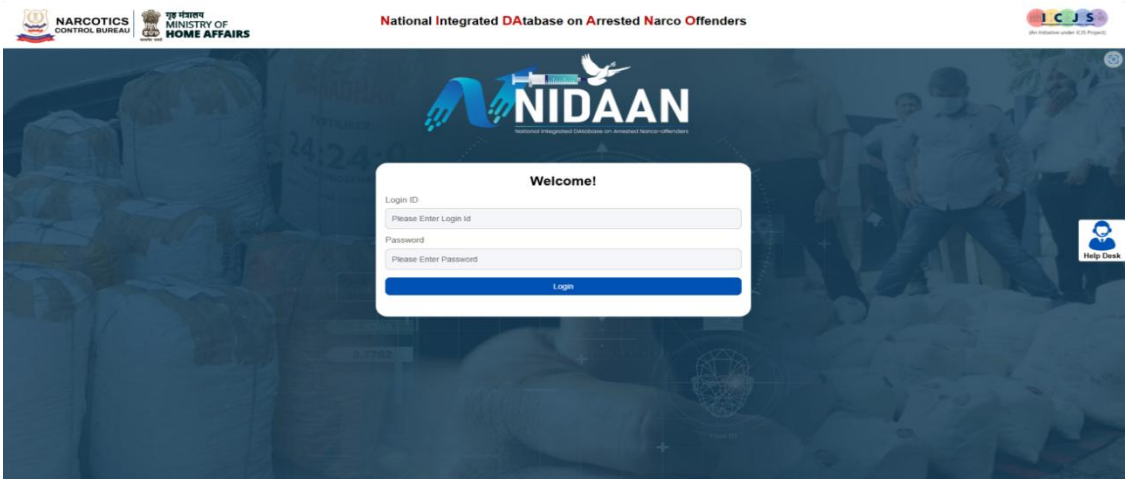
To counter the growing technological sophistication of drug syndicates, India modernized its counter-narcotics capabilities through a fully integrated, multi-agency digital architecture. By linking operational databases, judicial systems, and financial tracking platforms, law enforcement agencies established a unified digital grid to detect, interdict, and prosecute technology-enabled drug trafficking.

I. **NCORD Portal & Knowledge Management System (KMS):** Functioning as the central digital spine of national counter-narcotics governance, the NCORD KMS seamlessly connects all four administrative tiers—from district-level enforcement up to central ministries. The portal standardizes policy guidelines, monitors actionable outcomes from inter-agency meetings, and facilitates the rapid dissemination of state-level best practices nationwide.



II. **NIDAAN (National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-Offenders):** NIDAAN is India's dedicated, centralized database created specifically for tracking, monitoring, and profiling individuals involved in narcotics-related offenses across the country. It acts as a single-source repository for counter-

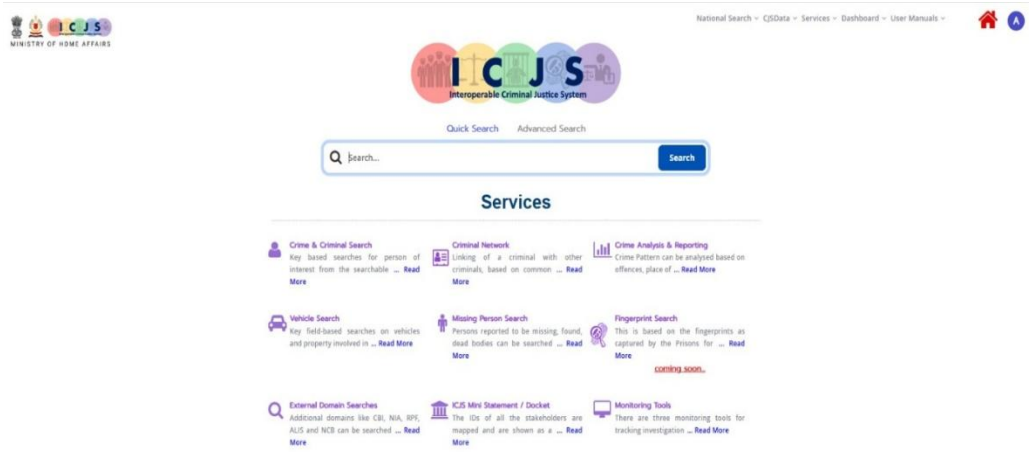
narcotics intelligence & consolidates detailed records of arrested drug offenders, including personal identifiers, past arrests, judicial/bail status, financial trails, and linked criminal networks. It also enables law enforcement agencies to instantly identify repeat offenders, uncover multi-state supply chains, and map out complex transnational drug syndicates.



III. **CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems):** CCTNS is the nationwide digital backbone of India's police infrastructure, connecting over 16,000 police stations and enforcement offices across all States and Union Territories. It digitizes the entire lifecycle of crime reporting, investigation, and prosecution. It Provides field officers with instant access to national crime records, vehicle registration details, and warrant databases directly from the field, eliminates jurisdictional delays by allowing police forces across different states to share intelligence, track absconding criminals, and cross-reference modus operandi in real time.



IV. **ICJS (Inter-operable Criminal Justice System):** The Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) is a flagship initiative of the Government of India designed to integrate the nation's key pillars of the criminal justice delivery system into a seamless, data-sharing platform and enables real-time information exchange across all organs of justice. This system eliminates physical paperwork and procedural lag by enabling immediate online transmission of First Information Reports (FIRs), charge-sheets, forensic analysis reports, court summons, bail orders, and judicial verdicts across agencies. This system provides law enforcement and judicial authorities with a complete, transparent digital trail of a criminal case throughout its entire lifecycle from initial arrest to final sentencing or acquittal.



V. **Biometric Interoperability via NAFIS:** NAFIS is India's centralized, country-wide biometric database which acts as a national repository for ten-print fingerprint sets, revolutionizing criminal identification and forensic investigation across all law enforcement agencies. The Government of India has recently operationalized the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) to strengthen biometric intelligence against organized drug crime. By cross-linking NAFIS biometric profiles with the National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-Offenders (NIDAAN), the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS), and the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), field officers gain real-time access to centralized offender records. This interoperable digital framework enables instant identity verification at

interdiction points, rapid identification of repeat offenders, and the visual mapping of broader transnational trafficking networks.

VI. **Litigation Lifecycle Management:** The Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) was implemented across all law enforcement agencies. Operating on a 24/7 real-time monitoring matrix, LIMBS tracks court litigations throughout their entire lifecycle, reducing procedural delays and ensuring robust legal representation in complex drug trials.



VII. **E-Tribunal Asset Freezing System:** Operationalized by the Department of Revenue, the E-Tribunal platform digitized the end-to-end issuance, tracking, and judicial confirmation of property freezing, attachment, and detention orders. This platform bridges Appellate, Competent, and Adjudicating Authorities to execute swift financial sanctions under key statutes, including SAFEMA (1976), the NDPS Act (1985), PMLA (2002), and the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act (1988).

VIII. **BHARATPOL:** Government of India developed BHARATPOL Portal which functions as a centralized digital gateway connecting state police forces, central intelligence agencies, and international law enforcement partners. The platform streamlines cross-border police cooperation by facilitating real-time information sharing, expediting requests for INTERPOL Notices, and tracking overseas investigation leads to dismantle transnational drug trafficking networks and apprehend fugitive kingpins.



IX. **MANAS National Helpline (1933):** The national 24/7 toll-free helpline—Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochna Kendra (MANAS)—provides a unified public reporting mechanism. Accessible via phone (1933), SMS, web portal, email, and the government's UMANG mobile application, MANAS empowers citizens to securely report illicit trafficking activity while serving as a direct intelligence feed for law enforcement agencies.



7. Demand and Harm Reduction Initiatives

A. Demand Reduction Framework & Outreach

To address the public health and social dimensions of substance abuse, Government of India enacted the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) on 1 April 2018. Serving as India's core demand-reduction policy framework, the NAPDDR provides structured financial and operational assistance to State and Union Territory governments, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and government healthcare institutions. The strategy prioritizes evidence-based primary prevention, early identification, clinical treatment, and holistic rehabilitation to achieve Whole Person Recovery (WPR)—a model aimed at fully integrating recovered individuals back into society while combating stigma. Through a multi-stakeholder model, the NAPDDR finances and standardizes community-based rehabilitation infrastructure, including Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCAs), Outreach and Drop-In Centres (ODICs), and specialized addiction treatment facilities within government hospitals. By bridging medical interventions with socio-economic reintegration, vocational training, and capacity building, the framework ensures a balanced national response that complements law enforcement interdiction efforts with sustained public health support.

I._Expansion of the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA): Building upon targeted demand-reduction strategies, the Government of India expanded the flagship Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)—initially launched on 15 August 2020 across 272 vulnerable districts—to cover all districts nationwide in August 2023. Operating as a mass community-led campaign (Jan Andolan), the initiative mobilizes local administrations, law enforcement, civil society, and youth networks to create a sustainable, drug-free social environment. Mass Outreach, Youth Engagement, and Strategic Partnerships through massive public awareness and preventive education campaigns, the NMBA reached over 10.80 crore individuals by March 2024, focusing extensively on high-risk demographics by sensitizing more than 3.40 crore youth and 2.28 crore women. Institutional engagement was institutionalized across 3.32+ lakh educational institutions through pledge drives, seminars, and peer-led awareness programs. To strengthen grassroots advocacy and behavioural change, the campaign established strategic partnerships with prominent faith-based organizations, spiritual institutions, and over 20,000 trained Master Volunteers (Nasha Mukti Mitras) to drive community ownership across the country.

II. International Observance & Capacity Building: Demonstrating strong alignment with international counter-narcotics frameworks, the Government of India observed the

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26 June 2024 under the global UNODC theme, "The Evidence is Clear: Invest in Prevention." The national observance reinforced India's commitment to evidence-based prevention strategies, public health integration, and targeted awareness campaigns aimed at addressing substance use disorders at the root level.The National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) scaled its capacity-building operations in FY 2024–25 to 415 training sessions (training 11,702 service providers) and 879 awareness programs (reaching 85,682 individuals), building on 146 programs (4,734 participants) conducted in FY 2023–24.

III. Family Skills & Helpline Integration: UNODC and India piloted the *Family United Program* in Assam and Manipur for evidence-based family skills training. Operational support continued for the 24/7 Helpline (14446), which was integrated with NCB's MANAS portal (1933) and MoHFW's Tele-MANAS.

IV. Treatment Facilities & Budget Allocation: Scheme funding under NAPDDR increased from ₹172.08 Crore (benefiting 6,06,167 individuals in FY 2023–24) to ₹266.69 Crore released in FY 2024–25, benefiting 8,20,832 individuals across 700+ facilities. Supported infrastructure included:

- 350 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCAs)
- 124 District De-Addiction Centres (DDACs)
- 142 Hospital-based Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs)
- 74 Outreach and Drop-In Centres (ODICs)
- 46 Community Peer-Led Interventions (CPLIs)
- Dedicated de-addiction and rehabilitation interventions in prison settings.

B. Harm Reduction Strategy & Operations (NACO)

I. Targeted Interventions (TIs): Under NACP Phase V (2021–26), the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) executed harm reduction across 33 States/UTs via 558 TIs, reaching 2.94 lakh People Who Inject Drugs (PWIDs) (>95% of the national estimated population).

II. Clinical Screening & Prevention: In 2024, clinical services conducted 4.14 lakh HIV tests (detecting 4,456 PLHIV; 1.08% sero-positivity) and 4.05 lakh syphilis tests (detecting 384

reactive cases; 0.09% sero-positivity). Distribution reached 703 lakh needles/syringes (averaging 239 per PWID/year) and 104 lakh condoms, alongside 8.0 lakh annual clinic visits and STI treatment for 2,856 PWIDs.

III. Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST): Delivered across 489 operational centres (232 public health settings, 48 NGO facilities, and 209 satellite centres in primary healthcare and prison settings). A total of 60,652 PWIDs (~20% of TI coverage) actively received Buprenorphine-based OST, achieving a 54% retention rate and an 85% treatment adherence rate, with 14,540 individuals receiving concurrent Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART).

IV. Inter-Ministerial Convergence: Operational synergy between MoSJE and MoHFW was strengthened through an integrated PWID service package piloted in 9 districts across 8 states (linking demand reduction, harm reduction, TB, Viral Hepatitis, and Tele-MANAS), supported by clinical training on NIMHANS' *Addiction Rx* application.

MYANMAR



Publication of Notifications

1. The State Administration Council, Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has reconstituted the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control step by with 19 members and 21 duties and functions by notification order No.25/2022 on 21st January, 2022 by exercising the powers conferred under sections 4 and 5 of the chapter 3 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law (1993).

2. The Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control reformed and modernized with (11) working sectors by notification order No. 1/2022 on 17th April 2022, by exercising the powers conferred under section 7 of Chapter 4 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law (1993).

Burning and burial of seized drugs, chemicals and related materials in Taunggyi City, Yangon City and Mandalay City

3. In commemoration of the 36th International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit Trafficking, the destruction ceremony of seized narcotic drugs, chemicals and related materials was held in accordance with the Covid-19 guidelines in Taunggyi, Yangon and Mandalay on 26th June, 2023.

4. The destruction ceremony was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister and the chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, Union Minister of Home Affairs, Lieutenant General Soe Htut, Prime Minister of Shan State U Aung Zaw Aye and his members, military officials of East Military Command, Chairmen of self-administered Division, Commander of Drug Enforcement Division Police Brigadier General Win Naing, Police officials, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, students and groups of national races and local people, in total of about 550 persons. The drugs and chemicals burnt were over 475.885 kg of opium, over 562.809 kg of heroin, over 83 million of ATS tablets, over 4793.308 kg of ICE, over 805.359 kg of Ketamine, over 180.876 kg Cannabis, over 307.315 kg of brown opium, in total 23 kinds of drugs and 52 kinds of chemicals worth were incinerated on that day 355.268 billion kyats (US$ 169.175 millions).

5. The destruction ceremony was attended by Prime Minister of Yangon region U Soe Thein and his members, Secretary of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Major General Zin Min Htet Chief of the Myanmar Police Force, Military officials and police officials from Yangon Region and representatives from International agencies, in total of 412 person. The seized drugs in Yangon region, Ayeyarwaddy region, Rakhing state and lower Myanmar including 176.232 kg of opium, over 92.521 kg of heroin, over 45 million of ATS tablets, over 12748.305 kg of ICE, over 728.838 kg of karatom powder, over 4163.132 kg of Ketamine, over 385.877 kg of Cannabis in total 20 kinds of drugs and 16 kinds of chemicals worth over 436.456 billion kyats (over USD $ 207.8364 million) were incinerated on that day.

6. The destruction ceremony was attended by Prime Minister of Mandalay region U Myo Aung and his members, Regional ministers, Commander of Central Military officials, Regional ministers, Police Lieutenant Major General Aung Naing Thu, Deputy Chief of Myanmar Police Force and police officials, Chinese Ambassador and counterparts, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, representatives from Nursing Universities and students in total of about 1100 person. A total of 19 kinds of drugs and 15 kinds of chemicals were seized in Mandalay division, Sagaing division, Kachin State and Upper Myanmar region, including over 478.031 kg of opium, over 610.445 kg of heroin, over 25 million of ATS tablets, over 3527.759 kg of ICE, over 274.787 kg of cannabis, in total value is 144.998 billion kyats (US $ 69.0467 billion) were incinerated on that day.

7. In Myanmar, 37 types of drugs, psychotropic substances and 67 types of chemicals, worth a total of 936.723billion Kyats (US $ 446.058 million), were seized and burned or buried in 2023.



Fig 1. Drugs and precursor chemicals seized in 2023 are being burned and buried in Mandalay.

Holding the Meeting of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (1/2023)

8. At 1300 p.m. 25th October 2023, the meeting (1/2023) of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control was held in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines at the Ahreindhamar Hall in Myanmar Police Force Headquarter in Nay Pyi Taw and it was attended by the Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Union Minister for Home Affairs, Lieutenant General Yar Pyae, the Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, Deputy Minister cum Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Lieutenant General Ni Lin Aung, the Joint-Secretary of CCDAC cum Commander of Drug Enforcement Division Police Brigadier General Win Naing, members of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, chairman and secretaries of the working sectors, senior police officials of Myanmar Police Force, delegates from relevant ministries, a total of 55 individuals in-person format. The chairman, secretaries of the Regions/State Committees for Drug Abuse Control, in total of 60 individuals attended those events through video conferencing platform.



Fig 2. Union Minister for Home Affairs, Lieutenant General Ya Pyae, delivered the opening speech at the meeting of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control.

Elimination of opium cultivation and production

Activities of Alternative Development Sector

9. **Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department**

(a) Road / bridge Activity **No.**

(1) Earth Road	20/2 Miles
(2) Kankar Road	24/3 Miles
(3) Gravel Road	58/4 Miles
(4) Asphalt Road	7/4 Miles
(5) Asphalt Overlay	8/5 Miles
(6) Concrete Road	25/) Miles
(7) Extension Road	144/20 Miles
(8) Paving	10/1 Miles
(9) Brick Fencing	1
(10) Gravel Road Maintenance	23/1 Miles
(11) Concrete Bridge	19
(12) Course Way Bridge	1
(13) Bailey Bridge	2
(14) Box Culverts	607
(15) Retaining Wall	3
(16) Maintenance of Steel Bridge	360 Feets

(b) Water Supply Activity

Gravity – flow Spring	6/0 miles

(c) Education Activity

(1) (60x30) RC school	4 Buildings
(2) (120x30x12) RC school	2 Buildings

(d) Electrification Activity

Installation of Electricity	2

(e) Building Activity

Low - cost housing	108 Building

(f) Religious Activity

(1)	Building in RC 2-storeyed monastery	1
(2)	Building a Monastery	3
(3)	Construction of Refectory Room	19





Fig 3. Concrete road paving in Chipwe Township, Kachin State. *Fig 4. Construction of a concrete bridge in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State*

10. **The first pilot project, independently implemented by the Alternative Development Implementation Management Team**

Project Duration - 2017-2018 Fiscal year to 2019-2020 Fiscal year 3 years and 6 months

Project Township - Southern Part of Shan State, Pa-O Self – Administered Zone, Pinlaung Township, 30 villages in Pop-inn Village Tract,

15 villages in Mmawe Pyin Village Tract, 27 villages in Pin Khin Village Tract and 25 villages in Lwe Maw Villagae Tract, Totally 97 villages.

Project Activities - Agriculture, Livestock Breeding, Education, Health, Water Supply, Roads and Bridges, Electricity Supply, Microfinance

Project Fund - 6992.530 million kyats

Activities of Crop Substitution Sector

11. **Project Sites for the areas of Drug Elimination**

(a) Kachin State (Waimaw, Mohnyin, Tanai, Hpakant,

Chipwe, Putao) 6 townships

(b) Kayah State (Loikaw, Demoso, Hpruso) 3 townships

(c) Chin State (Tonzang, Tedin) 2 townships

(d) Southern Shan State 20 townships
(Kunhing, Mong Pan, LangKhe, Hsihseng, Phekon, Mong Kung, Hopong, Mohgnai, Pinlaung, Kyethi, Nyaungshwe, Namsang, Monghsu, Laihka, Mawkmai, Pinlon, Kalaw, Loilem, Naungtayar)

(e) Northern Shan State 12 townships
(Lashio, Hseni, Tanyan, Mongyai, Muse, Kunlong, Namtu, Namhkan, Mangtong, Kutkai, Namsang, Mongmit)

(f) Eastern Shan State 9 townships
(Kyungtong, Mongyang, Monghsat, Mongtong, Mongpying, Monghpyak, Mongkhet, Tachileik, Matmang)

(g) Saggaing Region 1 township
(Nangyoon)

(h) Magway Region 3 townships
(Ngaphae, Mindong, Minhla)



Fig 5. A model rice paddy field in Kyungtong Township, Shan State (Eastern)

Activities of Livestock Breeding Sector

12. Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, member of the Working group on Alternative Development Management from January 1 to December 31, 2023; completed the:

(a) Distribution of native chicken and pigs;

(b) Organizing the public awareness campaign for livestock development;

(c) Organizing training courses on livestock farming

13. Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department distributed the local breeds of chickens and pigs to Kachin and Shan States where narcotic farming is replaced by livestock farming. Public awareness campaigns and trainings for the livestock sector development were also completed within July to September as planned for the 2023-2024 fiscal year under the federal budget, 24.8 million MMK.

14. The activities conducted under the second pilot project in Shan State (Southern), Pa-O Self-Administered Zone for 2023-2024 fiscal year. The activities include knowledge sharing sessions on livestock farming, supportive trainings for the livelihoods and provision of 100 heads of local breed pigs by using 25.9 million MMK.



Fig 6. Distribution of local pigs in Hopong Township, Pa-O Self-Administered Region

Demand Elimination

Activities of Medical Treatment Sector

15. Ministry of Health is the major organization responsible for raising the health of all people through provision of comprehensive health care services. The capacity of drug treatment is the utmost important role to attain full life expectancy and enjoy longevity of life for every citizen. Align with National Drug Control Policy by the guidance of Central Committee of Drug Abuse Control, the Department of Medical services, Ministry of Health leads the Treatment Sector to endeavor the evidence-based drug treatment services, as well as prevention of the negative consequences of drug use.

16. As drug use is a global problem that affects individuals, families and communities worldwide, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal - SDG 3, "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages," addresses this issue through SDG 3.5, which aims to "strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol." One of the indicators for measuring progress towards this goal is indicator 3.5.1, which tracks the coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders.

17. Being a signatory to United Nations drugs conventions, Myanmar enacted "Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law (1993), and subsequently amended the law on February 14 2018, in response to the evolving needs and circumstances. Concurrently, Myanmar government has adopted a new approach towards drug control measures by announcing a roadmap for National Drug Control in 2016 and the National Drug Control Policy on February 20, 2018. As outlined in the policy, the approach towards addressing the problem would be the health-oriented approach, with a focus on reducing the negative consequences of drug use being incorporated as a key component. Priority areas involved in the policy are:

(a) Supply Reduction and Alternative Development

(b) Demand Reduction and Harm Reduction

(c) International Cooperation

(d) Research and Analysis

(e) Compliance with Human Rights

18. The Drug Dependency Treatment and Research Unit - DDTRU consistently submitted treatment statistics and data to the International Narcotics Control Board's - INCB quarterly reports, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's - UNODC Annual Report Questionnaires - ARQ, and the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network's Annual Report. In collaboration with the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control - CCDAC, DDTRU participated in and presented on the implementation of drug treatment activities in international and ASEAN meetings, as well as at meetings of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs - CND, the INCB, and the UNODC.



Fig 7. Drug awareness speech

Activities of Rehabilitation Sector

Formation of the Rehabilitation Working Group

19. Rehabilitation Working Group had been organized since 1980. According to the Notification No. 3/2016 on 19.9.2016, it was reformed and performed activities with the Chairman, is the Deputy Minister from Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and resettlement and included as the members are Director General from General administration Department, Director General from Department of Small Scale Industry, Director General from Department of labor, Director General from Department of Technical and Vocational Education, Director General from Department of Medical Services, Head of Department

from Myanmar Police Force and the Secretary, Director General from Department of Rehabilitation.

20. The Department of Rehabilitation has been implementing the rehabilitation services in accord with the three following Strategies:

(a) Center Based Rehabilitation,

(b) Semi-Community Based Rehabilitation,

(c) Community Based Rehabilitation.

21. The following activities are being implemented at the Drug Rehabilitation Centers for Ex Drug Users:

(a) Interviewing and Recording the biological data of trainees,

(b) Making assessment based on the use of drugs,

(c) The following social work practices are being carried out:

(1) Mental rehabilitation:

- Individual counseling, Group counseling, Family counseling,
- Practicing Meditation,
- Preventive Education Program based on the type of drug used,
- Occupational Therapy and Religious therapy,
- Recreation.

22. Conducting Rehabilitation Services at the Centers: From January to December 2023, 28 trainees in Mandalay Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Lashio Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Yangon Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Wetthtikan Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Kyungtong Drug Rehabilitation Center, have been rehabilitated. There was a total of 108 rehabilitated trainees.

23. Conducting Community Based Rehabilitation Services at community: From January to December 2023, 30 trainees in Pankwetaung village, Lwemway Tract, Kyaingtong Township, Shan State, 30 trainees in Winemaw Township, Kachin State have been rehabilitated. There was a total of 60 rehabilitated trainees.

24. Conducting Volunteer Social Worker Training: From January to December 2023, 20 trainees in Mandalay Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Lashio Drug Rehabilitation Center, 40 trainees in Yangon Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Namlat Drug Rehabilitation Center, 20 trainees in Hpa-An Drug Rehabilitation Center, have been rehabilitated. There was a total of 120 rehabilitated trainees.

25. A total of 2,555 students were educated through awareness lectures on the topic of "Drugs and Human Enmity" in 15 basic education schools in the Nay Pyi Taw Council area and various regions/states.



Fig 8. Trainees doing health exercises at the Drug Rehabilitation Center (Wetthtikan).

Activities of Community Service Supervision Sector

26. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law was amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 6 in Feb, 2018. According to the amendment, the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control notified to organize the Social Benefit Supervision Committee with the Notification No. 1/2020 on 3-2-2020 in an accord with the Section 7 (k) of this Law.

27. Social Benefit Supervision Committee was formed with 24 members and the Chairman is the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government. Then, General Administration Department was transferred to the Ministry of Home Affairs from the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government by Notification No.119/2021 on 2021 May 5th of the State Administration Council. Due to the need to supplement the relevant departments depending on the nature of the task, the letter was submitted to the Central Committee on 2022 Janauary 21st to reorganize Social Benefit Supervision Committee. Later on, Central Committee restructured (11) working groups

for the prevention of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic by Notification No.1/2022 on 2022 April 17th.

28. According to the decision of the first coordination meeting of the Social Benefit Supervision Committee held on 2020 March 10th, it was decided to organize Social Benefit Supervision Committee in Nay Pyi Taw, Region/State, District, Township, the ward/village group levels respectively. In order to able to form above mentioned levels, the targeted structures were presented to the Central Committee for the approval. Then after getting approval, Social Benefit Supervision Committee groups were formed in respective levels.

Activities of the Students and Youths Education Sector

29. As the national government is speeding up the development of the country, on the other hand, efforts are being made from all sides to control the drug problem that hinders the development of the country. The elimination of drugs is considered as a national responsibility and efforts are being made. The Central Committee for Drug Abuse is an organization that represents the State and is forming various working groups in a systematic manner. Under the Ministry of Education, the Committee for Educating Students and Youths, a working group of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse, must take timely preventive measures and educate students and youths in advance through various drug educating activities to understand and avoid the dangers of drugs.

30. At the on-campus canteens of Universities, Degree Colleges, Colleges, Education Degree Colleges, Basic Education Schools and Learning Centers within a distance of 100 yards, in order to ensure that there is no using and selling of drug, the school canteen supervision committee carried out periodically inspecting and supervising, placing educational advertisements, checking with local police officers and parents and accessing information and prevention.

31. For the classroom activities, students were grouped together to discuss the collection of local and global issues, news and photos related to drug. Discussing and sharing the information gathered by their groups with each other, disseminating information and knowledge obtained from the drug awareness sessions by selecting

students who can lead, are being carried out in Universities, Degree Colleges, Colleges, Education Degree Colleges, Basic Education Schools and Learning Centers.

32. In non-formal primary and middle education, the Ministry of Education conducted lectures and activities on educating students and youths in cooperation with teachers, the respective ward/village administrators and township education officers from the Department of Basic Education, based principals and township, state and region supervisors implementing of NFPE and NFME supervisors.

33. In the 2023-2024 academic year, as the eve of "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking" which falls on June 26 every year, conducting youth talks, presenting educational lessons and educational lectures on the dangers of drugs were carried out in Universities, Degree Colleges, Colleges, Education Degree Colleges, Basic Education Schools and Learning Centers. To these lectures, teachers, students and parents attended as follows:



Figure 9. Lecture on danger of drugs at the Degree College of Education, Katha.

Activities of the Mass Media Sector

34. On the behalf of the Mass Media Sector Committee, Information and Public Relations Department carried out following educative works from Jan to Dec 2023:

(a)	Wall-sheet displays	1070 Times
(b)	Photo-Exhibitions	186 Times

(c)	Pamphlets Distribution	100000 Copies
(d)	Talk Show	380 Times
(e)	Lecture	504 Times

35. Myanmar Radio and Television broadcasts anti-narcotic news, talks, educative songs, and Plays in Myanmar, English and national ethnic group languages program as follows:

(a)	News	5302 Times
(b)	Article	863 Times
(c)	Educative Songs	2471 Times
(d)	Story	203 Times
(e)	Program	14 Times
(f)	Theme	1110 Times
(g)	Educational broadcast	13 Times
(h)	May be beautiful future lives	1003 Times
(i)	Motivation	154 Times

36. No.1 Tatmadaw Television Broadcasting Unit, No.2 Tatmadaw Television Broadcasting Unit, Myawaddy Publishing House, Yadanabon Daily Newspaper House and People's Army Periodical under the Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Directorate office, Ministry of Defense carried out following activities:

(a)	Myawaddy TV news	451 Times
(b)	TV Spot	797 Times
(c)	Program	27 Times
(d)	Article	69 Times
(e)	Poem	6 Times
(f)	Editorial	6 Times
(g)	Interviews	1 Times



Fig 10. Organizing a poster exhibition to raise awareness about the dangers of drugs

Drug Law Enforcement

Activities of Drug Law Enforcement

37. Opium poppy cultivations took place in the regions of far-reaching from the governance, and in the regions of difficult transportations, less development, security instability, and remote and hilly regions in Myanmar. Opium poppies are cultivated mostly in Shan State, and it was also found in Sagaing Region, Magwe Region, Kachin State, Chin State and Kayah State.

38. Since the CCDAC and UNODC jointly conducted the opium cultivation survey, the total area under cultivation was, in 2013 - 2014 poppy-cultivation season, 57600 hectares of poppy-cultivation took place in the country and 15188.49 hectares were destroyed, and in 2014 - 2015 poppy-cultivation Season, 55500 hectares of opium cultivation took place in the country and 13274.97 hectares were destroyed. In 2015 - 2016 poppy-cultivation Season, the poppy - cultivation survey could not be conducted and 7562.79 hectares of poppy fields were destroyed. In 2016 - 2017 poppy-cultivation Season, 41000 hectares of opium cultivation took place and 3536.96 hectares were destroyed. In 2017 - 2018 poppy-cultivation Season, 37300 hectares of opium cultivation took place and 2578.53 hectares were destroyed. In 2018 - 2019 poppy-cultivation Season, 33100 hectares of opium cultivation took place and 2459.91 hectares were destroyed. In 2019 - 2020 poppy-cultivation Season, 29500 hectares of opium cultivation took place and 2026.58 hectares of opium cultivation were destroyed. In 2020 - 2021 poppy-cultivation Season, 30200 hectares

of opium cultivation took place and 4632.97 hectares of opium cultivation were destroyed. In 2021 - 2022 poppy-cultivation Season, 40100 hectares of opium cultivation took place and 1403.27 hectares of opium cultivation were destroyed. In 2022 - 2023, 47100 hectares of opium cultivation took place and 2357.7 hectares of opium cultivation were destroyed. In 2022, 40100 hectares of opium cultivation took place and in 2023, 47100 hectares were cultivated. Therefore, 18 % of opium cultivation was increased in 2023 than the year 2022.

39. Since the chemicals and related materials which are the main raw materials for the production of narcotic drugs cannot be produced in Myanmar and they are smuggled into Myanmar in different ways from the neighboring countries. In Myanmar, Tatmadaw (Army), Myanmar Police Force and Customs Department have been playing a key role on the works of drug law enforcement and suppression. In 2023, there were 6,539 cases of drug seizures, and a total of 8,853 defendants.

40. With reference to the case study of raw opium seizures arrested in 2023, it was found out that the largest raw poppy cultivation area with 51.7 % of the seizures of the whole country is in Shan State, 26.8 % in Mandalay Region, 12.6 % in Kachin State, 8.7 % in Sagaing Region and 0.08 % in Magwe Region were arrested.



Fig 11. Seizure of drugs, weapons, and related paraphernalia in Shan State.

Supervision of Controlled Precursor Chemicals

41. On July 10, 2009, the State/Region Controlled Precursor Chemicals Inspection Committees were constituted under the Rules on the Supervision of Controlled Precursor Chemicals for the transports across States / Regions, storage, possession, and retailed and whole sale distribution of the controlled precursor chemicals not to divert into the illegal ways, and the field inspections have been conducting for the controlled precursor chemicals to reach actually to the End Product.

42. For the preventions of illegal smuggling of controlled chemicals and arriving from the diverted way through licit trade of controlled chemicals, the controlled precursor chemicals were scrutinized and supervised in Regions/ State not to divert the wrong ways, there were 614 times of surprised/ regular inspections, 788 times of educative talks and 390 times of transport from Yangon Region across other Regions / States, which were monitored and supervised in 2023.

43. Implementing Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in line with stipulated guidelines plays a key role in prevention of abusing and diversion of controlled chemicals, non-controlled chemicals and hazardous substances used in drug production. Therefore, awareness raising programmes are suffixed to the workshops held in conjunction with chemical importing/ exporting companies, entrepreneurs, concerning departments and organizations in order to implement the aforesaid preventive measures.

44. In regard to importation of chemicals under international control and those beyond international control list, Myanmar is cooperatively communicating with member countries by using Pre-Export Notification System and Pre-Export Notification System Online Light System. Myanmar had thus granted 67 approvals and 10 letters of disapproval, reaching 77 communications in total by communicating with Malaysia, Singapore, China, Thailand, India and French under Pre-Export Notification Online System. Likewise, out of 69 communications with the said countries by using Pre-Export Notification Online Light System, 22 approvals and 47 disapprovals had been granted in the same year.



Fig 12. The Committee for the Supervision of Controlled Precursor Chemicals inspects the transportation and storage of chemicals.

Mobilizing Community to Participate in Fight Against Drug

Activities of Myanmar Anti - Narcotics Association

45. Vision of MANA is a Drug-free Society and Goal of MANA is a Healthier and Safer Society. MANA, one of the National Non - Governmental Organizations, has been vigorously working for anti - narcotic activities as a National Concern. MANA has uninterruptedly provided Information Education Sessions on harms of gate-keeper drugs that are smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol.

46. MANA Youth Empowerment Team (MYET) created a room for Health Care Center that is providing health care services for 3 days a week (Monday, Wednesday, Friday) with a contribution of a medical doctor and a nurse.



Fig 13. Giving a speech by the Chairman of the Myanmar Anti Narcotic Association to raise awareness about the dangers of drugs.

Activities of Border Areas Development Association

47. Border Areas Development Association - BDA believes steadfastly that with the improvement of socio-economic lives of the people including education, health, livelihood, the menace of narcotic drugs will wither away gradually.

48. Since the establishment of Association in 1996, BDA has been cooperating with the Center for Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Prevention and Control in drug control activities. In every activity carried out by the Association, educational lectures on the elimination of drug abuse are held together.



Fig 14. Giving a community - based drug awareness speech by the Myanmar Border Areas Development Association - BDA

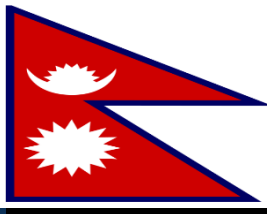
International Cooperation

49. In 2023, CCDAC attended local / international seminars / workshops for 3 times, meetings for 6 times and study visit for 3 times physically. 1 time of online workshop and 6 times of online meeting were attended.



Figure 15. Attending the 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters

NEPAL



1. Legal Framework

Nepal's legal framework for controlling narcotic drugs is based on a series of laws, policies, strategies, and operational directives that regulate prevention, control, treatment, and rehabilitation. The main part of this framework is the Narcotic Drugs Control Act 1976, which makes it illegal to produce, traffic, possess, and use narcotic drugs. This law gives law enforcement and judicial authorities the power to respond to drug-related crimes.

Supporting the Act is the National Policy on Narcotic Drugs (2006), which provides clear policy direction. It focuses on reducing demand, controlling supply, minimizing harm, and promoting treatment, rehabilitation, and international cooperation. The Narcotic Drugs Control Strategy (2009), puts this policy into action by outlining coordinated efforts among government agencies and stakeholders to effectively implement drug control measures. For treatment and harm reduction, the Operational Directives for Oral Substitution Treatment (OST) 2013 set standards for safely providing substitution therapy to users dependent on opioids. To further improve the health and social response, the Directives for Operating Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers for Drug Users (2018) establish legal and procedural standards for setting up, running, and monitoring treatment and rehabilitation centers.

Moreover, precursor chemicals used to make illegal drugs, like pseudoephedrine, ephedrine, Sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, Acetic anhydride etc. are officially listed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. These chemicals require specific permissions for import to prevent misuse. Together, these laws and policies create a framework that balances law enforcement with public health and rehabilitation efforts in controlling narcotic drugs and precursor chemicals in Nepal.

2. International Conventions

The Government of Nepal is a signatory to the following key international treaties for the prevention and control of narcotic drugs in Nepal:

- **UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)**
- **UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)**
- **United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988)**
- **SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances**
- **Memorandum of Understanding between Nepal and India on Drug demand reduction and prevention of illicit Narcotic drugs, Psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals and related matters.**

3. Drug Control Strategy

Nepal's drug control strategy follows a balanced and integrated approach that combines supply reduction, demand reduction, and harm reduction to address both the criminal justice and public health dimensions of the drug problem.

Supply reduction is a key pillar of Nepal's strategy and focuses on preventing illicit cultivation, production, trafficking, and diversion of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and precursor chemicals. This is achieved through strengthened law enforcement, border surveillance, intelligence-led operations, and close coordination among the Nepal Police, customs authorities, and other security agencies, as well as cooperation with neighboring countries, particularly India.

Demand reduction aims to prevent drug use and reduce the social impact of drug abuse through awareness campaigns, school- and community-based prevention programs, and promotion of healthy lifestyles. These efforts seek to reduce initiation into drug use, especially among youth, and to encourage early intervention.

Treatment, rehabilitation, and harm reduction form another important component of Nepal's drug control strategy. The government, in collaboration with the health sector, non-governmental organizations, and development partners, supports treatment services, rehabilitation centers, and harm reduction programs such as opioid substitution therapy and HIV prevention measures for people who use drugs.

3.1 Supply Control

Supply control of narcotic drugs refers to the joint efforts to limit the production, trafficking, distribution, and availability of illegal narcotics in Nepal. The supply control is aimed to be achieved through a mix of laws, institutions, enforcement actions, policy frameworks, and international cooperation. With the aim of controlling the accessibility of precursor chemicals as mentioned in Photograph 1, the Ministry of Home Affairs has been issuing special permits for the listed precursor chemicals only for industries and trading companies.

In addition to this, the enforcement agencies like Narcotics Drug Control Bureau, narcotics drug control Unit and Nepal Police are not only active in detecting and seizing the illegal drugs but also in destroying cannabis and opium crops at community level. A total of 4701 cases were registered in 2024 with 6475 Nepalese arrested for possession of illicit Drug. The annual data of seizures of illicit drugs and persons arrests in the fiscal year 2023/24 from 77 districts can be seen in photograph

2. Moreover, the border security and customs were actively involved in detection and seizure of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals despite the technical backwardness.

3.2 Demand Reduction

Another major strategy for narcotic drug control in Nepal is reducing the demand of illicit drugs among the vulnerable groups. Under this, multi-stakeholder collaboration across government, INGOs/NGOs, civil society and local communities has been enforced. These actors organize several awareness campaigns and rallies against illicit drugs consumption. The International day against Drug abuse and illicit trafficking is observed annually, at national, provincial and local levels, by focusing on the maximum participation of youths, stakeholders.

The ministry provides special grant and prizes to the rehabilitation centres who contributed most in the field of treatment and rehabilitations of drug users within that fiscal year. In 2024, four (4) rehabilitations centers were given grants and two (2) were awarded for their performance. The ministry also publishes annual drug journal named “SURAKSHIT JEEVAN” (SECURE LIFE) with the aim of disclosing information about drug status, public awareness. The ministry has also conducted interaction program with

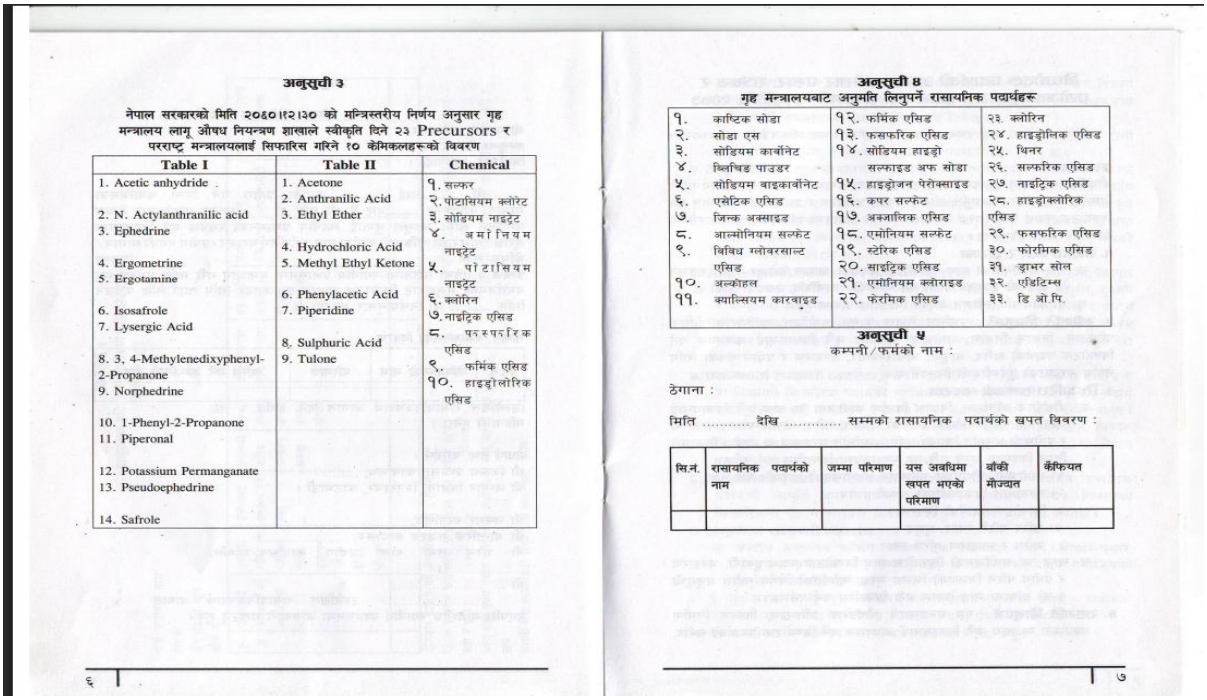
rehabilitation operators at central, provincial and district levels. In addition to this, the academic curricula at schools and colleges have also promoted the awareness about narcotics.

3.3 Harm Reduction

The Directives for Operating Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers for Drug Users, 2018 has specified the standards and protocols for **treatment and rehabilitation** centers. These entities have been providing counseling, detoxification, and reintegration services to thousands of drug users. The ministry has monitored the rehabilitation centres on regular basis to ensure the compliance of the directives and guidelines. A total of over 250 rehabilitation centers are in operations तह

4.Conclusion

Drug abuse and illicit trafficking has posed itself as one of the most dangerous threats to humankind. It is not only confined to limited territory but is a universal problem. Nepal has been coping with it by all means including policy formulation, implementation to enforcement. Despite the continuous effort, the country still faces challenges like lack of modern drug detection tools, limited number of skilled human capital and open border to neighbouring country. The lack of resources and policy gaps have also created hurdles for fighting against drug abuse. Several initiatives have been taken to amend and fill the policy gaps. Also, the graph of collaborative campaigns with national and international stakeholders have risen. With all these efforts, the Government of Nepal is committed to building a drug-free society and is continously working for it.



अनुसूची ३

नेपाल सरकारको मिति २०६०।१२।३० को मन्त्रिस्तरीय निर्णय अनुसार गृह मन्त्रालय लागू औषध नियन्त्रण शाखाले स्वीकृति दिने २३ Precursors र परराष्ट्र मन्त्रालयलाई सिफारिस गरिने १० केमिकलहरूको विवरण

Table I	Table II	Chemical
1. Acetic anhydride 2. N. Actylanthranilic acid 3. Ephedrine 4. Ergometrine 5. Ergotamine 6. Isosafrole 7. Lysergic Acid 8. 3, 4-Methylenedixyphenyl-2-Propanone 9. Norphedrine 10. 1-Phenyl-2-Propanone 11. Piperonal 12. Potassium Permanganate 13. Pseudoephedrine 14. Safrole	1. Acetone 2. Anthranilic Acid 3. Ethyl Ether 4. Hydrochloric Acid 5. Methyl Ethyl Ketone 6. Phenylacetic Acid 7. Piperidine 8. Sulphuric Acid 9. Tulone	१. सल्फर २. पोटासियम क्लोरेट ३. सोडियम नाइट्रेट ४. अमोनियम नाइट्रेट ५. पोटासियम नाइट्रेट ६. क्लोरिन ७. नाइट्रिक एसिड ८. परक्लोरिक एसिड ९. फर्मिक एसिड १०. हाइड्रोलोरिक एसिड

अनुसूची ४

गृह मन्त्रालयबाट अनुमति लिनुपर्ने रासायनिक पदार्थहरू

१. कास्टिक सोडा	१२. फर्मिक एसिड	२३. क्लोरिन
२. सोडा एस	१३. फसफरिक एसिड	२४. हाइड्रोलिक एसिड
३. सोडियम कार्बोनेट	१४. सोडियम हाइड्रो सल्फाइड अफ सोडा	२५. थिनर
४. ब्लिचिङ पाउडर	१५. हाइड्रोजन पेरोक्साइड	२६. सल्फरिक एसिड
५. सोडियम बाइकार्बोनेट	१६. कपर सल्फेट	२७. नाइट्रिक एसिड
६. एसेटिक एसिड	१७. अक्जालिक एसिड	२८. हाइड्रोक्लोरिक एसिड
७. जिन्क अक्साइड	१८. एमोनियम सल्फेट	२९. फसफरिक एसिड
८. आल्मोनियम सल्फेट	१९. स्टेरिक एसिड	३०. फोरमिक एसिड
९. विविध ग्लोवरसाल्ट एसिड	२०. साइट्रिक एसिड	३१. डाभर सोल
१०. अल्कोहल	२१. एमोनियम क्लोराइड	३२. एडिटिम्स
११. क्याल्सियम कारबाइड	२२. फेरमिक एसिड	३३. डि ओ पि.

अनुसूची ५

कम्पनी/फर्मको नाम :

ठेगाना :

मिति ..... देखि ..... सम्मको रासायनिक पदार्थको खपत विवरण :

सि.नं.	रासायनिक पदार्थको नाम	जम्मा परिमाण	यस अवधिमा खपत भएको परिमाण	बाँकी मौज्दात	कैफियत

Photograph 1 List of precursors chemicals which need import permit form MoHA

Person Arrest and Quantities of Drugs Seized in Narcotics (WHOLE NEPAL)

(2023-2024)

Year	Reg. Case	Person Arrest							Quantities of Drugs Seizure													
		Nepalese		Indian		Others		Total	Cannabis			Hashish			Heroin			Opium			Cocaine		Other Controlled Pharmaceutical Drugs
		M	F	M	F	M	F		Kg.	Gm.	Mg.	Kg.	Gm.	Mg.	Kg.	Gm.	Mg.	Kg.	Gm.	Mg.	Kg.	Gm.	
2023	4269	5942	298	224	16	19	7	6506	20321	0	0	587	0	0	12	212	0	47	287	0	11	885	Buprenorphine- 40,015; Diazepam- 45,859; Phenargon- 44,244; Nitrovet Tab. 90,780; Others- 28050; Tramadol - 14182; Cores&Dilex DC- 9894; amphitamine- 184 Grm
2024	4701	6475	392	247	17	19	8	7158	38,516	0		675	0		25	452	0	62	310		30	129	Ampoule- 203,827; Nitrovet Tab. 110,191; Others- 414,829; Tramadol - 228,525; Cores&Dilex DC- 163,326; amphitamine- 200 Grm

Source: PHQ, CID, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

Other Pharmaceutical Drugs: Lupigesic, Spasmo-Proxyvon, Avail, Promethazine

Ampoule: Diazepam, Buprenorphine, Phenargon

Photograph 2 The annual data of seizures of illicit drugs and persons arrests in 2024.



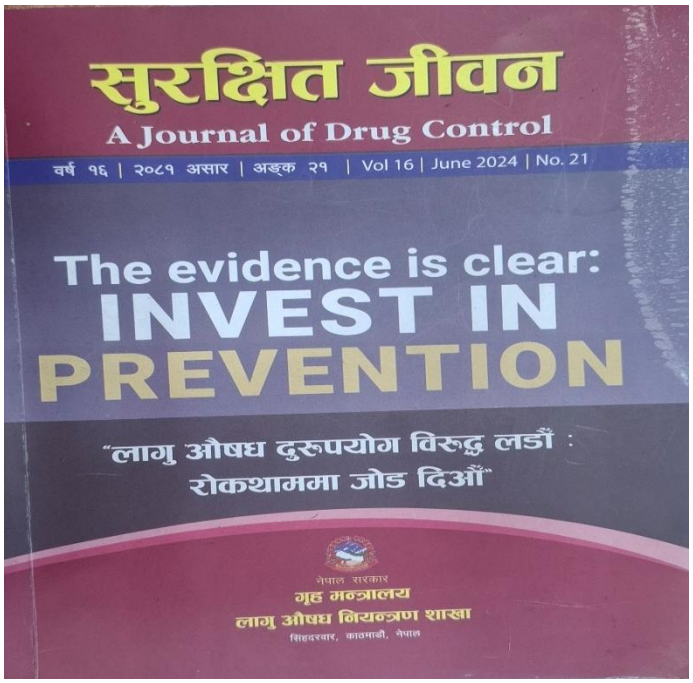
Photograph 3: Awareness rally against drug Abuse and Illicit trafficking of drug, organized by Ministry of Home Affairs, 2024.



Photograph 4. Aware campaign organized by educational institutions.



Photograph 5 Accused arrested for possession of illegal drugs and seized drugs by Narcotics Control Bureau in 2024.



Photograph 6 Annual Journal "SURAKSHIT JEEVAN" published by ministry of home affairs in 2024.

SRI LANKA



1. Overview of the Drug Situation in Sri Lanka – 2024

In 2024, Sri Lanka continued to face a **complex and evolving drug situation**, influenced by regional maritime trafficking routes, transnational organized crime networks, and increased domestic demand. Sri Lanka's strategic location along the **Southern Maritime Route** made it vulnerable to large-scale narcotics trafficking, particularly **heroin, cocaine, and synthetic drugs**.

Law enforcement agencies strengthened **inter-agency cooperation, maritime surveillance, and intelligence-led operations**, resulting in significant seizures and arrests during the year.

Publication of Notifications in Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, the publication of notifications related to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is carried out in accordance with the **Poisons, Opium and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance** and other applicable national legislation. During 2024, relevant authorities continued to issue **official notifications through the Government Gazette** to give legal effect to regulatory and administrative decisions in the field of drug control.

These notifications covered, inter alia:

- Scheduling, re-scheduling, and control of **narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, and precursor chemicals**
- Regulation of the **import, export, manufacture, possession, sale, and distribution** of controlled substances
- Authorization and designation of **competent authorities and enforcement officers**
- Licensing requirements for **medical, pharmaceutical, and industrial use** of controlled substances

- Measures relating to **treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention**
- Implementation of Sri Lanka's obligations under the **1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs**, **1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances**, and **1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances**

The gazette publication of notifications ensured **legal transparency, enforceability, and public awareness**, enabling law enforcement agencies, regulatory institutions, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders to comply with updated drug control measures.

The continued use of gazette notifications in 2024 contributed to strengthening Sri Lanka's **national drug control framework**, improving regulatory oversight, and facilitating a timely response to **emerging drug threats**, including synthetic drugs and pharmaceutical misuse.

2. Drug Trafficking Trends

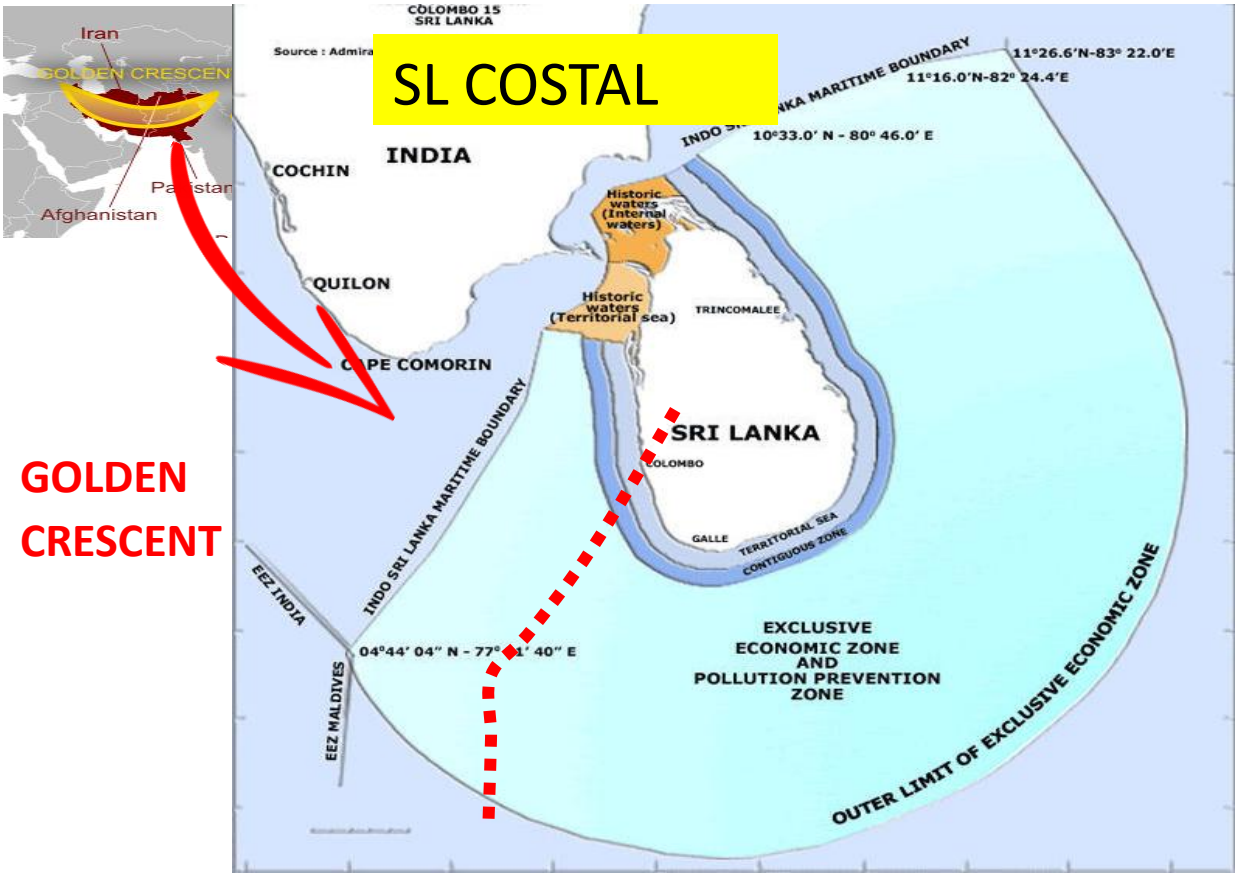
2.1 Main Drugs Trafficked

- **Heroin –** Remained the most prevalent illicit drug, mainly trafficked via maritime routes and fishing vessels.
- **Cannabis (Kerala Ganja) –** Smuggled primarily from India through sea and coastal routes.
- **Cocaine –** Increasing trend, linked to international maritime trafficking networks.
- **Synthetic Drugs (ICE / Methamphetamine, Ecstasy) –** Growing availability, particularly in urban areas and nightlife settings.
- **Prescription Drugs –** Abuse of tramadol and other controlled pharmaceuticals continued.

2.2 Trafficking Routes

- **Southern Maritime Route** (Indian Ocean)
- Use of:
    - Multi-day fishing vessels
    - Containerized cargo
    - Courier and postal services

- Sri Lanka increasingly used as:
  - A **transshipment hub**
  - A **storage and redistribution point**



3. Drug Seizures and Law Enforcement Operations – 2024

3.1 Key Achievements

- Large-scale maritime drug interdictions carried out by:
  - Sri Lanka Navy
  - Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB)
  - Sri Lanka Customs
- Increased joint operations with:
  - Regional and international partners
- Improved intelligence-sharing mechanisms.

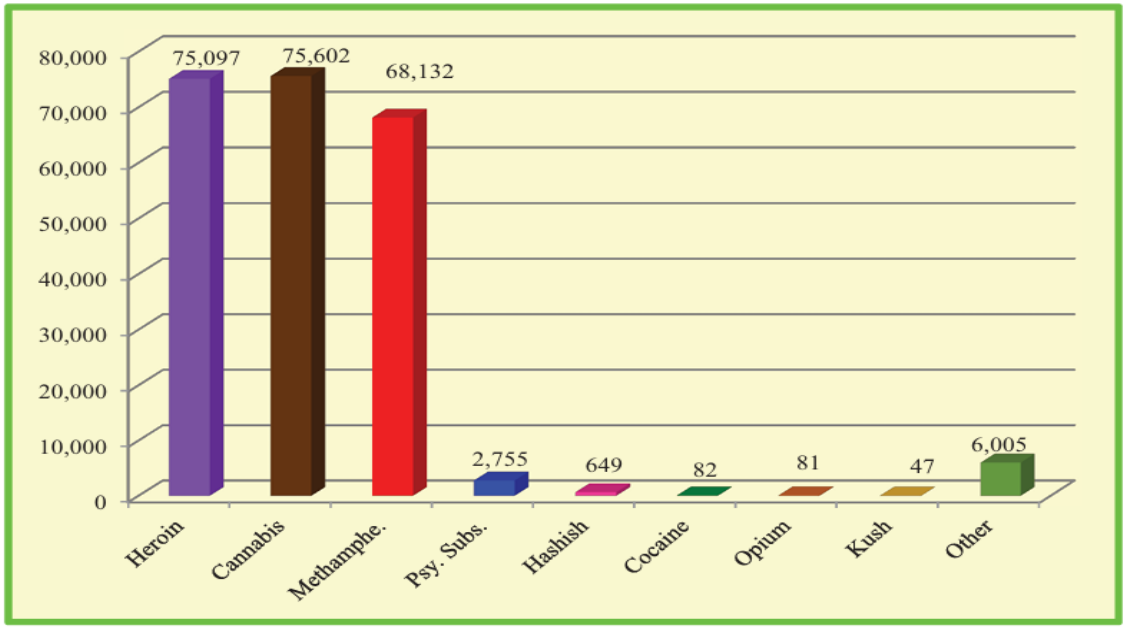
3.2 General Trends (without figures)

- Increase in:
  - Quantity of drugs seized at sea
  - Arrests of organized crime-linked suspects
- Identification of:
  - Foreign nationals and transnational syndicates
- Use of advanced concealment methods.

Seized Quantity of Drug (Kg) 2024

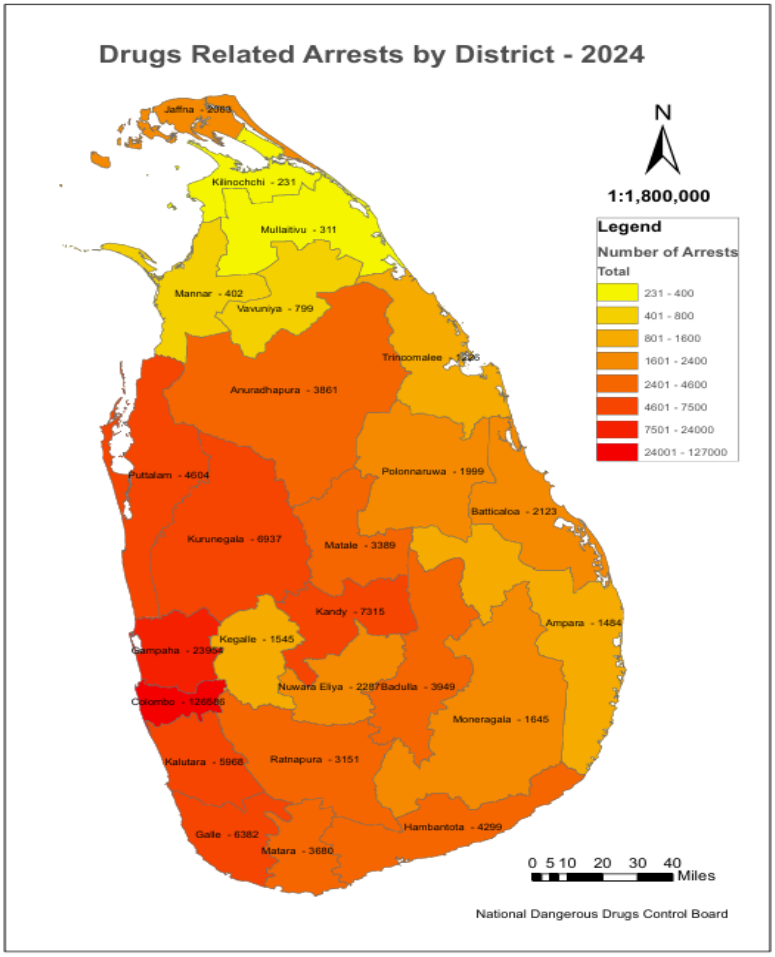
Drug	Seized quantity (kg)
Heroin	832.360
Cannabis	8,359.501
Cocaine	23.407
Hashish	291.973
Kush	2.863
Opium	0.125
Methamphetamine	1,364.254
Psychotropic substances	0.315 Capsules: 1,407,237 Tablets: 1,319,874
Other	116.776

(Source: Police Narcotics Bureau, 2024)



An analytical presentation of arrests related to heroin, cannabis, and methamphetamine in 2024 reveals a noticeable increase. In particular, heroin-related arrests show a 13.5% rise compared to 2023.

Drug Related Arrests by Drugs - 2024



Maritime drug seizures – 2024



Seizure of 83.582Kg of Heroin & 179.906Kg of Methamphetamine with 10 suspects on 12.04.2024 by the officers of SL Navy





Seizure of 131.814Kg of Heroin with 06 suspects on 16.06.2024 by the officers of PNB & SL Navy









Seizure of 48.880Kg of Heroin & 142.184Kg of Methampheta-mine with 07 suspects on 26.06.2024 by the officers of PNB, SIS & SL Navy

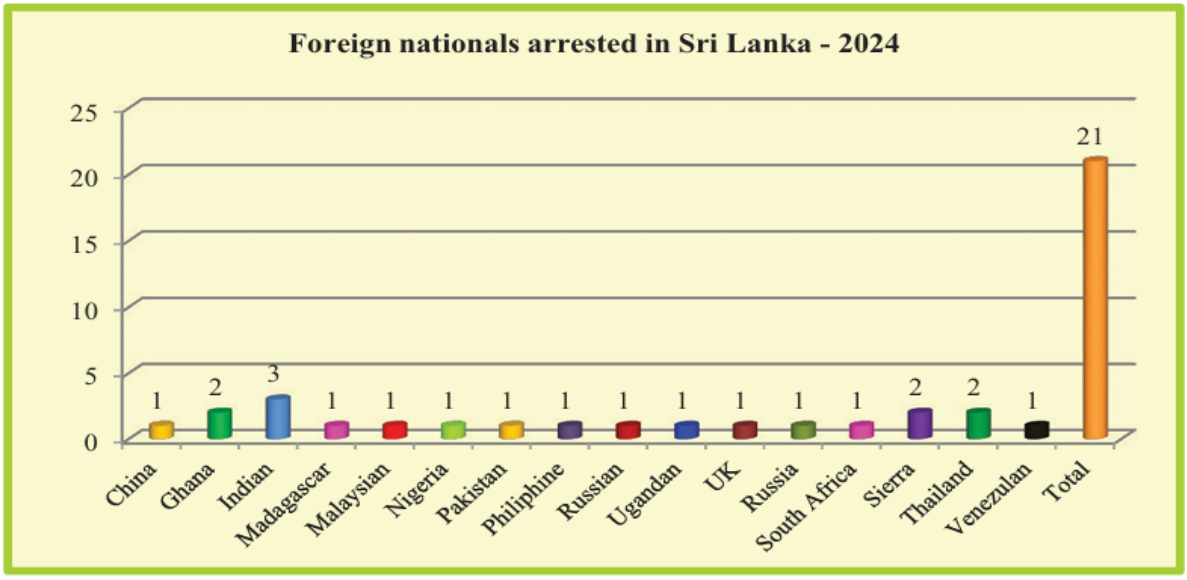








Seizure of 66.084Kg of Heroin with 06 suspects on 15.11.2024 by the officers of SL Navy



(Source: Police Narcotics Bureau, 2024)

4. Drug Use and Demand Trends

- Drug abuse continued to impact:
  - Youth and working-age population
  - Coastal and urban areas
- Rising concern over:
  - Synthetic drugs due to affordability and potency
- Increased poly-drug use patterns observed.
- Drug dependency linked with:

- Socio-economic stress
- Organized crime influence

5. Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation

`.1 Prevention

- Awareness programs conducted through:
  - Schools and universities
  - Community-based initiatives
  - Media campaigns

- Engagement of religious and community leaders.

Conducted Awareness programs for Schools		Conducted Awareness programs Law enforcement Authorities and other communities	
Number of Awareness programs	**Number of participants**	**Number of Awareness programs**	**Number of participants**
22,663	2,176,837	82,810	1,975,994





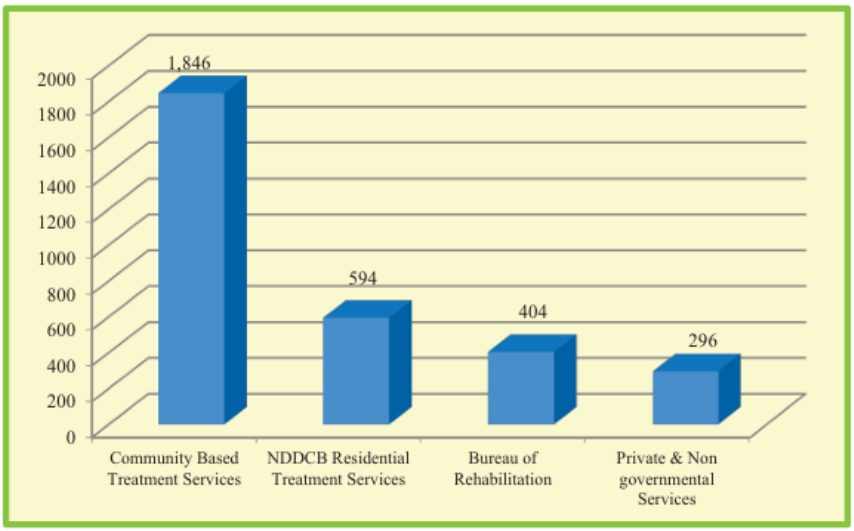



5.2 Treatment & Rehabilitation

- Government and NGO-run rehabilitation centers continued services.
- Focus on:
  - Voluntary treatment
  - Post-rehabilitation reintegration
- Challenges:
  - Limited capacity
  - Stigma against drug-dependent persons

Treatment and rehabilitation services are regulated and monitored by the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board under the provisions of Act No. 54 of 2007: the Drug Dependent persons (Treatment and rehabilitation) Act.

The total number of reported drug users who received treatment services in the year 2024 was 3,140.



Of these, 594 individuals (18.9%) were reported from the treatment centers operated by the NDDCB. A significant portion, 1,846 individuals (58.8%), received treatment through community based treatment camps conducted by the NDDCB in collaboration with other government and private sector stakeholders. Additionally, 296 individuals (9.4%) were reported from non-governmental organization (NGOs), and 404 individuals (12.9%) were reported from the Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers of the Bureau of Rehabilitation.

6. International and Regional Cooperation

Sri Lanka actively engaged in:

- **SAARC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk (SDOMD)**
- **BIMSTEC**
- **UNODC programs**
- **INCB – GRIDS Programme**
- **Southern Route Partnership**
- Bilateral cooperation with regional countries

Key areas:

- Information exchange
- Capacity building
- Joint maritime operations







THAILAND



1. Legal Framework

In 2024, Thailand enacted thirteen new drug-related legal instruments pursuant to the Act Promulgating the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021), the Act on Procedures of Narcotics Cases B.E. 2550 (2007), and cannabis-related regulations. These instruments are detailed as follows:

(1) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on the Specification of Names and Types of Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances Required to Bear Warning Statements or Precautionary Notices, and the Prescribed Wording Thereof, B.E. 2566 (2023), dated 11 January 2024.

(2) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on the Specification of Narcotic Drugs Category I (Issue No. 3), B.E. 2566 (2023), dated 17 January 2024.

(3) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on the Specification of Narcotic Drugs Category IV, B.E. 2s66 (2023), dated 17 January 2024.

(4) Joint Notification of the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Industry on the Specification of Names, Types, or Categories of Chemicals or Products Classified as Volatile Substances, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 23 January 2024.

(5) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on the Criteria and Methods for Determining Permitted Quantities of Narcotic Drugs Category II and Psychotropic Substances Category II, III, or IV for Sale or Possession, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 29 January 2024.

(6) Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Quantities of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Presumed to Be Possessed for Personal Use, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 9 February 2024.

(7) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on the Inspection of Transit of Narcotic Drugs Category I, II, IV, and V, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 21 March 2024.

(8) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on Thai Traditional Medical Practitioners Authorized to Prescribe Narcotic Drugs Category V (excluding cannabis or hemp extracts), B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 4 April 2024.

(9) Ministerial Regulation on the Notification of Charges to Offenders for Supporting, Assisting, or Conspiring to Commit Serious Narcotics Offenses (Issue No. 2), B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 5 April 2024.

(10) Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on Narcotic Drugs Category V (excluding cannabis or hemp extracts) Permitted for Medical Treatment or Research Purposes, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 22 April 2024.

(11) Ministerial Regulation on Permission to Produce or Import Samples of Narcotic Drug Formulations Category III or Psychotropic Substance Formulations Category HI or IV, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 14 June 2024.

(12) Notification of the Food and Drug Administration on the Prescribed Application Forms and Licenses for Producing or Importing Samples of Narcotic Drug Formulations Category HI or Psychotropic Substance Formulations Category III or IV, B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 14 June 2024.

(13) Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Quantities of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Presumed to Be Possessed for Personal Use (Issue No. 2), B.E. 2567 (2024), dated 17 June 2024.

2. International Conventions

Thailand is a signatory country to the three core United Nations drug control conventions: the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 (as amended by the 1972 Protocol), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Thailand has demonstrated a sustained commitment to the international drug control system through its active participation and multiple consecutive terms as a member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). Additionally, Thailand maintains close cooperation with key international bodies, which include collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

At the regional level, Thailand as a member of ASEAN has commitments under the ASEAN Work Plan on Securing Communities Against Illicit Drugs 2016-2025, a ten-year roadmap implemented alongside the ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle. Thailand participates in ASEAN drug control mechanism through both ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Masters (AMMD) and ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD), which serve as the key platforms for strategic oversight and operational monitoring at the regional level. In addition, Thailand operates within the framework of the ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Centre (ASEAN-NARCO), which serves as a regional integration hub for multi-dimensional

initiatives. These include the ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force (AAITF), the ASEAN Seaport Interdiction Task Force (ASITF), and the **ASEAN** Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN). Beyond **ASEAN,** Thailand engages with the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) to facilitate linkages between South and Southeast Asia. The Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) serves as the national focal point for the BIMSTBC Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursor Chemicals, overseeing regional capacity building and inter-agency coordination. At the sub-regiona1 level, Thailand operates under the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (Mekong MOU). The framework comprises seven signatories: Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Thailand participates in the Senior Officials Committee Meeting and the Ministerial Meetings under the Mekong MOU framework, as well as support the Subregional Action Plan (SAP). Parallel to the Mekong MOU, Thailand participates in the Safe Mekong Operation alongside five other Mekong nations: Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, and Viet Nam. This mechanism has implemented three successive joint action plans, with the current phase effective from 2023 to 2027. Under this framework, member states maintain Mekong Coordination Centers to facilitate the exchange of intelligence regarding major trafficking cases, situational assessments, networks, and routes. The hosting of the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC) is rotated among members to enhance operational coordination, promote mutual learning, and exchange intelligence among member states.

Beyond multilateral frameworks, Thailand actively maintains robust bilateral cooperation to address specific transnational drug challenges. This is formalized through Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with 16 partner countries, comprising Poland (I 996), Argentina (1997), Cambodia (1998), Viet Nam (1998), Peru (1999), China (2000), Lao PDR (2001), Myanmar (2001), Tajikistan (2005), Uzbekistan (2010), the Republic of Korea (2011), Iran (2013), Russia (2015), Australia (2016), Indonesia (2016), and India (2017).

3. Drug Control Strategy

Through the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), in collaboration with relevant partner agencies and sectors, Thailand developed the implementation plan under the National Policy and Plan on the Prevention, Suppression, and Resolution of the Narcotics

Problem for Fiscal Year B.E. 2567 (2024) (Action Plan 2024). The Royal Thai Government reaffirmed its strong commitment to significantly reducing the drug problem within one year. Consequently, an urgent one-year national action plan was initiated as a primary priority, comprising the following six main measures:

1. Drug prevention measures aim to preclude individual involvement from becoming involved in drugs, either as users or as participants in drug trafficking. The main target groups include children and youth, workers in both the formal and informal sectors, the general public, at-risk populations, and families. Prevention efforts also focus on monitoring and reducing risk in key settings, including communities and villages, educational institutions, and online environments such as social media. In addition, close cooperation among government agencies, the private sector, local authorities, communities, and families is strengthened to ensure effective and sustainable prevention of drug problems.

2. Drug suppression measures focus on intercepting narcotic drugs, precursor chemicals, and chemical substances to prevent their movement into and out of high-risk areas, particularly the Golden Triangle region. Enforcement efforts target drug smuggling along transportation routes, including the abuse of logistics systems and postal and parcel delivery services in both the public and private sectors, in order to present illicit drugs from being distributed to affected areas. In addition, law enforcement agencies prioritize dismantling drug trafficking networks and organized criminal groups through expanded investigations, arrests, and the seizure and forfeiture of assets. Special emphasis is placed on suppressing cross-border trafficking structures, including organizers and key figures operating behind the networks. Financial investigations are conducted to trace illicit proceeds, and strict legal action is taken against any public officials found to be involved in drug-related offenses.

3. Asset seizure and forfeiture measures prioritize the dismantling of major drug trafficking networks by targeting the illicit financial gains of key offenders. Law enforcement agencies strengthen financial investigations, intelligence gathering, and case expansion to identify traffickers and associated networks, leading to the tracing, freezing, and confiscation of assets derived from drug-related offenses. Cooperation among relevant agencies is enhanced to support asset locating and verification processes, and related laws are integrated and enforced in a coordinated manner to ensure the effective recovery of criminal assets and the disruption of financial structures supporting the drug trade.

4. Treatment and rehabilitation measures are centered on addressing drug use and dependence to mitigate their negative societal impacts. A comprehensive case management

system is implemented, covering the entire process from entry into treatment to follow-up care and social reintegration. Drug users and persons with drug dependence receive appropriate, individualized, and continuous care based on their specific needs. Community participation is actively promoted to support treatment, rehabilitation, and social inclusion. Services are provided in a non-discriminatory manner, with a strong emphasis on human capital development, recovery, and the reduction of health, social, and community-related harms resulting from drug abuse.

5. International cooperation measures emphasize strengthening Thailand's role as a regional hub for international coordination in combating the drug problem. This is carried out through active engagement in bilateral, regional, and multilateral cooperation mechanisms to enhance information exchange, operational collaboration, and policy coordination at all levels.

6. Management and administration measures primarily involve the planning and allocation of the integrated budget for drug prevention, suppression, and treatment programmes for Fiscal Year B 3. 2567 (2024). The national action plan is implemented through coordination among 8 ministries, 26 agencies, and 2 independent government organizations under the Office of the Prime Minister. The total budget allocation for these integrated programmes amounts to 4,254.5004 million baht (115 million USD).

4. Drug Situation

4.1 Overview

Thailand continues to face serious challenges from illicit drug trafficking, particularly cross-border trafficking originating from the Golden Triangle. Political instability and weak governance in certain neighboring areas have enabled armed ethnic groups and organized crime networks to engage in large-scale drug production and trafficking. Due to its geographic proximity to the production site, Thailand faces a dual challenge: it is not only a primary market for YABA but also serves as a significant transit country for other drugs, destined for third countries.

The four main drugs seized in Thailand am YABA, Crystal Meth (ICE), Ketamine, and Heroin. In 2024, law enforcement operations resulted in the seizure of approximately 105,557 kilograms of YABA, 34,622 kilograms of ICE, 4,942 kilograms of Ketamine, and 2,051 kilograms of Heroin. These figures underscore the serious challenges posed by illicit drug trafficking and reflect the strong influence of organized crime networks operating both within and

beyond the region. An analysis of recent drug seizures in Thailand reveals the overwhelming dominance of methamphetamine. Together, YABA and ICE account for approximately 96% of tfie total weight of seized drugs, underscoring their status as the primary drug threat. In contrast, seizures of Ketamine (4,942 kg) and Heroin (2,051 kg) represent significantly smaller portions of the total, at 3% and 1%, respectively.

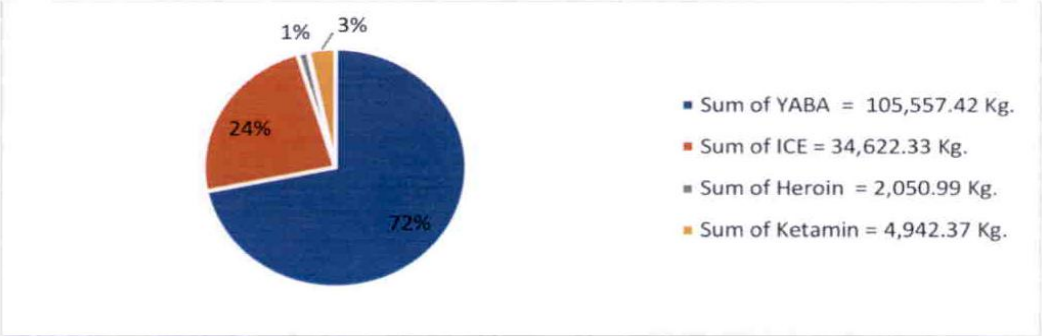


Figure : The prevalence of drugs seized in Thailand during 2024

4.2 Law Enforcement and Drug Seizure Trends

Data indicates that in 2024, Thailand recorded a total of 127,169 drug cases and 136,921 offenders, which represents the lowest figures observed during the five-year period from 2020 to 2024. This decline is partly attributed to policy changes that removed cannabis and kratom from the list of controlled substances, resulting in fewer arrests being officially recorded.

At the same time, drug seizure data reveal a different trend. Over the past five years, seizures of major drugs have increased significantly. YABA seizures rose dramatically from 380.17 million tablets in 2020 to a record 1,172.86 million tablets in 2024. ICE seizures also reached their highest level in five years at 34,622 kilograms in 2024. Heroin seizures peaked in 2021 at 3,439.82 kilograms, with 2,050.99 kilograms seized in 2024. Ketamine seizures followed an upward trend, reaching 6,385 kilograms in 2023 before slightly declining to 4,942 kilograms in 2024. These figures indicate sustained trafficking pressure and Thailand's continued role as both a market and transit country.

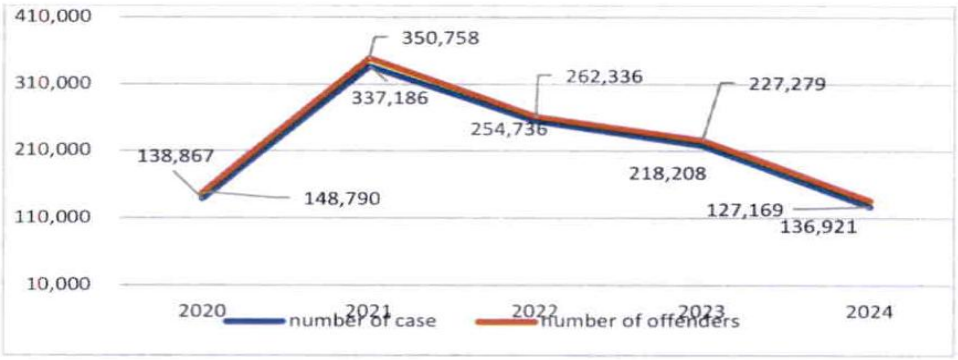


Figure: Statistics on Drug-Related Cases and Offenders in Thailand, 2020-2024

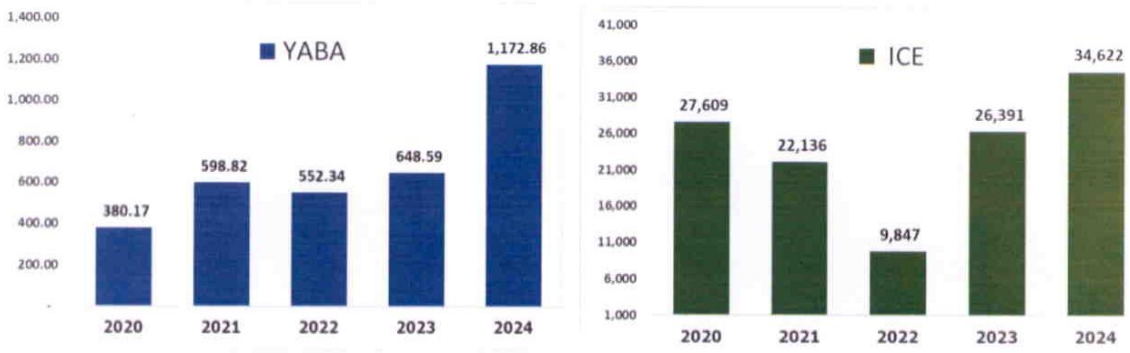
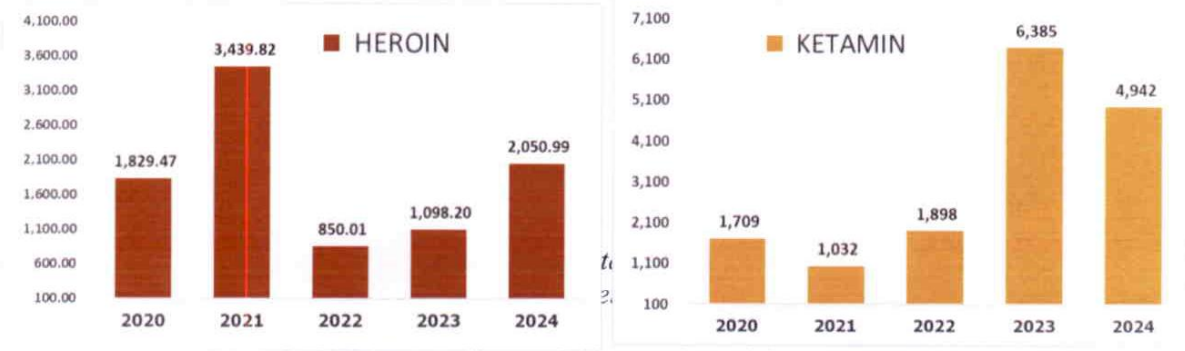


Figure: Quantities of YABA and ICE Seized, 2020-2024
(YABA in million tablets; ICE in kilograms)

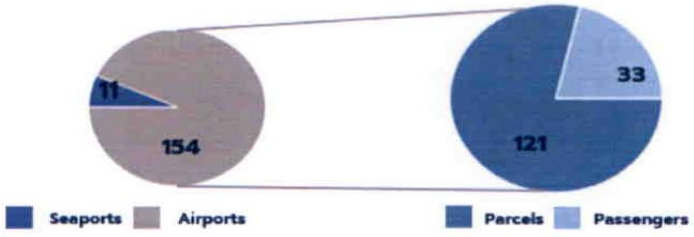


In 2024, smuggling activities conducted through airports and seaports also remained a serious concern. Although the number of arrests slightly declined, the overall volume of drugs seized continued to rise. In 2024, seizures of ICE increased by 21 percent, YABA by 46 percent, and ketamine by more than 300 percent. These trends reflect both the evolving trafficking methods of organized criminal networks and Thailand's enhanced capacity to detect and intercept large drug consignments. Through the Airport Interdiction Task Force (AITF), ONCB arrested 154 cases in 2024, including 121 parcel post cases and 33 cases involving human couriers ("mules") at international airports. At the same time, operations under the Seaport Interdiction Task Force (SITF) led to the

successful interdiction of 11 major trafficking cases at seaports. These results underscore the continued effectiveness of targeted interdiction measures at key international points of entry.

Drugs seizure at Airports/Seaports

Year	Cases	Offenders	ICE (Kg)	Heroin (Kg)	YABA (Tablets)	Ecstasy (Tablets)	Cocaine (Kg)	Ketamine (Kg)
2023	225	64	446	419	39,592	27,692	116	82
2024	165	70	541.21	235	57,981	8,355	35.08	335.26
			21.37%		46.45%		308.73%	



4.3 Seizure of Chemical Precursors

In 2024, most precursor and chemical substances seized in Thailand were smuggled into the country through international seaports - primarily Laem Chabang Port in Chonburi Province, located in the Eastern region, and Bangkok Port. The total volume of seized chemicals exceeded 800 tons, including substances such as Toluene, Acetone, hydrobromic acid, Nitric acid, Sulfuric acid, among others. These chemicals were subsequently transported to warehouses in western Thailand, near the border, and prepared for smuggling into the drug production sites in the Golden Triangle.

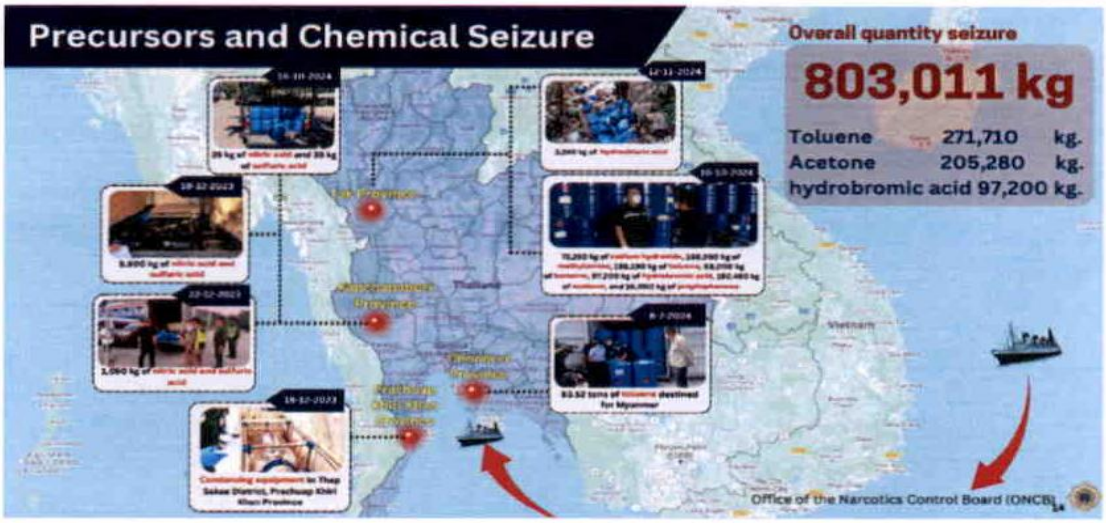


Figure: Precursors and Chemical Seizure in Thailand, 2024

4.4 Law Enforcement Measures

1) Suppression of major drug traffickers, masterminds, and their syndicates

In 2024, the Government placed strong emphasis on high-impact operations targeting major drug trafficking networks. In response to this policy direction, ONCB implemented a series of enforcement operations under the initiative known as "Put Out a Fire Upwind."

The operation focused on dismantling large-scale trafficking syndicates and targeting key figures involved in cross-bowler drug trafficking. Priority was given to major suppliers operating from neighboring countries, as well as Thai nationals involved as couriers or nominees in managing criminal assets. These efforts aimed to systematically disrupt drug supply chains and weaken organized crime networks at their source. As a result of these operations, ONCB conducted enforcement actions against two major drug trafficking syndicates, leading to the arrest of seven offenders, the seizure of 91.7 kilograms of heroin, and the confiscation of criminal assets valued at 167 million baht (USD 4.64 million).



Figure: The Operation "Put Out a Fire Upwind", *2024*

2) Financial Investigation and Asset Forfeiture

Thailand prioritized the dismantling of major drug trafficking networks through asset-based measures, with the clear objective of disrupting their financial infrastructure. Key efforts focused on strengthening legal tools and expanding enforcement powers to effectively target financial assets, properties, and economic benefits derived from drug-related activities. A notable development was the enhancement of legal authority to pursue asset-related cases independently of criminal proceedings. This allowed for greater flexibility and effectiveness in disrupting drug syndicates. The adoption of value-based confiscation has emerged as a crucial legal instrument, enabling law enforcement agencies to seize the equivalent value of illicit proceeds when the original assets are no longer available. This has significantly contributed to efforts to dismantle both the operational and financial strictures of transnational drug trafficking organizations. In total, assets seized and frozen in drug-related cases throughout 2024 were valued at 9,389.93 million Thai Baht

(approximately USD 263 million), underscoring Thailand's commitment to dismantling drug trafficking networks through robust asset-based enforcement measures.

Value of Seizures/Assets	
Year	Million Baht
2020	790.57
2021	7,346.82
2022	11,003.02
2023	21,610.89
2024	9,389.93

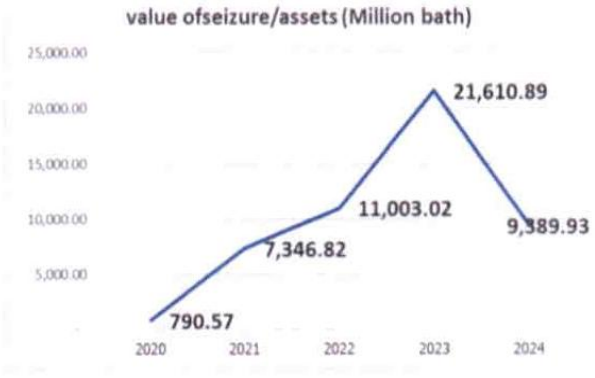


Table: Value of Seizures/Assets (Million Baht), 2020-2024
Figure: Value of Seized Assets in Drug Cases, 2020-2024 (Million Baht)

4.5 Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation

Thailand addressed drug use as a public health and social issue by implementing an integrated system of care from treatment entry to follow-up and reintegration, ensuring personalized and continuous support. Community participation was promoted to provide non-discriminatory care and reduce health and social impacts on individuals and communities, with key implementation results as follows.

1) Admission of Drug Users into the Treatment System

In 2024, Thailand implemented an integrated drug treatment and rehabilitation system covering the full continuum of care, from entry into treatment to follow-up and social reintegration, with strong community participation and a focus on reducing health and social impacts.

During the year, 171,183 individuals with drug use disorders were admitted into the national treatment and rehabilitation system, achieving 187.46 percent of the annual target of 91,317 persons. This included voluntary admissions, referrals by law enforcement agencies, probation-based interventions, and court-ordered treatment measures under the Narcotics Code. In addition, 30,900 individuals with drug-induced psychiatric conditions received appropriate treatment services, representing 94 percent of the designated target of 32,623 individuals.

2) Strengthening Treatment and Social Rehabilitation Mechanism

Thailand continued to expand and reinforce its national treatment service network through joint efforts with the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of the Interior. The system now comprises 9,670 screening centers, 1,079 narcotics treatment facilities, 134 drug rehabilitation centers, and 4,409 social reintegration centers nationwide. In parallel, Thailand advanced its treatment and rehabilitation models, with a particular focus on Community-Based Treatment (CBTx). Through collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the Royal Thai Police, and local administrative organizations, the "ChumChon lom Rak" (Community Embraced by Love) was implemented to promote integrated, multisectoral engagement aimed at improving the quality of life of drug users through comprehensive, sustainable treatment and rehabilitation services. By the end of 2024, 705 communities had been operationalized under this model, out of a national target of 878 communities, representing an achievement rate of approximately 80 percent.

3) Development Of Guidelines For the Care of Individuals With Drug Use Disorders to Reduce Harms

3.1) Thailand convened a series of meetings to establish a unified framework for the care and referral of individuals with drug-induced psychiatric conditions, covering the full continuum from initial identification to community reintegration across 31 provinces. Mini-Thanyarak units were established to accommodate individuals awaiting admission to treatment or rehabilitation facilities, as well as those discharged from hospitals whose families or communities were not yet prepared for their care. Additionally, personnel from four military camps nationwide received capacity-building training to strengthen their ability to support the care and management of drug-induced psychiatric cases in line with public health principles.

3.2) In 2024, Thailand engaged in knowledge-sharing with Switzerland, Portugal, and Germany, and participated in an international panel discussion with experts to exchange insights and explore feasible approaches for implementing harm-reduction measures.

4) Strengthening Justice System Responses to Drug Use

Thailand strengthened its justice-based response to drug use by prioritizing treatment and rehabilitation alongside law enforcement. In 2024, a total of 96,288 individuals underwent behavioural rehabilitation through the justice system, exceeding the national target by 145%.

At the same time, 189 psychosocial clinics were established in courts nationwide, providing counselling services to 54,459 individuals, with a low recidivism rate of only 1.43%, demonstrating the effectiveness of psychosocial interventions within judicial processes. In addition, Thailand expanded treatment services in custodial settings by certifying rehabilitation units in prisons and juvenile facilities in accordance with the Narcotics Code and the National Health Security framework. Mechanisms for referring probationers to treatment were strengthened through inter-agency cooperation among the courts, the Department of Probation, law enforcement agencies, and ONCB. In 2024, the President of the Supreme Court issued judicial guidelines reaffirming that treatment and rehabilitation should take precedence over punishment, thereby institutionalizing a health-oriented approach within the criminal justice system.

5) Development Social Reintegration Approaches To Improve Quality Of Life

Thailand enhanced its social reintegration measures to improve the quality of life of individuals affected by drug use. A total of 4,588 persons received assistance through social reintegration centers. Among those completing treatment and rehabilitation, 139 individuals were supported with livelihood grants, while an additional 118 drug-related offenders received vocational support to facilitate their reintegration into society.

6) Developing and integrating data systems to address drug use issues

Development of an integrated national data system for drug treatment and rehabilitation progressed substantially through the establishment of the National Big Data Analytic Center. The platform is being deployed across relevant agencies to strengthen the analytical capacity of the sector, improve integrated data management, and support coordinated system development. The enhanced data infrastructure also enables more effective referral and assistance pathways for individuals with drug use disorders. Importantly, it provides evidence-based recommendations to guide policy formulation and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of drug treatment, rehabilitation, and referral processes nationwide.

4.6 Drug Prevention

Thailand places a strong emphasis on a comprehensive approach to prevention strategy to protect its population from involvement in drug-related activities, including use, trafficking, and victimization by criminal networks. Prevention efforts target key demographic groups, including children, youth, and workers in both formal and informal sectors, and the general

public. The principal objective is to enhance awareness, develop protective factors, and foster resilience against drug involvement This is achieved by providing accurate information, developing essential life skills, and reinforcing positive attitudes that support a drug-free lifestyle. A core component of this approach is the systematic integration of drug prevention content into educational materials spanning from early childhood to higher education.

At the preschool level, this begins with an emphasis on the development of life management skills and the strengthening of Executive Functions (EF) to establish a foundational capacity for self-regulation and informed decision-making. Such competencies serve as critical protective factors against future drug involvement. Implementation occurs through formal educational institutions and child development centers.



Picture: Strengthening Executive Functions (EF) in Early Childhood for Drug Prevention

At primary, secondary, and higher education levels, drug education is promoted through the integration of the curriculum Think Smart, Be Aware, Say No to Drugs into health education subjects. This curriculum is implemented at all grade levels in primary and secondary schools, as well as their equivalents, nationwide. This approach aims to enhance students" cognitive and social competencies, equipping them with the knowledge and attitudes necessary to make informed choices regarding substance use.



Picture: Integrating Drug Education into the School Curriculum: Think Smart, Be Aware, Say No to Drugs

At the higher education level, drug prevention efforts focus on promoting inter-institutional collaboration to incorporate drug law education into academic curricula, particularly within faculties of law and science. This approach aims to equip students with practical legal and scientific knowledge related to narcotics control, while fostering their involvement in social constructive and ethical responsible activities.



Picture: Enhancing Drug Law Education in Higher Institutions through Interdisciplinary Collaboration

Beyond formal education, prevention strategies have been broadened to engage communities and online platforms. These initiatives make use of appropriate digital technologies, mobilize networks from the public, private, and civil society sectors, and collaborate with social media influencers to amplify anti-drug messages. A notable example is the TikTok campaign "Be Smart, Say No to Drugs," which encourages youth participation through a short video contest to raise national awareness or the dangers of drug use. Another initiative, "Music in the Garden," held in June to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, combines cultural expression with drug prevention advocacy, fostering community engagement and public awareness.



Picture: Music in the Garden is held in June as part of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking



Picture: TikTok Campaigns Be Smart, Say No to Drugs"

4.7 Illicit Drug Crop Monitoring

In 2024, following the enforcement of the Narcotics Code in 2021, Thailand officially removed cannabis, hemp, and kratom from the list of narcotic plank. Consequently, the narcotic plants that remain under legal control are opium and psilocybin mushrooms.

1) Opium: During the 2023/2024 opium cultivation season, ONCB, through the Narcotic Crops Survey and Control Institute, conducted a nationwide survey to assess the extent of illicit opium cultivation. The survey identified 156 cultivation sites totalling 11.39 hectares, reflecting a substantial decline compared with the previous year, which documented 21.44 hectares, equivalent to a 46.87 percent reduction. Illicit opium cultivation was detected in seven provinces across 22 districts. The largest areas were in Chiang Mai (6.38 hectares), followed by Tak (2.68 hectares), Chiang Rat (0.76 hectares), Nan (0.67 hectares), Mae Hong Son (0.61 hectares), Lampang (0.20 hectares), and Phetchabun (0.09 hectares).

The continued cultivation of opium in Thailand is influenced by several interrelated factors. Farmers am often drawn to opium due to its relatively high market value compared to other crops. Cultivation typically occurs in remote and underserved areas, where government support and oversight are limited. In recent years, cultivation methods have become more sophisticated and harder to detect. Approximately 80% of opium is now grown in small, scattered plots of less than one rat (0.16 hectares), often hidden within other vegetation, arranged in rows similar to vegetable crops, or intercroppod with other plants. Some fields are also harvested multiple times, further complicating detection and eradication efforts. Additionally, local demand for raw opium among users in certain areas sustains ongoing cultivation.

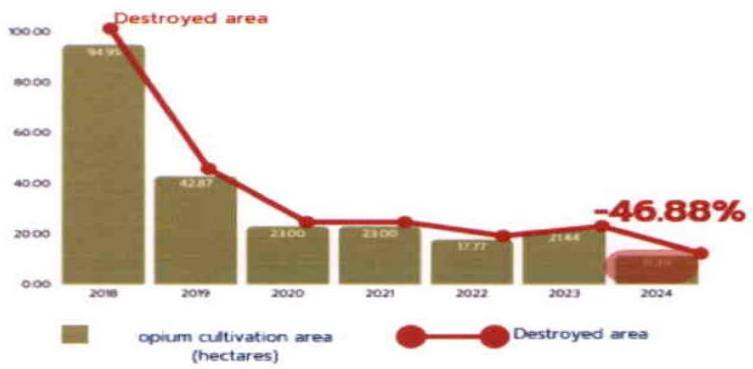


Figure: Opium Cultivation and Destroyed Areas in Thailand, 2018-2024

Despite these challenges, Thailand has made significant progress in reducing illicit opium cultivation. In 2024, the total cultivation area was 11.39 hectares, a 46.88% decline from 21.44 hectares in 2023. The majority of these cultivation sites were found in the northern provinces. A key factor contributing to this success is the consistently high rate of field eradication. Each year, authorities have destroyed nearly all detected opium fields. This achievement is closely linked to the deployment of advanced surveillance technologies, such as high-resolution satellite imagery and Unmanned Aerial **Vehicles (UAVs)**, which enable effective detection, monitoring, and verification of opium cultivation in remote mountainous terrain.

The continuous decline in opium cultivation rejects Thailand's sustained enforcement and eradication efforts, as well as its commitment to applying advanced technology to effectively combat illicit crop production.



Picture: Thailand's enforcement and technology-driven efforts to reduce opium cultivation and eradicate illicit crops

2) Psilocybin mushrooms (Genus Psilocybel: During 2024, psilocybin mushrooms {Psilocybe spp.), commonly known as "magic mushrooms," remained subject to illicit harvesting and use in specific tourist-freguenkd amas in both northern and southern Thailand. These mushrooms are typically consumed fresh or dried and, in some cases, prepared in food or beverages or used in combination with cannabis. Retail prices during the reporting period ranged from approximately THB 50 to 750 per gram (equivalent to about USD 1.5-20), depending on location and availability. Although awareness of the health risks associated with psilocybin consumption is relatively widespread among the general population, which has limited domestic demand, the majority of documented users remain foreign tourists, particularly in major tourism destinations. Law enforcement agencies maintained monitoring and enforcement measures in high-risk areas in order to prevent the harvesting, distribution, and recreational use of psilocybin mushrooms.

4.9 Alterative Development

1) The 55th Year Anniversary of the Royal Project

To commemorate the Royal Project's 55th Anniversary and celebrate His Majesty the King's auspicious 6th Cycle Birthday, the Royal Project Foundation, in collaboration with the Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization) (HRDI), organized the Royal Project International Conference titled "From Alternative Development to Sustainable Development Goals: Empowering Alternative Development to Address Global Challenges." The event was held from 1-4 December 2024 at Royal Park Rajapruek, Chiang Mai. His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen graciously presided over the opening ceremony and inaugurated the Royal Project Fair 2024. The conference served as a key platform to highlight the Royal Project's 55-year journey in transforming highland communities through sustainable alternative development and to demonstrate how the Royal Project Model contributes to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This model has gained recognition at both national and international levels, including its adoption under Thailand's National Strategy for Sustainable Highland Development (2023-2027) and acknowledgment by the United Nations as a best practice in development Over the past five decades, the Royal Project has transformed communities historically affected by opium cultivation and shifting agriculture. Operating in 12 highland provinces across 2,270 village clusters-representing 53.98% of the country's highland areas, the initiative has introduced 376 highland areas under conservation systems, food safety standards, and environmentally friendly production methods. Research and innovations in plant and animal breeding have been transferred to 183,000 farming households, enabling a shift from illegal crop cultivation to sustainable, lawful livelihoods.



Picture : The 55th Royal Project International Conference at Royal Park Rajapruek, Chiang Mai (1 -4 December 2024)

2) Roi Jai Rak Project: Community-Breed Drug Solutions through Alternative Development at s special area of Thaton Sub-district, Mae Ai District, Cliangmai Province

The Roi Jai Rak Project, implemented in the specific area of Thaton Sub-district, Mae Ai District, Chiang Mai Province, is a collaboration between the ONCB, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage, and various public and privets agencies. Since its inception on 15 November 2017, the project continued its mission in 2024 to enhance community livelihoods, promote lawful income generation, and prevent drug involvement.

In 2024, the project achieved significant outcomes though a multidimensional approach, starting with stakeholder engagement via regular coordination meetings at the provincial and district levels. Capacity-building activities were provided for community development volunteers, focusing on integrated area-based interventions across sectors such as public health, education, agriculture, livestock, handicrafts, tourism, and environmental conservation.



Picture: Livelihood Enhancement and Agricultural Support under the Roi Jai Rak Project, 2024.

3) 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 AD) under the theme Moving Towards the UN Guiding Principles on Alternative Development Update: Roadmap for the Next Steps from 28 - 30 November 2024 in Bangkok, in collaboration with the ONCB, the Governments of Germany and Peni, and UNODC. The meeting brought together over 60 international participants to discuss and exchange global approaches to alternative development, focusing on updating and improving the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development (UNGPs on AD) and promoting solutions to drug related challenges from the grassroots level through a people-centered approach.

Participants analyzed development oriented drug control measures and shared experiences on environmental sustainability, gender inclusivity, and indigenous peoples' participation in alternative development initiatives. These discussions contributed to consolidating recommendations for aligning the UNGPs on AD with emerging challenges identified in the 67th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). The outcomes of the EGM on AD will be submitted as a Conference Room Paper for consideration at the 68tb session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2025 at the Vienna International Centre, Austria.



Picture: International experts and partners gathering in Bangkok for the EGM on AD to discuss the roadmap for the UN Guiding Principles on Alternative Development (28–30 November 2024)

4) Myanmar-Thailand Alternative Development Project

In 2024, the project in Naungtaya, Pinlao District, Southern Shan State, covering 545 households, focused on enhancing community livelihoods, promoting legal income, and strengthening local capacity. Activities included stakeholder engagement with government officials and socioeconomic surveys to guide planning. Area-based interventions targeted agriculture, livestock, water management, and value addition. Agricultural support involved distributing com grinders, promoting high-quality coffee cultivation, and establishing demonstration farms for short- and long-term crops. Livestock initiatives provided training, veterinary support for 6,793 animals, Napier grass seedlings, and mineral blocks. Coffee seedlings were distributed to 91 farmers, with trial harvests of 271.7 kilograms of coffee cherries. Water system improvements included a reservoir, two community weirs, seven pipelines, and seven storage tanks, with participation from over 8,700 villagers. Value-added interventions included production funds, farm machinery training, tea processing through farmer cooperatives, and solar-powered drying facilities. These integrated efforts enhanced productivity, value-added production, sustainability, and community resilience.

5. Data Profiling

5.1 Drug Forensic Analysis

The Narcotics Analysis and Technical Service Institute (NATSI) of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) is responsible for analyzing seized drugs to support investigations and enforcement. NATSI studies the physical and chemical composition of seized drugs to trace their origins and distribution areas, while also developing and supporting drug analysis techniques. The institute reports on drug characteristics, including physical data like packaging and markings, and chemical data such as purity levels and the precursor chemicals used in production. The analysis results for the most commonly seized drugs in Thailand, based on data from Thailand's 2024 fiscal year, are as follows:

1) Methamphetamine Tablets (YABA)

Analysis focused on major seizure cases (involving 10,000 tablets or more), covering 217 cases, with a total of 677.5 million pills.

Physical Characteristics: Most seized YABA tablets were round and flat, typically in shades of orange and green. The vast majority of tablets were impressed with the 'WY' logo, accounting for 99.73% of the total, while other markings such as '999' 'YI' and APPLE were found on the remaining 0.27%.



Picture : Stamps and colors of Yaba found in Thailand



Picture: Brand marks on packaging of Yaba found in Thailand

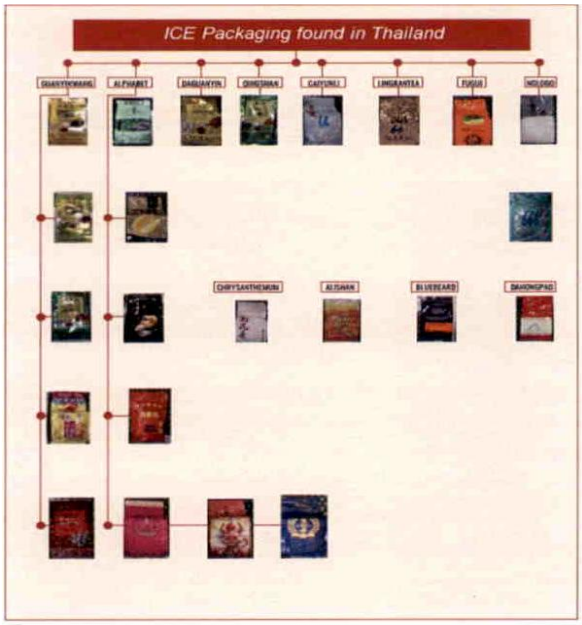
Chemical Analysis: The primary active ingredient in Yaba is methamphetamine hydrochloride, detected at purity levels from 0.01% to 30.00°/». The most prevalent purity range was between 15.01% and 20.00%, found in 85.27% of analyzed samples. Caffeine, used as a cutting agent, was detected at purity levels ranging from 60.01% to over 90.00%. The most frequently observed range for caffeine purity was between 70.01% and 80.00%, present in 71.09% of the analyzed tablets.

Precursor Chemicals: Forensic analysis indicated that Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine (Ep/Pep) was the most commonly used precursor, identified in 81.43% of cases. This was followed by Pheny1-2-Propanone (P2P) ai 8.60%, while in 9.97% of cases, the precursor could not be identified.

2) Crystalline Methamphetamine (ICE)

The analysis of major Ice seizures (1 kg or more), covering 72 cases, totals 14,489 bags with a combined weight of approximately 14,468 kg.

Physical Characterstics: Seized Ice typically consists of large, white crystals packaged in clear, vacuum - sealed plastic bags, often disguised as Chinese tea packages. Each package is approximately 3.5 to 6.5 inches wide and weight around 1 kilogram. The packaging varies in terms of brand, symbols, and colors, which allows for classification into 12 distinct groups based on the markings or brand logos printed on the tea bags.



Picture: Ice Packaging found in Thailand

Chemical Analysis: The primary active ingredient is methamphetamine hydrochloride, constituting an average of 91.95% of the sample weight. Purity levels predominantly ranged from 90.00% upwards, with the 94.00%-96.00% range being the most common (33.26%). Common adulterants found in lower-purity samples included citric acid, dimethyl sulfone, and ketamine. The average parity of major ICE samples was added at 92.17% with the highest observed purity at 99.97%, with the lowest at 2.15%. A comparison of the purity levels of methamphetamine hydrochloride in seized ICE samples between fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2024 showed no significant change in the predominant purity range. In cases where ICE samples exhibited unusually low purity, forensic analysis revealed the presence of cutting agents added to increase weight. Common adulterants included citric acid, dimethyl sulfone, and ketamine.

Precursor Chemicals: Ephedrine (Ep) and Pseudoephedrine (Pep) remained the primary precursors, accounting for 70.30% of analyzed samples, maintaining their dominant role in illicit ICE manufacturing. Pheny1-2-Propanone (P2P) was used in 9.90% of the cases, while 19.80% of the samples could not be conclusively identified in terms of the specific precursor used. A comparison between fiscal years 2023 and 2024 showed that Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine continued to be the primary precursors in the production of methamphetamine, maintaining their dominant role in illicit ICE manufacturing.

5.2 Destruction of Drug Evidence

In 2024, the ONCB conducted three drug destruction ceremonies, covering a total of 340 cases. The net weight of seized narcotics amounted to 66,520 kilograms (66.52 tons), including 551 million methamphetamine tablets. In addition, the total weight of seized narcotics together with their packaging was 81,990 kilograms (81.99 tons).



Picture: Drug Destruction Ceremony 2024: 66.52 Tons of Seized Narcotics.

6. International Cooperation

International cooperation is also crucial to supporting and advancing drug control efforts and raising awareness at all levels. There are three main cooperation levels as follows;

6.1 Bilateral cooperation

Thailand engages in proactive cooperation through ministerial and high-level visits and promotes bilateral efforts in meetings with various countries, especially within the Mekong Sub-region, including China, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam.



Picture: An official visit of Pol. Col. Tawee Sodsong, Minister of Justice of Thailand, to the People's Republic of China, including a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Wang Xiaohong, Minister of Public Security of the P.R. China (31 January – 2 February 2024)



Picture: An official visit of Pol. Col. Tawee Sodsong, Minister of Justice of Thailand, to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, including a courtesy call on Gen. Vilay Lakhamfong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Security of the Lao PDR (14 February 2024)



Picture: The 14th Cambodia - Thailand Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation, hosted by Cambodia (26 - 27 March 2024)



Picture: The 25th Thailand - Myanmar Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation, hosted by Thailand (2 April 2024)



Picture: The 19th Thailand - China Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation, co-hosted by Thailand (10 July 2024, Bangkok)



Picture: The 16th Thailand - Viet Nam Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation, co-hosted by Thailand (28 August 2024, Bangkok)

6.2 Regional and Sub-regional cooperation

At the regional and sub-regional levels, Thailand plays a leading role in shaping and advancing drug control cooperation through ASEAN, BIMSTEC, and the Greater Mekong Sub-Region frameworks, guided by key strategic instruments including the ASEAN Work Plan on Securing Communities Against Illicit Drugs 201 6-2025, the ASEAN cooperation framework on the Golden Triangle, and the Mekong MOU with its Subregional Action Plan. Thailand provides strategic oversight and operational leadership through core ASEAN mechanisms such as AMMD, ASOD, and ASEAN-NARCO, while also strengthening South Asia—Southeast Asia linkages under B IMSTEC and promoting coordinated action through its dedicated sub-group on drug control. At the sub-regional level, Thailand further reinforces operational cooperation through the Safe Mekong Operation, supported by rotating Mekong Coordination Centers, to enhance intelligence exchange, joint action, and trust among participating countries.



Picture: The Focal Point Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-region, hosted by Lao PDR (17–18 January 2024).



Picture: The 26th Asia - Pacific Operational Drug Enforcement Conference (ADEC), held in Japan (30 - 31 January 2024)



Picture: Senior Officials Committee Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (28–29 May 2024).



Picture: The 17th ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN) Meeting, hosted by Thailand (17 July 2024).



Picture: The 2024 Safe Mekong Joint Operation, hosted by China with Thailand participating online (17 October 2024).



Picture: Malaysia, through the National Anti-Drugs Agency (NADA), hosted the 9th ASEAN Seaport Interdiction Task Force (ASITF) Meeting in Penang (19-22 November 2024).



Picture: 8th Meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursor Chemicals (SG - NTPSC). held in New Delhi, India (19-20 December 2024)

6.3 Global cooperation

Thailand has been a member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) since 1973 with the mandate of the supervision of international efforts to control the use and movement of narcotics and psychotropic substances, as well as supporting the implementation of international drug control treaties. During the 67th CND (14 - 22 March 2024), the Thai delegation was headed by Minister of Justice, Police Colonel Tawee Sodsong, leading Thailand's participation in steering the implementation of international drug control treaties. Thailand reaffirmed its commitment to international drug control by endorsing the high-level outcome document, promoting health-centered legal reforms, and co-hosting a side event marking the 10th anniversary of the UN Guiding Principles on Alternative Development. The country pledged to reduce domestic drug problems within one year through expanded treatment access, strengthened border controls, arid enhanced international cooperation. Thailand also supported the international scheduling of 23 new substances under the UN drug conventions.



Picture: The 67 th Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) in Vienna, Austria

BIMSTEC ANNUAL DRUG REPORT 2024

THIRD EDITION

Compiled and published by

Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India

On behalf of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals (SG-NTPSC)

New Delhi • October 2026


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Published by
Narcotics Control Bureau
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India