

CHAPTER 16



DIFFERENT TYPES OF DRUGS

HEROIN



ECSTASY



CANNABIS



POPULAR DRUG IN THAILAND

**CRAZY
DRUG**



What Meth Looks Like



Methamphetamine Powder



Methamphetamine Crystal

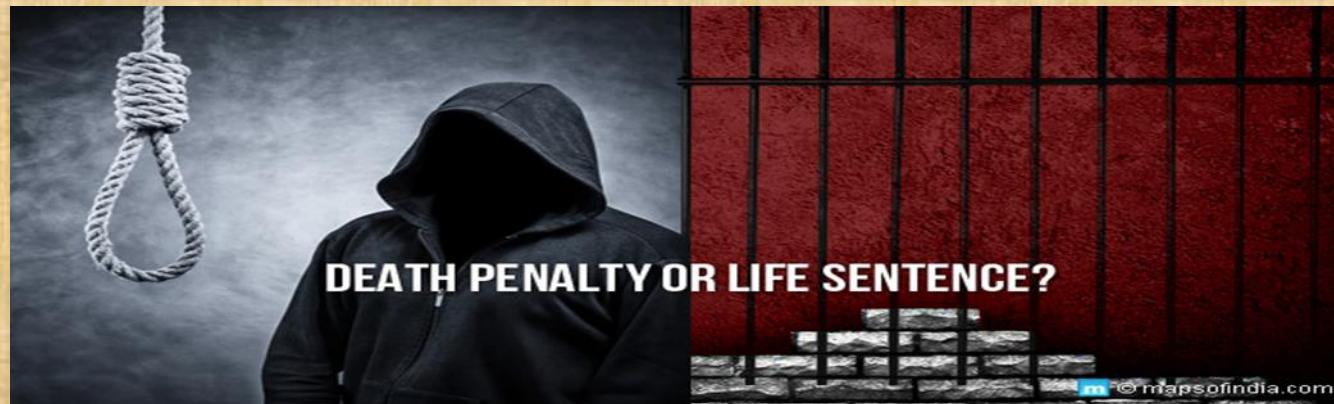


Methamphetamine Pills



INTRODUCTION

- There are increasing number of drugs in Thailand in 2015.
- Thailand is destination and transshipment country.
- Thailand is a net importer of illicit narcotics for domestic use.
- Some opium poppy has been destroyed, yet the growth is found in Meth. Heroin and Cocaine are slightly decreasing.



Drug smuggling battle

- For centuries **the Golden Triangle** - where Burma, Thailand and Laos meet - has been notorious for the production of opium and drug smuggling.
- While the amount of poppies grown there has more than halved over the past decade, production of the stimulant methamphetamine has soared.
- Primary concerned drug now is **METHAMPHATAMINE** (Stimulant) growing cross border trafficking from Myanmar.

Drug Control Accomplishment

- Where drugs are from?
 - international drug trafficking org
 - Cross borders with Laos, Burma, Cambodia
- What do we do to control the drug trade in THA?
 - police focuses on the movement of large international drug trafficking org. such as African-based drug trafficking org.
 - RTPNSB coordinates with neighboring law enforcement entities.
 - Bilateral extradition and mutual legal assistance
 - the support of US for equipment and training



Illegal drugs in Thailand

- **Heroin** Trafficking is decreased in 2015.
- **Methamphetamine** trafficking (crazy drug) is the primary drug concern in Thailand. Most crazy drugs are manufactured in Burma and enters to Thailand through the Northern borders.
- **Crystal Methamphetamine** (ice) is produced by United Wah State Army in Burma.
- Also, some Crystal Methamphetamine are increasing carried from China which were directed by African- based drug syndicates operating in Guangzhou.
- **Cocaine and Ecstasy** (MDMA) have a small market in Thailand which belongs mostly to the expats and tourists. These are from commercial flights and neighboring borders

The penalty for drug related offenses in Thailand are severe.

Death penalty to those with intention to sell and hold more than 20 grams of the substance.

Public Information, Prevention, Treatment

- Drug treatment programs are offered to those with substance abuse disorder.
- The awareness of perils of drug addiction are promoted in public.
- Although drugs production , distribution or laundering of drug proceeds are not allowed, the problems are remaining. One of the reason is corruption or bribery to the officials.

National Goals

- Thailand and US cooperation with law enforcement agencies to deal with drug problems and transnational crime.
 - US provides training and assistance to Thai law enforcement and criminal justice
 - US funded international law enforcement academy and other programs.
- DEA (drug enforcement administration) maintains SIU (sensitive investigative unit) which participants get specialized training and undergo the rigorous vetting process.

Conclusion

- The fight against illicit drugs is ongoing with the following action:
 - Thai and US collaborative relationship supports law enforcement.
 - Thailand adopt laws and regulations closely aligned with international standards.
 - The greater effort to promote the cooperation between police and prosecutor, to prevent corruption and to advance regional cooperation.

New legal drug use in Thailand



- **Kratom**, the plant formerly listed as a narcotic, is legalized to grow from Aug 24, 2021.
- Each household will be free to grow as much kratom as they want. The sale of kratom to children and pregnant women still will be prohibited, as well as mixing it with drugs on the narcotics list.
- Those who use it say it can have both a calming and energizing effect.
- Kratom will become an economic crop that can be exported to make extra money for farmers. Careful use is suggested though.



New legal drug use in Thailand

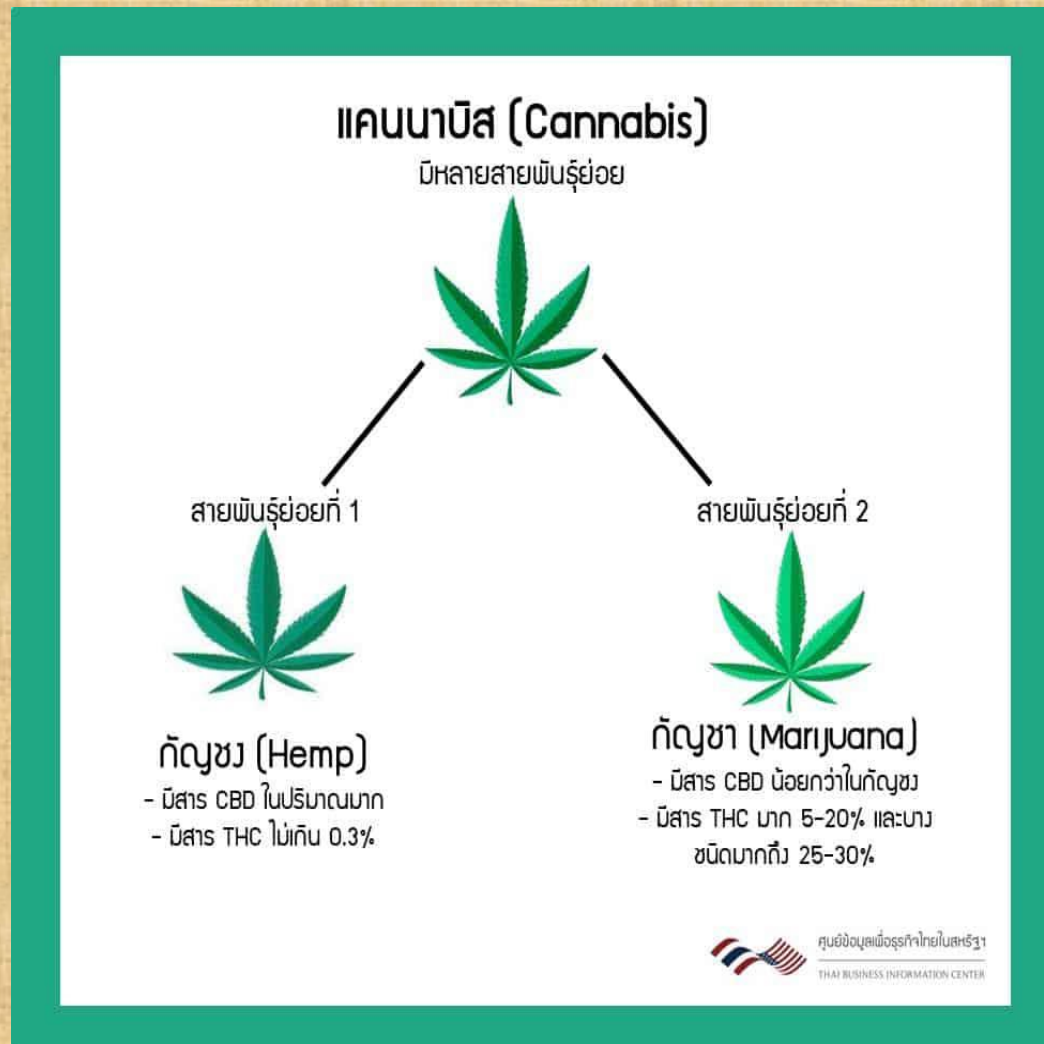
- **Marijuana** is ready in Thailand yet remains less visible. **Cannabis** (a herbal form of Marijuana) is more popular in Thailand.
- Both drugs are delisted as a narcotic in early 2022.
- Cannabis (Hemp) is accepted for cosmetic and food while marijuana was accepted in medical cases.
- **Cannabis delisting** allows people to
 - Grow cannabis at home after notifying the local government
 - Obtain license for commercial growth
 - Get cannabis hemp for cannabis-infused beverage or food
 - New products offering the market



Cannabis-infused Food



Going on research on the use



The announcement of the Ministry of Public Health regarding The Control Herbs (Cannabis) Act 2022

- Study the “Guidelines for cannabis or hemp related practices in higher education institutions ”
- Discuss what you can or cannot do in relation to the use of cannabis and hemp

- <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/thailand-toughen-rules-methamphetamine-pill-possession-2023-02-03/>
- Do you agree that Thai government should prioritize the punishment over public health? Discuss