

PRESS NOTE

ODISHA SCALES NEW HIGH IN DESTRUCTION OF ILLICIT CULTIVATION OF CANNABIS

During this crop year 2017-18 so far 4,407.73 acres of illicit cultivation of cannabis (Ganja) have been destroyed in 8 districts of Odisha against the target of 3050 acres. On 8th November 2017 a High Level Meeting was held in the Conference hall of STF, CID, CB, Bhubaneswar, Odisha by DGP, Odisha and attended by ADGP, CID, Crime Branch, Odisha, IGP STF & EOW, Odisha, SsP of 9 affected districts and high officials of Excise Deptt., Forest, NCB and ORSAC regarding enforcement of laws relating to Narcotic Substances to curb down illicit trafficking of Ganja and steps to be taken for destruction of illicit cultivation of cannabis in the State. Process of identification and further is still on. During 2015-16 & 2016-17, Cannabis had been destroyed in 2457.73 of acres and 3599.191 acres.

During this year direct transfer of funds was facilitated by the STF to the District of SsP to avoid delay and coordinated multi disciplinary approach supplemented with use of Satellite have helped imageries have helped in better results in inaccessible and interior areas of Maoist affected districts like Kandhamal, Boudh, Rayagada, Malkangiri, Koraput etc. Further, this is to note that there is a sharp decline in illicit cultivation of cannabis like districts in Sambalpur, Deogarh, Angul and Nayagarh Districts due to constant efforts by the district SsP in destruction of illicit cultivation of cannabis in previous years and awareness drive during the current year.

Destruction of Illicit Cultivation of Cannabis in Odisha during the crop year 2017-18 (till 20.01.2018)

DISTRICT	TARGET GIVEN IN ACRES	AREA DESTROYED IN ACRES
ANGUL	200	51
SAMBALPUR	50	-
DEOGARH	50	-
BOUDH	500	789.1
KANDHAMAL	1500	2227
GAJAPATI	400	841.63
RAYAGADA	200	272
MALKANGIRI	100	199
NAYAGARH	50	-
KORAPUT		28
TOTAL	3050	4407.73

During the year 2017 420 NDPS cases have been registered in which 476 Qntl 2kg 707 gm have been seized and 700 persons have been arrested. During the same period 1 kg 861 gm 180mg Brown Sugar and 8925 bottles of Cough Syrup have also been seized and 37 and 24 accused persons respectively have been arrested in these cases.

A new guidelines for grant of rewards to be paid to the officers, informers and other persons in 2017 have handsomely increased the amount of reward to encourage them in curbing down the illicit tracking and cultivation of Ganja.