

**MANIPUR**  **GAZETTE**  
सत्यमेव जयते

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**GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR  
SECRETARIAT: FINANCE DEPARTMENT  
(EXPENDITURE SECTION)**

**NOTIFICATION**

Imphal, the 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

No. 6/8/2019-FD(EXCISE): Whereas, after careful consideration of the facts and circumstances available and in view of its constitutional obligations to take steps to improve public health, the Government of Manipur has decided to put in place a policy prescribing a broad regulatory framework for the cultivation, harvesting, manufacture and use of hemp and its preparations for scientific, medicinal and industrial purposes;

2. Whereas, the purpose of this policy is to support regulated captive cultivation of hemp plant, procurement of hemp from licensed growers, manufacture of APIs from medicinal component of hemp and its preparations by public and private enterprises to address medical needs of the public.

3. Now, the Governor of Manipur is pleased to formulate and adopt a "Policy for promotion of cultivation, harvesting, manufacturing and use of hemp for medicinal and scientific purposes" as per annexure to this notification.

4. The policy shall come into force with effect from the 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.

NEILENTHANG TELIEN,  
Joint Secretary, Finance Department,  
Government of Manipur.

## **POLICY FOR PROMOTION OF CULTIVATION, HARVESTING, MANUFACTURING AND USE OF HEMP FOR MEDICINAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The flowering or fruiting tops, leaves, seeds, stalk of the hemp plant, scientific name: *cannabis sativa L*, have been shown to have great promise in the field of medicine, especially for pain management and various life-threatening diseases and conditions. A substantial amount of scientific literature exists which makes a strong case for use of hemp for medicinal and industrial purposes. The State Government of Manipur is conscious of the medicinal potential of hemp and its preparations for pain management drugs and in treatment of serious or life threatening diseases and conditions such as cancer (pain for management and palliative care), epilepsy (drug resistant), tuberculosis, anxiety, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, sickle cell anemia, etc.
2. Reputed international agencies, such the World Health Organization have published various reports that underscore the medical potential of hemp.
3. The Government is also aware that many States in India have already amended rules notified in accordance with Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 to introduce policies towards medicinal and industrial use of hemp. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has already issued a license for cultivation of hemp plant for medicinal usage for R&D purposes. The Government of Uttarakhand has permitted commercial cultivation of a specific type of hemp plant by general public and use of identified parts of the hemp plant so cultivated for industrial and medical purposes. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has also permitted research-oriented cultivation of a type of hemp plant. Various other state governments like Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha are in the process of finalizing their hemp cultivation and usage policies.
4. The above has prompted the Government of Manipur to rethink its current policy on scientific/ medicinal/ industrial hemp, including its policy on regulated cultivation and harvesting of hemp plant, industrial scale extraction and commercialization of industrially useful compounds like cannabinoids from hemp and manufacture of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) from medicinal component of hemp for its use in pharmaceutical industries and health products.
5. Therefore, after careful consideration of the facts and circumstances and in view of its constitutional obligations to take steps to improve public health, the Government of Manipur has decided to put in place a policy prescribing a broad regulatory framework for the cultivation, harvesting, manufacture and use of hemp and its preparations for scientific, medicinal and industrial purposes in the manner as detailed hereinafter.

### **II. VISION STATEMENT**

1. To support regulated captive cultivation of hemp plant, procurement of hemp from licensed growers, manufacture of APIs from medicinal component of hemp and its preparations by public and private enterprises to address medical needs of the public.

### **III. OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY**

1. To facilitate regulated cultivation, harvesting and production of hemp and extraction and commercialization of medicinal components from the plant and preparations of APIs for medicinal and health use;
2. To enable access to quality hemp, and API preparations containing hemp by needy patients under strict medical supervision;
3. To facilitate procurement and commercialization of industrial by-products of hemp like its seeds and stalk fibers to be used for nutraceutical products like non-psychotropic vegan proteins, hemp seed oil and textiles.
4. To create a new source of livelihood for the State's farmers;
5. To encourage public and private enterprises to cultivate and harvest hemp plant and to manufacture medicinal hemp;
6. To attract investment in cultivation of hemp plant in the State;
7. To attract investment for manufacture of medicinal products/ APIs from hemp in the State; and
8. To encourage research on the hemp plant.

### **IV. STRATEGIC DRIVERS OF THE POLICY**

1. Addressing, both domestic and global medical needs of patients suffering from serious or life-threatening diseases and conditions and for natural pain management solutions.
2. Attracting capital and experts in the field of hemp to the State of Manipur.
3. Growth of hemp industry resulting in employment and wealth generation for farmers and the entire supply chain.

### **V. POLICY STATEMENTS**

1. The State of Manipur had earlier notified Rules (Manipur Narcotic Drugs Rules, 1986) under the existing provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. The Rules will have to be adequately amended to give effect to the objectives of this policy. Rules may be supplemented from time to time by such directions and instructions by the State Government as deemed fit in order to give effect to this policy.
2. The State of Manipur will put in place regulation to promote cultivation, including captive cultivation of hemp plant and production of hemp for medical purposes under a license issued by an authority as specified under the amended Rules and as per the prescribed procedure.
3. If any licensed cultivator, chemist or dealer is found violating the Rules, action will be taken under the NDPS Act, 1985 against all such persons who are directly or indirectly involved in such cultivation and shall include cancellation of license and destruction of crop under the supervision of the specified authority.

4. It shall be open for any person or body corporate to undertake cultivation of hemp for medical purpose provided all conditions prescribed under the rules framed by the government or as directed by the Government from time to time are met.
5. The cultivation of hemp for industrial/ medical purposes shall be allowed, subject to regulations, monitoring and supervision by the State Government under the Rules and as prescribed from time to time, either on self-owned or leased land.
6. In case of entrepreneurs and corporate bodies, the State Government shall prescribe pre-conditions and eligibility criteria, including prior research and manufacturing credentials in the area of medicine and financial soundness, in order to avoid risk of produced hemp reaching black market.
7. Any past violation of The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 or The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 would act as disqualification for grant of license.
8. Subject to such conditions, as prescribed, the State Government shall issue licenses to entrepreneurs and corporate bodies who are interested in end-to-end manufacture of medicinal products or preparations containing medicinal APIs from captively cultivated hemp plant.
9. The State Government of Manipur shall encourage export of dried biomass of hemp or preparations from hemp plant extract to support local cultivators and enterprises invested in the state.
10. The hemp produced for medical purposes will be owned by the licensee and shall be used exclusively for the above defined purposes by the licensee.
11. Procedures will be prescribed for regulation of production, manufacture, possession, transport, storage, inter-State and international export/ import sale, purchase, consumption and use of hemp and its industrial and medicinal products.
12. The State Government will take such steps as necessary to encourage scientific research and development in hemp plant and attract investment for such research from the public and private sector.
13. Necessary Rules under the NDPS Act will be amended by the State Government to give effect to this Policy.
14. After learning and gaining experience from the implementation of the Policy for 5 (five) years from the date it comes into effect, the Policy will be reviewed to further meet the specified objectives or to expand its scope, unless modified or withdrawn before that.