



## What is the penalty? Will Government legalise cannabis?

- A few overseas jurisdictions have legalised the "recreational" use of cannabis. Some justifications given by these jurisdictions include –
  - (a) generating tax revenue from legalised cannabis sale for funding government programmes
  - (b) providing for legal production of cannabis to reduce illicit cannabis activities
  - (c) reclaiming most of the cannabis trade from organised crime groups
  - (d) alleviating the court's workload arising from cannabis offences
  - (e) protecting the health of young persons by restricting their access to cannabis
- Points (a) to (d) above are not pertinent considerations in Hong Kong's context. In fact we consider that the claimed "benefits" cannot outweigh the harms brought to society by cannabis abuse.
- As regards point (e), the International Narcotics Control Board has pointed out that in reality, substantial numbers of licensed cannabis businesses are selling cannabis to young people.



Narcotics Division,  
Security Bureau



Action Committee  
Against Narcotics