

GROUP EXERCISES/ASSIGNMENTS

Group exercise or assignment is a very effective method of training. It serves more than one purpose. It reinforces what has already been taught through lectures. It helps assess if the trainees assimilated the concepts explained or the knowledge imparted. It breaks the monotony of classroom lectures. It helps participants apply the knowledge gained during the training to near practical situations. In fact, the ultimate test of effectiveness of any training endeavour is its practical utility to the participants.

Group exercises/assignments have been used with great success in the training programmes organised by the Project. They have been highly welcomed by the participants. These exercises have very often sprung up novel ideas on different facets of precursor control.

A number of sample group exercises/ assignments have been prepared keeping in view the precursor control situation in the SAARC region. These can be used in the training courses that may be organised in the training institutions in the SAARC countries. Training institutions can also develop other similar exercises and use them.

Succeeding pages contain these exercises/ assignments.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 1

Golden land is a democratic state and has recently become party to the 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. The country is a developing economy and, as on date, does not manufacture any of the chemicals included in Tables I and II of the 1988 U.N. Convention except Sulphuric acid. It imports acetic anhydride, ephedrine, pseudo-ephedrine, potassium permanganate, hydrochloric acid, acetone, sulphuric acid and toluene for pharmaceutical and other industrial purposes. The country operates a free trade zone and an export promotion zone. Sizeable transit cargo passes through its ports and air cargo complex to other destinations.

Being a new state, Golden land is in the process of developing its legal framework. There is evidence of growing drug abuse in the country. Drugs of abuse are smuggled in from some of the countries in the region. Though it is claimed that there is no illicit drug production within the country, possibility of illicit laboratories operating cannot be altogether ruled out. The neighbouring country on the east has large-scale illicit drug production (heroin and ATS) on its territory. Its neighbours in the west also have illicit drug production. While Golden land has enacted drug control legislation to tackle the problem of drug trafficking and abuse, there are no precursor control laws in place in the country as yet.

Recognising the need to establish precursor control measures in the country with a view to fulfil its international commitments under the 1988 UN Convention as also to take care of its domestic needs, the Prime Minister of Golden land has invited you to advise him as to what kind of precursor control legislation needs to be established in the country, having regard to all the factors mentioned above.

Please prepare a draft outline of precursor control legislation for Golden land, citing relevant articles of 1988 UN Convention, wherever relevant. You will be requested to make a presentation of the draft legislation before a committee appointed by the Prime Minister for the purpose and provide answers to their queries.

Your advice may be prepared along the following lines:

1. Present situation.
2. Likely consequences of not having a precursor control mechanism.
3. Nature of requirements for precursor control.
4. Outline of legislation to meet these requirements.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 2

Working as Deputy Narcotics Commissioner in the office of Narcotics Commissioner you are responsible for scrutinizing the applications for NOC for export of precursor chemicals and assisting the Narcotics Commissioner to take a decision whether NOC is to be accorded or refused.

M/s Ephechemicals, who are manufacturer of ephedrine submit an application for NOC to export 5000 kg of ephedrine to M/s Glee Pharmaceuticals Ltd, located in an island called Oakland with a population of about 5000 people. Half of the population is tribal and rarely takes medicines.

What factors would you take into account while scrutinizing the application and ultimately what course of action you would suggest to the Narcotics Commissioner?

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 3

'A' is posted as Assistant Commissioner of Customs at a town located in an area where licensed cultivation of opium takes place. 'B,' who has a house at A-21, Krishna Nagar locality, approaches him. 'B' informs 'A' that three houses away from his house is situated a sprawling premises which has an old building in the centre. The premises have a high boundary wall and the main gate is generally locked and guarded. At nights, sometimes, fumes with strong odour come out of the building. Some people come out of the building to smoke cigarettes and then go back inside. The occupants of the building generally avoid mixing with the people of neighbourhood. 'B' suspects that some illegal activity is going on in the premises and requests 'A' to take appropriate action.

Suppose you are 'A'. Please consider the above information and the circumstances mentioned above. Please answer the following questions -

- (i) What is your immediate reaction?

- (ii) What next step you would like to take?
- (iii) In case the information has substance and calls for a raid how would you go about it?

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 4

You are working as an Appraiser in the Customs House. Your country allows licensed cultivation of opium poppy. The country also produces a number of precursor chemicals including acetic anhydride. It sometimes imports acetic anhydride from other countries.

While handling bills of entry in the chemical group in the Custom House, you come across a bill of entry filed by M/s Lofty Textiles, Jantar Mantar Street, Ajubabad for import of a consignment of 2000 litres of acetic anhydride from France. The order was placed by fax and indicated that the chemical was required urgently. The C.I.F works out to Rs. 75/- per litre whereas the local market price of acetic anhydride is Rs. 45/- per litre. The exporter in France had received instructions from M/s Lofty Textiles to pack the stuff in 5 kg containers.

Please describe the line of action that you would like to adopt in this matter, giving reasons therefore.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 5

M/s Dhanvantri Exim Ltd is engaged in the import and export of pharmaceutical products for several years. During last one year, two of its senior executives left the job. As per rumours, the reason for their quitting the company was latter's involvement in some irregular export transactions. About a week ago, Ms. Kavita Kulkarni, a diploma holder in foreign trade joined the company as a senior executive.

Ms. Kavita Kulkarni approaches X an officer in the narcotics department for advice with regard to an export order which her company has received. This order has been placed with Ms. Kulkarni's company for export of 2000 kg of ephedrine to M/s Cough Comforts located in the neighbouring country called Uttamdesh which shares its border with another country names Ryatar. Ryatar has been recently in news for detection of a number of illicit laboratories engaged in manufacture of methamphetamine. M/s. Cough Comforts had telephonically requested Ms. Kavita Kulkarni to pack the ephedrine in 20 kg wooden boxes and indicate that boxes contained cough medicine.

Suppose you are X. What would you like to advise Ms. Kavita Kulkarni?

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 6

You are working as a drug analyst in a recognized Government Laboratory and holding the charge of the department in which drugs/precursors are analysed. A

sample in a box is sent to your department with relevant papers. You are to get the sample analysed and send the report to the authority concerned.

Please prepare a protocol involving the following:

- a). Chain of custody of the sample received.
- b). Seal on the packet and also on the sample
- c). Entering the sample in the register maintained in your department.
- d). Preparation of protocol for assigning the responsibility of testing to your colleague in the department.
- e). Preparation of protocol of testing and report.
- f). Disposal of remnants of the sample.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT 7

You are working in a recognized Government Laboratory. You have received a sample and on observations, you found that the sample is a liquid. The forwarding authority suspected that the liquid might be a precursor chemical.

Please prepare a complete protocol indicating the chain of custody of the sample, chemical index and report. Also please indicate the action you will take for the remnants of the sample.
