

Penal Law

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

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PENAL LAW **General Part**

Chapter I **General Principles**

Article 1. Role of the Penal Law

The role of the Penal Law is to safeguard the political, economic and social system of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the state, collective and individual properties, the life, health, rights and freedom of the people, the national security and public order, to counter and prevent infractions and educate all citizens to the respect of laws.
In view of implementing this role, this Law determines which act deemed dangerous for society is a penal infraction liable of sanctions.

Article 2. Basis of penal responsibilities

All individuals will assume penal responsibilities and will be liable to penalties only on the basis of voluntary or inadvertent acts deemed dangerous for society as defined in the Penal Law and only when a decision is brought by the court of justice.

Chapter II **Context of the Penal Law's Effectiveness**

Article 3. Effectiveness of the Penal Law within the Territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
This Penal Law is binding in the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. All individuals transgressing the Penal Law within the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic are liable to sanctions defined by the Penal Law of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.
Cases of diplomatic representatives or individuals benefiting from diplomatic immunity sanctioned by international conventions guilty of infractions in the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic will be solved through the diplomatic channel.

Article 4. Application of the Penal Law outside the Territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
Lao citizens guilty of penal infractions committed outside the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic will assume penal responsibilities of the committed infraction as mentioned in the Penal Law of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Foreigners and stateless individuals residing in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, if guilty of penal infractions outside the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, are also liable to assume penal responsibilities.

Foreign citizens committing infractions outside the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic are liable to assume responsibilities towards the penal law of the Lao People's Democratic Republic if such cases are mentioned in international conventions.

Article 5. Use of the penal law in time

This Law takes effect from the day of its promulgation.

Any new law calling for lighter penalties or canceling penal infractions mentioned by former laws will take retroactive effect.

New laws stipulating new infractions or calling for heavier punishment than mentioned in an earlier law will not take retroactive effect.

Chapter III Infractions and offenders

Article 6. Definition of infraction

All acts or abstentions seen as dangerous for the political, economic and social system of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, for the properties of the state, the collectivity and individuals, for the lives, health, rights and freedom of the population, for the national stability and social order as mentioned in the penal law will be considered as penal infractions.

All acts or abstentions with all components of penal infractions but generating lesser social damages shall not be considered as penal infractions.

Article 7 (New). Categories of infractions

Infractions are divided into three categories:

- Matters of simple police are infractions punished by the law by public criticism;
- Matters of offense are infractions punished by the law by correctional penalties without deprivation from freedom, fines, imprisonment from three months to ten years;
- Crimes are infractions punished by the law by an imprisonment from five years up to death penalty.

Article 8. Voluntary infractions

Voluntary infractions are acts or abstentions undertaken by the offender fully knowing about their dangerous nature for society and about their consequence while willingly undertaking them or leaving them to happen.

Article 9. Infractions caused by carelessness

Infractions caused by carelessness are acts or abstentions with the full knowledge that such acts or abstentions might be dangerous for society by showing carelessness and not believing or expecting that such consequence would take place, although it is due and possible to expect it.

Article 10. Infractions pertaining to several categories

Multiple category infraction is an act or several acts of infraction committed by an individual classifiable under two or more categories, transgressing several articles of the Penal Law and to which judgment will be given at the same time and at the same court.

Article 11. Recidivism

Recidivism is a voluntary act of infraction by an individual who has already been condemned to privation of liberty and is guilty of voluntary act of infraction during the service of sentence or of the same or similar voluntary act of infraction within a period of five years after executing his sentence.

Article 12. Preparations of infraction

Preparations of acts of infraction are preparations of materials, conditions or other factors for voluntary acts of infraction.

Such preparations of infraction will only be liable of sanctions if deemed dangerous for society as mentioned in the specific section of this Penal Law.

Preparations of infraction will be sanctioned according to articles prescribing penalties called by such acts.

Article 13. Attempts of infraction

Attempts of infraction are acts which have started to be voluntarily implemented, but suspended because of independent circumstances making such acts not successful.

Attempts of infraction are liable of penalties if deemed dangerous for society as mentioned in the specific section of this Penal Law.

Attempts of infraction will be punished according to articles prescribing penalties called by such acts.

Article 14. Voluntary suspension of acts of infraction

Any individual voluntarily suspending his act of infraction during its preparation or its attempt will not be liable for any penal responsibilities, except if such act comprises components of other acts of infraction.

Article 15. Definition of offender

An offender is an individual guilty of an act or abstention deemed dangerous for society and comprising components of infractions mentioned by the Law.

Article 16. Participation to infraction

Participation to infraction consists of voluntary participation to an intentional infraction by two or more persons.

Participants to infraction are the authors, implementing, inciting and assisting persons.

1. The author is the one who has planned, organized or given instructions to commit the infraction;
2. The perpetrator is the one who has directly committed the infraction;
3. Inceptors are persons pushing others to commit infractions;
4. Accomplices are persons who have given voluntary assistance in the infraction or prior agreement to hide the offender, instruments, and tools of infraction, to efface traces of infractions or to conceal proceeds from such infractions.

Chapter IV Exemption of penal liabilities

Article 17. Minors

Individuals who have not reached the age of fifteen at the time infraction is committed are not liable of penal responsibilities, but the court has to apply measures mentioned under Article 48 of this Law.

Article 18. Insanity

Individuals committing infractions in a state of unconsciousness or of insanity, incapable of recognizing the consequences of their acts, are not liable to penal responsibilities. Towards such individuals, the court might bring a decision to undergo a medical treatment as mentioned in the Law.

Individuals committing infractions in a drunken state or under the effect of narcotics will not be exempted in any way from penal responsibilities.

Article 19. Constraints and threats

Individuals committing infractions under independent circumstances of unavoidable constraint or threat will not be liable of penal responsibilities.

In case such acts constitute a crime, constraints or threats will only give extenuating circumstances to penal responsibilities.

Article 20. Legitimate defense

Acts of legitimate defense are made by an individual to safeguard the interests of the state or of the society, his own or other individual's life, health, legitimate rights and interests against acts of aggression dangerous for the society. But such acts of aggression must be truly existing and dangerous. And acts of legitimate defense must take place at that time and must not exceed the context of such aggression.

Acts of legitimate defense are not considered as penal infractions.

Article 21. State of necessity

The state of necessity is an act undertaken by an individual by necessity to avoid threats against the interests of the state or the society, his own or other individual's life, health, legitimate rights and interests when such threats of such nature cannot be avoided by other methods and are not committed by the said individual and damages incurred from such acts are lesser than the eventual threats.

The state of necessity is not liable of penal responsibilities.

Article 22 (New). Infractions against which complaints must be lodged by the damaged parties

In case infractions are not dangerous for society and if the damaged party does not lodge any complaint, no judgment may be brought: physical violence between close relatives without serious injuries or physical disability, libels, slanders, insults, outrages to the body or the reputation of the dead, infractions to properties of close relatives, violation of domicile and private secrecy.

The withdrawal of the complaint lodged by the damaged party will disrupt the court's procedure.

Article 23. Death of the offender

Penal procedures will be disrupted by the death of the offender whether before or after complaints are lodged.

Article 24. Effectiveness of a penal complaint

Penal complaints will not be considered as effective if exceeding:

- One year in case of infractions pertaining to matters of simple police;
- Seven years in case of infractions pertaining to matters of petty sessions;
- Fifteen years in case of infractions pertaining to criminal matters.

The effectiveness of a penal complaint starts from the day the infraction is committed. In case of second offense during the period of legal procedures against the former infraction, the effectiveness of the complaint will start from the day the following infraction is committed. In case of evasion of court procedures, effectiveness will start from the day the offender presents himself or is arrested.

Chapter V Penalties

Article 25. Purposes of penalties

Penalties do not only aim at punishing offenders, but also to reeducate punished individuals to bear a pure spirit towards work, to abide correctly and strictly to the laws, to respect the regulations of social livelihood, as well as avoiding recidivism on the part of the punished offender and other individuals.

Punishment does not aim at generating physical sufferings or at outraging human dignity.

Article 26. Categories of punishment

a /. Capital penalties

1. Public criticism;
2. Correctional punishment without privation of liberty;
3. Privation of liberty;
4. Death penalty.

b /. Additional penalties

1. Fines (in certain circumstances, it might become a capital penalty);
2. Confiscation of items;
3. Seizure of properties;
4. Privation of election rights;
5. House arrest.

The seizure of properties and house arrest will be inflicted to the offender only in case such penalty is mentioned in the specific part of this penal law.

Apart from the capital and additional penalties, the court might request relevant authorities to withdraw driving licenses or other permits, to relieve from or to forbid to perform a function or duty, to withdraw orders, medals or titles and to exile the offender.

Article 27. Public criticism

Public criticism implies criticizing the offender at court. In necessary cases, the court's decision might be published in newspaper or by other methods.

Article 28 (New). Correctional penalty without privation of liberty

Correctional penalty without privation of liberty is a punishment inflicted upon the offender at his place of work or at other locations by retaining five to twenty per cent of his total salary as state income in accordance with the court's decision.

Correctional penalty without privation of liberty must not exceed one year.

Article 29. Privation of liberty

Privation of liberty may be sanctioned from three months to twenty years or life imprisonment.

Life imprisonment may not be sentenced on offenders of less than eighteen years old and on women in a state of pregnancy when infraction is committed.

Article 30. Death penalty

Death penalty is a special measure of punishment to be sanctioned on the offender in specially serious cases as mentioned in the specific part of this penal law.

Death penalty is sanctioned by shooting.

It is forbidden to inflict death sentence on offenders of less than eighteen years old at the time of infractions and on women in a state of pregnancy at the time the infraction is committed or when the court brings decision or the sentence is sanctioned.

Article 31. Fines

Fines are financial penalties decided by the court according to the cases and context mentioned by the Law.

The fine must be computed in accordance with the gravity of the infraction on the basis of the offender's economic status. In case the offender is not in the capacity to pay the fines, the court has the possibility to commute them into correctional sentences without privation of liberty.

It is forbidden to commute in either ways fines and privation of liberty.

Article 32. Seizure and confiscation of properties

Seizure of properties consists in properties belonging to offenders seized in totality or in part by the state without any compensation.

Seizure of properties may only be sentenced in case of serious cases as mentioned in the specific part of this Penal Law.

In case a seizure of the totality of properties is decided, exception must be made for properties necessary for the livelihood of the offender and his family according to the list attached to this Penal Law. In case partial seizure of properties is sentenced, the court must set up a clear list.

Confiscation of items relates to items which were used in the infraction or prepared for the commitment of the infraction or obtained from an intentional infraction by the state. Items belonging to other individuals used in the infraction will be seized by the state if the owner lending them is not in good faith or if seen necessary for social security.

State and collective items will not be seized but returned to the relevant authorities.

Article 33. Suspension of right of election

Suspension of right of election is inflicted on offenders related to criminal matters.

The sanction of exemption of right of election on offenders must not exceed a period of five years from the day the execution of sentence is finished.

Article 34. House arrest.

House arrest is to forbid sentenced offender to leave a place residence or to enter other territories as assigned or forbidden by the court.

Residency under surveillance must not exceed five years from the end of the execution of the sentence.

The sentence for house arrest may not be sanctioned on offenders of less than eighteen years old and women in the state of pregnancy or women in charge of small children of less than eight years old at the period the infraction is committed.

House arrest will be specified in the specific part of this Penal Law.

Chapter VI Prescription of penalties

Article 35. General regulations on the prescription of penalties

The court prescribes penalties on the basis of legal provisions surveying for the punishment of infractions. In prescribing penalties, the court must consider the features and nature of social threat generated by the infraction, the personality of the offender and causes conducting to the mitigation or the increase of penal responsibilities.

Article 36. Causes conducive to the mitigation of penal responsibilities

Causes conducive to the mitigation of penal responsibilities are:

1. The offender is less than eighteen years old;
2. State of pregnancy of a female offender;
3. Unreasonable context of a state of legitimate defense;
4. Infraction committed under strong emotional shock generated by an illegal act of the victim;
5. Infraction committed under constraint or threat;
6. The offender restrains damages generated by his own act of infraction or voluntarily compensates the damages;
7. Infraction committed because of the offender's own or of his family's seriously difficult situation;
8. The offender expresses sincere regrets and surrenders to officials, acknowledges and reveals infractions committed by himself and others;
9. First act of infraction if not generating serious dangers for the society;
10. The offender has shown merits towards the nation.

In the prescription of penalties, the court might take into consideration other factors not mentioned in this law but likely to mitigate penal responsibilities.

Article 37. Circumstantial causes conducive to the increase of penal responsibilities

Circumstantial causes conducive to the increase of penal responsibilities are:

1. Recidivism;
2. Infractions committed by organized groups;
3. Infractions committed from greediness;
4. Infractions towards minors, aged persons, vulnerable persons, persons materially or
5. in other ways dependent or standing under the tutelage of the offender;
6. Initiation of minors to commit or to participate to infractions;
7. Barbarous or outrageous acts of infraction towards the victim;
8. Infractions conducive to serious consequences;
9. Infractions committed during calamities;
10. Infractions committed through public dangerous methods;
11. Infractions committed under the state of drunkenness or drug abuse. Based on the nature of the committed infraction, the court has the absolute right to decide whether it is liable or not to increase the penal responsibilities;
12. Intentional rejection of guilt on honest persons;
13. Offenders guilty of concealing other infractions or using violence to escape.

Article 38. Prescription of penalties for the preparation and attempts of infractions

Prescription of penalties for the preparation and attempts of infractions must take into consideration their nature and degree of social threats, of the degree of implementation of the offender's ill intentions and causes of such unsuccessful infractions. The court may sentence lighter penalties than as legally prescribed.

Article 39. Prescription of penalties on complicity and incitement to infractions

Prescription of penalties on complicity and incitement to infractions must take place on an equal basis as for other forms of participation in such infractions. But taking into consideration the level and nature of complicity and incitement, the court may sentence lighter penalties than prescribed the law.

Article 40. Prescription of penalties on infractions pertaining to several categories

The prescription of penalties on a unique infraction pertaining to several articles must take place on the basis of the legal provision providing for the heaviest punishment.

The prescription of penalty on infractions pertaining to several articles must take place on the basis of each separate infraction added to each other in totality, but the final result must not exceed the heaviest penalty mentioned by the law. Complementary penalties may be added to the capital one in case the complementary penalty to such infraction is mentioned in the specific part of this Penal Law.

In case court decision has already been given or become definitely binding, or the offender has executed the sentence in part or in totality, but it is seen that further infractions have been committed by the offender, the prescription of penalties must take place according to the above mentioned procedures.

In case after the court's decision becomes definitely binding or during the penalty's execution, the offender becomes guilty of an act of infraction, the court may add the remaining part of the penalty which is still due to be executed in part or in totality to the newly sentenced penalty.

Fines must be executed one by one and may not be summed up or may not be added to other categories of penalties according to the above mentioned procedures.

Article 41. Prescription of penalties on recidivism

Prescription of penalties on recidivism in correctional matters must take place by adding the penalty to be sentenced by the court on a normal case of infraction to half of the penalty of such specific case.

Recidivism in criminal matters is conducive to an increase of penal responsibilities as mentioned under Article 37 of this Law.

Article 42. Stay of penalty's execution

The stay of execution of liberty privation penalties, correctional penalties without privation of liberty or fines as main penalty is the suspension of the execution of such penalties for a period of five years. If during such period of time, the sentenced does not become guilty of any other voluntary infractions, the penalty will be lifted. But in case of second voluntary offense, after being sentenced to be deprived of liberty and such sentence being absolutely binding, the culprit must execute the new penalty in addition to the one which has been suspended.

The suspension of penalty's execution can be in totality or in part. Recidivists, those sentenced to three years of privation of liberty or more, or those sentenced in criminal matters cannot benefit from the stay of execution of penalties.

Article 43. Inclusion of preventive custody in the execution of the penalty

The total duration of preventive custody must be included in the sanctions of privation of liberty or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty. One day of preventive custody is equal to one day of privation of liberty or three days of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

Article 44. Exemption of penalties by sending offenders to administrative authorities or social organizations for re-education

If it is seen that the infraction belongs to matters of simple police and that the offender's personality does not present any threat towards society, the court may send the offender to administrative authorities or social organizations for re-education.

Chapter VII

Circumstantial causes conducive to the exemption of penalties and conditional liberation before term

Article 45. Circumstantial causes to the exemption of penalties

The sanction of penal punishments will be lifted in the following events:

- Death of the sentenced;
- Expiration of time limit for execution of court's decision;
- Pardon is granted to the offender.

Article 46. Limitation of execution of the court's decision

Penalties sentenced on offender may not be executed if exceeding the following period of time:

- One year for matters of simple police;
- Seven years for correctional matters;
- Fifteen years for criminal matters.

The effectiveness of the court's sentence starts, as it becomes absolutely binding. In case of the court's sentence on the former act of infraction, the effectiveness of the court's sentence on the second infraction will start from the day it is committed.

In case of evasion from penalties during the period of effectiveness of the sentence, such period will take effect from the day the offender presents himself or is arrested. .

Article 47. Conditional liberation before term

Conditional liberation before term, based on the suggestion of the reformatory center's responsible committee, may be granted to progressive, repenting, exemplary working elements, who have executed half of their sentences in the case of less than eighteen years old offenders at the time the infraction is committed, two thirds of the sentence in the case of offenders of at least eighteen years old and fifteen years for offenders sentenced to life imprisonment.

The local people's court executing the sanction of sentences is entitled to consider the grant of conditional liberation before term and to outline the conditions to be imposed upon the liberated offender. If within a period of five years, the liberated offender before term has correctly complied to the outlined conditions and has not become guilty of further infractions, the remaining punishment will be lifted.

In case the outlined conditions are not respected during such period of time, the liberated offender before term is to execute the remaining punishment. In case of new infraction is committed during this period of time, the offender is liable to execute the new sentence in addition to the former remaining sentence.

Recidivist offenders or offenders sentenced to death penalty commuted into imprisonment may not be liberated before term.

Chapter VIII

The court's sanctions on re-education and medical treatment

Article 48. Measures applied by the court towards children

Towards children less than fifteen years old guilty of penal infractions, the court will apply the following measures

1. The offender requesting the damaged party's pardon by appropriate means;
2. Publicizing the infraction;

3. Sending the child back to his responsible tutors for re-education;
4. Sending the offender to administrative authorities and social organizations for re-education.

The court may apply the above-mentioned measures towards children between fifteen and eighteen years old committing infractions of matters of simple police and offenses.
Compensation of damages must conform to civil responsibilities.

Article 49. Measures applied by the court towards mentally disturbed offenders

Offenders committing infractions under a state of mental disturbance or in possession of their full conscience, but subject to mental disturbances before sentence is brought by the court or during the sentence's execution, may benefit of measures pertaining to medical treatment, such as being sent to psychiatric hospitals or specific medical care center.

After recovering from such state of mental health, the offender must be brought back and sentenced by the court or execute the sentence if the lodged complaint or the court's decision is still valid.

The duration of medical treatment is to be included in the period of execution of the punishment.

Article 50. Measures applied by the court towards offenders under alcohol or drug abuse

Towards offenders addicted to alcohol or drug abuse guilty of infractions and not sentenced to privation of liberty, the court might apply measures of medical treatment in asylums or specific medical centers. In case the offender is sentenced to custody, the court must apply measures of medical treatment during the sentence's execution and if after completion of such penalties, the medical treatment is yet to be completed, the court might apply measures for medical treatment by sending the offender for cures in hospitals or entrust him to the care of administrative authorities, social or collective organizations to continue his re-education and medical treatment.

After recovering from such addiction or abuse, the offender must be brought back and sentenced by the court or execute the sentence if the lodged complaint or the court decision is still valid.

The duration of medical treatment is to be included in the period of execution of the sentence.

SPECIFIC PART

SECTION I

Offenses against National Security and Social Orderliness

Article 51 (New). Treason to the Nation

A Lao citizen in contact and cooperating with aliens or foreign organizations for the purpose of undermining the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, grand political causes, defense and security, economy, culture and society of the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall be punished by ten to twenty years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 500,000,000, with the possibility that his/her assets may be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law and be placed under house arrest or life imprisonment or capital punishment.

Any preparation and attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

A Lao citizen assigned by aliens or foreign organizations to commit an offense but voluntarily reporting the facts to the authorities in advance before such offense is committed shall not be punished.

Article 52 (New). Rebellion

Any person participating to activities causing commotion in view of overthrowing or weakening the administration shall be punished by imprisonment from ten to twenty years and fined from Kip

10,000,000 to Kip 500,000,000, with the possibility that their assets may be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law and placed under house arrest, or life imprisonment or capital punishment

Any preparation and attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 53 (New). Spying

Aliens, foreign residents or stateless persons gathering intelligence or documents of state or official confidential nature for the purpose of damaging or undermining the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall be punished by imprisonment from eight to twenty years and fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 300,000,000. Such persons may furthermore have their assets confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law, placed under house arrest or life imprisonment or subject to capital punishment.

Persons gathering intelligence or state or official documents of a confidential nature for the purpose of relaying to Lao rebels carrying out activities undermining the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall be punished by imprisonment from five to ten years and fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 200,000,000. Furthermore, their assets may be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law and such persons placed under house arrest.

Lao citizens gathering intelligence or state or official documents of a confidential nature for the purpose of relaying to aliens or foreign organizations as information to damage or undermine the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall be considered as committing a treason against the nation and shall be punished as provided under Article 51 of this Law.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 54 (New). Territorial Violation Affecting National Security

Armed persons violating the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and thereby affecting the national security shall be punished by imprisonment from five to fifteen years and shall be fined from Kip 3,000,000 to Kip 150,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 55 (New). Attempt to Life

Any person: physically harming leaders of the Lao People's Democratic Republic with the purpose of undermining or weakening the state authority shall be punished by imprisonment from ten to twenty years and shall be fined from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 150,000,000.

Where such physical harm results in death, such offense shall be punished by life imprisonment or execution.

Any person causing physical harm to representatives of the State authority, civil servants, persons performing the activities of state or social organizations with the aim of weakening the state authority shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Where such physical harm results in death, the punishment shall include from ten to twenty years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000 or life imprisonment or execution.

Any person physically harming a foreign representative with the aim of dividing and undermining international relations or causing acts of war shall be punished by eight to twenty years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 7,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000.

Where such physical harm results in death, the punishment shall be increased to ten to twenty years of imprisonment and a fine between Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 150,000,000 or life imprisonment or execution.

In addition to the above punishments, penalties may include the confiscation of assets as provided under article 32 of this law and house arrest.

Any preparation and attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 56 (New). Destruction

Persons destroying, undermining, burning plants and factories, offices, agencies, roads, communication and transport vehicles, telecommunication equipment and other important economic bases with the intention to weaken the state and the national economy, releasing toxic chemicals or viruses among communities or animals shall be punished by eight to twenty years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Furthermore, their assets may be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law; their residence restricted, and such persons may be sentenced to life imprisonment or execution.

Any preparation and attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 57 (New). Destruction of State or Social Undertakings

Any person responsible for the destruction of industrial, trade, transport, agricultural, financial, economic base and activities of state and social organizations through acts or failure to act or internal division by using his/her position to weaken the State and undermine the national economy shall be punished by five to twenty years of imprisonment and a fine of Kip 3,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Furthermore, his/her assets may be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law; they may be placed under house arrest, sentenced to life imprisonment or execution.

Any preparation and attempts to commit such crime shall also be punished.

Article 58 (New). Forgery of Bank Notes or Use of Forged Bank Notes

Any person using printing equipment or other means to forge bank notes, foreign currencies or importing forged bank notes for circulation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall be punished by five to fifteen years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 150,000,000.

Offenders forging bank notes or importing forged bank notes through an organization or in substantial quantity shall be punished by ten to twenty years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 20,000,000 to Kip 300,000,000.

Any preparation and attempts to commit such offence shall also be punished

A person knowingly making use of forged bank notes shall be punished by three months to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

A person knowingly having forged bank notes in his/her possession but failing to notify the authorities shall be punished by three months to two years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500,000.

Article 59 (New). Propaganda against the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Persons conducting propaganda activities against and slandering the Lao People's Democratic Republic; distorting the guidelines of the Party and policies of the Government, circulating false rumors causing disorders by words, in writing, through prints, newspapers; motion pictures, videos, photos, documents or other contents detrimental to the Lao people's Democratic Republic for the purpose of weakening the State authority shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000 .

Article 60 (New). Division of Solidarity

Any person dividing or causing resentment between ethnic groups and social stratum with the intention to undermine national solidarity shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 61 (New). Civil Commotion

Any person enrolled in an armed organization attacking and destroying plants and factories, offices, social organization or taking civil servants and civilians as prisoners or killing them, or robbing state, collective, individual property with the intention to undermine the foundations of social order shall

be punished by five to twenty years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Furthermore his/her property may be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law, they may be sentenced to restricted residence or life imprisonment or execution. Any preparation and attempts to commit the offense shall also be punished.

Article 62 (New). Destruction or Attack of Detention and Reformatory Centers

Any person using force to destroy or attack detention and reformatory centers with the intention to rob, seize or liberate accused persons and prisoners in detention and reformatory centers, or making use of violence to rob accused persons or prisoners during their displacement shall be punished by five to twenty years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Such person may furthermore be placed under restricted residence, or sentenced to life imprisonment or execution.

Any person causing disorders, undermining the internal regulations of detention and reformatory centers or enticing accused persons and prisoners to evade shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Any preparation and attempts to commit the offense shall also be punished.

Article 63 (New). Joining the Enemy, Sheltering Persons acting against the Revolution

Any person evading to join the enemy in fighting the Revolution shall be punished by three years to ten years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 100,000,000.

A person concealing, hiding, sheltering or assisting a person acting against the Revolution shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 200,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 64 (New). Offense against Friendly Countries

Any person committing an offense against a friendly country through the offenses mentioned under Article 51 to Article 63 of this Penal Law shall be punished by similar penalties applicable to offenses against the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Article 65 (New). Disclosure of State or Administrative Secrecy

Any person responsible for the safekeeping, preservation and use of documents pertaining to state secrecy and disclosing such secrecy or allowing the disclosure of such secrecy or losing such documents shall be punished by three to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

In the case of administrative secrecy, the offense shall be punished by one to three years of imprisonment and a fine between Kip 100,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 66 (New). Gatherings aiming at Causing Social Disorders

Any person organizing or participating to the gathering of groups of persons to conduct protest marches, demonstrations and others with the intention of causing social disorders, which have caused damage to the society shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 200,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 67 (New). Destruction and Removal of Border Marks

Any person intentionally destroying or damaging border marks, or removing border marks inconsistently with the law, shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000.

Article 68 (New). Destruction and Defamation of the National Emblem or National Flag

Any person destroying or defaming the national emblem or national flag, thereby affecting the honor and prestige of the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall be punished by three months to two years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 200,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 69 (New). Mobilization of Unlawful Migration or Immigration

Any person publicizing and misleading people into fleeing abroad, migrating or immigrating in contravention with the law shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

In severe cases or in case of recidivism, the punishment shall cover six months to five years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 2,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000.

Article 70 (New). Unlawful Production, Possession and Use of Warfare Weapons or Explosives

Any person producing, possessing, keeping, wearing or using warfare weapons or explosives in contravention with the law shall be punished by six months to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 71 (New). Unlawful Trade of Warfare Weapons or Explosives

Any person purchasing and selling warfare weapons or explosives in contravention with the law shall be punished by six months to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000.

Where an offender performs the purchase and sale of warfare weapons or explosives as regular profession, through an organized group or in the case of the purchase and sale in substantial quantity, shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 72 (New). Theft, Embezzlement, Robbery of Warfare Weapons or Explosives

Any person stealing, embezzling or robbing warfare weapons or explosives shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 2,000,000 to Kip 25,000,000.

Where such theft or embezzlement of war weapons or explosives are performed as a regular profession, through an organized group, or involves a substantial quantity of war weapons or explosives or is committed robbery of these items; the offender shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 73 (New). Loss of Warfare Weapons or Explosives belonging to the State or Collectives

Any person causing the loss of warfare weapons or explosives belonging to the State or collectives out of negligence shall be punishable by three months to three years of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty, and shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,500,000.

Article 74 (New). Unlawful Production and Possession of Radio Communication Equipment

Any person producing, possessing or installing radio communication equipment in contravention with the law shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 75 (New). Performance of Medical Profession without License

Any person treating patients without an official license for the purpose of generating gains shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500,000.

Where the offender has caused a patient's invalidity or death, such offender shall be punished by three months to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 76 (New). Forbidden Gambling

Any person indulging in forbidden gambling shall be fined from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000. Any person consenting to the use of his/her house as gambling premises or acting as the chief gambler or in the case of recidivism, shall be punished by three months to two years of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and shall be fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 77 (New). Hooliganism

Any person breaching the rules and discipline in social livelihood and making use of violence, threats, gross words or other attitudes inconsistently with social orderliness shall be punished by public criticism and fined from Kip 50,000 to Kip 500,000.

Recidivist shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment or reformatory measures without privation of liberty and shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Article 78 (New). Violation of Traffic Security

Any person intentionally damaging roads, obstructing roads, modifying or damaging traffic signs, signals, kilometer marks, using violence or threat against vehicle drivers, thereby causing a traffic accident shall be punished by six months to two years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Where such offense results in severe injuries or physical disability, it shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Where such offense results in the loss of life, the punishment shall be six to ten years of imprisonment and the fine from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

In the case of an offense committed out of negligence, fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000 shall be imposed.

An offense arising out of negligence, but resulting in severe injuries, injuries to several persons or physical disability, shall be punished by six month to three years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

An offense arising out of carelessness, but resulting in loss of life, shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

An offense arising out of carelessness, but resulting in the loss of several lives, shall be punished by five to eight years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 79 (New). Violations of Traffic Regulations Resulting in Accidents

Any violation of the traffic regulations resulting in an accident and causing injuries to other persons shall be fined from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

An offense resulting in severe injuries, injuries to several persons or physical disability, shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500,000.

An offense resulting in loss of life shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 150,000 to Kip 700,000.

An offense resulting in the loss of several lives shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 200,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Article 80 (New). Flight from the Scene of the Accident

Any person causing an accident and running away shall be punished by six months to two years of imprisonment and a fine of Kip 200,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

SECTION II
Offenses against the Life, Health and
Honor of a Person

Article 81 (New). Murder

A person intentionally causing the death of another person shall be punished by ten to fifteen years of imprisonment and a fine of Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Where an offender commits murders as a regular profession, commits a planned murder, commits a barbarous murder, murders civil servants performing their duties, several persons, a pregnant woman, murdering a person to conceal another offense, shall be punished by ten to twenty years of imprisonment and a fine of kip 2,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000. Furthermore, such person may be placed under restricted residence or sentenced to life imprisonment or execution.

Where an offender has intentionally caused the death of another person due to severe moral impacts entailing an unconscious compulsion in response to the victim's unlawful act shall be punished by three to five years and fines from Kip 500, 000 to Kip 2, 000, 000.

Any preparation or attempts to commit the offense shall also be punished.

Article 82 (New). Death Caused out of Carelessness

A person causing another person's death out of carelessness or negligence shall be punished by two to five years and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Such an offense resulting in the death of several persons shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Article 83 (New). Battery

A person intentionally causing physical injuries to another person shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 5.00,000.

Battery by a group of persons or such an offense resulting in severe physical injuries shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 1,500,000.

Such an offense resulting in invalidity or loss of life shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 700,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Attempts to commit the offense shall also be punished.

Article 84 (New). Physical Injuries Caused out of Carelessness

A person causing physical injuries to another person out of carelessness or negligence shall be fined from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

Such an offense resulting in severe injuries, injuries to several persons or physical disability, shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500,000.

Article 85 (New). Unlawful Abortion

A person performing an unlawful abortion for another person shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5.000.000.

Where the offender performs abortion as a regular profession or where an unlawful abortion results in the degradation of the mother's health or death, the punishment shall be five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

A woman performing the abortion by herself or unlawfully recruiting another person to perform such operation shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500,000.

Attempts to commit the offense shall also be punished.

Article 86 (New). Failure to Provide Assistance to Persons in Danger

A person discovering another person in a life or health threatening situation but failing to provide assistance although such assistance could have been provided, or to request other persons' assistance, shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500, 000.

A person whose duty is to provide assistance, but failing to perform his/her duty in providing assistance to persons in life or health threatening situation, shall be punished by one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Article 87 (New). Defamation and Libel

A person severely damaging the honor of another person through written, verbal or other means shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

A person falsely libeling another person through written, verbal or other means resulting in severe damage to the other person's honor shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

Article 88 (New). Insults

A person using gross words, writings or acts against another person to cause severe damage to the second person's honor shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

Article 89 (New). Defamation of Corpse or Honor of a Deceased

A person using gross attitudes or words towards a corpse, honor, burial ground or stupa of a deceased person thereby affecting the public morale shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

SECTION III
Offenses against Civil Rights and Freedom

Article 90 (New). Duress

A person exercising duress against another person through the use of violence or weapon or threat to compel such person to act or not to act according to his/her will but in contravention with the compelled person's will and to the detriment of such compelled person shall be punished by three months to three years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Where the exercise of duress involves hijacking cars, ships or aircraft, the offense shall be punished by three to ten years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 91 (New). Unlawful Arrest and Detention

A person unlawfully arresting or detaining another person shall be punished by six months to two years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 500,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

In the case the offense has caused the degradation of the arrested or detained person's health, the offender shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and fined from Kip 700,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

In the case the offense results in the physical disability or death of the arrested or detained person, the punishment shall be five to fifteen years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 7,000,000.

Article 92 (New). Trade and Abduction of Human Beings

The trade and abduction of human beings for ransom, sale or other purposes shall be punished by five to fifteen years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 93 (New). Violation of Individual Freedom

The breach of individual freedom in lawful speech, writing, gathering, meetings and others is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 300,000.

Article 94 (New). Trespass of Residence

The unlawful trespass of residence through the use of violence, threat, use of forged documents, under the disguise of officials or otherwise is punishable by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 1,000, 000.

Article 95 (New). Violation of Personal Confidential Matter

The disclosure of another person's confidential matter which has come to the offender's knowledge during the performance of his profession or duties and resulting in damage to the other person is punishable by three to six months of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 50,000 to Kip 500,000.

The opening of letters, telegrams or other documents or listening to telephone conversation between other persons resulting in damage to other persons is punishable by three to six months of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 50,000 to Kip 500,000.

Article 96 (New). Obstruction to the Right to Vote and Election

The obstruction to the civil right to vote or election to the National Assembly through the use of threat, bribery or misleading shall be punished by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Article 97 (New). Forgery or Destruction of Election Documents

The forgery or destruction of election documents, the forging or destruction of ballots or results of election to the National Assembly is punishable by one to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2, 000, 000.

SECTION IV

Offenses against State and Collective Ownership

Article 98 (New). Robbery of State or Collective Assets

A violent attack or use of direct threat against other person's lives or health to take over assets belonging to the State or collectives is punishable by five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Where such acts of robbery are performed as regular profession, as part of an organized group, cause severe injuries or loss of life, or in the case of substantial damage, the offender shall be punished by ten to twenty years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000. Furthermore, the sentence may provide for the confiscation of assets, as provided under articles 32 of this law, restricted residence or life imprisonment or execution.

Preparation or attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 99 (New). Theft and Forceful Take over of State or Collective Assets

The misappropriation of state or collective assets by theft shall be punished by six months to three years imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

The appropriation of state or collective assets by mugging shall be punished by one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 7,000,000.

Where the theft is performed through forced entry, damaging fences, doors, cases, boards and others, the punishment shall be from one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 7,000,000.

Where such theft and mugging are performed as regular profession, by an organized group or in the case of substantial damage, the punishment shall be three to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 100 (New). Swindle of State or Collective Assets

Any swindle by any means to cause the person in charge of state or collective assets or another person to hand them over shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 7,000,000.

Where swindle is performed as a regular profession, by an organized group or in the case of substantial damage, it shall be punished by three to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 15,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 101 (New). Embezzlement of State or Collective Assets

The abuse of confidence to embezzle, appropriate or replace state or collective assets assigned to one's keeping, transport, construction, maintenance or doing any work shall be punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 7,000,000.

Where embezzlement is performed as regular profession, by an organized group or in the case of substantial damage, the offense shall be punished by three to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 15,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 102 (New). Intentional Destruction or Damage to State or Collective Assets

The intentional destruction or damage of state or collective assets by any means or form shall be punishable by one to three years of imprisonment and a fine from Kip 200,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

In the case of substantial damage, threats to the life and health of the public, the offense shall be punishable by three to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 103 (New). Destruction of Artifact or Architecture of Artistic Value

The destruction of artifact or architecture of artistic value, whether under collective or personal ownership, or the export of such objects without approval shall be punishable by one to five years of imprisonment or a fine as provided under the regulations governing the preservation of artifact.

The destruction and damage to stupas, sacred sites and other objects, or excavation of temple navel or destruction or sale of Buddha statues or other sacred objects is punishable by two to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 104 (New). Damage to State or Collective Property out of Carelessness

The substantial or non-substantial damage caused to State or collective property out of carelessness but affecting the society or the economic infrastructure is punished by three months to three years of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 1,500,000.

Article 105 (New). Lack of Responsibility in Managing State or Collective Property

Substantial damage caused to state or collective property due to the failure to abide by the management regulations by a person whose direct duty is to manage such state or collective property is punished by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Article 106 (New). Unlawful Possession of State or Collective Property

The intentional possession of state or collective property which has been acquired, gathered, exploited or handed over by another person without notifying the authorities is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 300,000.

Where the offense involves state or collective property of high value or in substantial quantity, the punishment is two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 107 (New). Concealment and Unlawful Trade of State or Collective Property

The acceptance, purchase, preservation, concealment or sale of property with the knowledge that such state or collective property was acquired from robbery, theft, mugging, swindling, embezzlement or otherwise is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Where such offense is performed as regular profession, through an organized group, or in the case of substantial damage, it shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 108 (New). Abuse of State or Collective Property

The use of state or collective property for personal benefit and thereby entailing substantial damage to the state or collective is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

SECTION V

Offenses against Personal Property

Article 109 (New). Robbery of Personal Assets

The use of violence in attacking or direct threat to the life or health of a person to appropriate his property is punishable by four to eight years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 800,000 to Kip 8,000,000.

Where such offense is performed as regular profession, as part of an organized group, causes severe injuries or loss of life or in the case of substantial damage, it shall be punished by eight to fifteen years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 3,000,000 to Kip 15,000,000.

Preparation and attempts to commit such offense shall also be punished.

Article 110 (New). Theft and Mugging of Personal Property

The appropriation of another person's property in secret is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Mugging to appropriate another person's property is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 150,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Where theft is performed through forced intrusion, damaged fences, doors, cases, boards and others, the punishment shall be six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Where theft or mugging is performed as regular profession, by an organized group or in the case of substantial damage, the punishment is three to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 8,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 111 (New). Swindling of Citizens

The use of treachery to mislead through any mean a person to hand over his property is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000. Where swindling is performed as regular profession, by an organized group or in the case of substantial damage, the punishment is two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 112 (New). Embezzlement of Citizens' Assets

The abuse of confidence to embezzle, reduce or replace an assigned property for keeping or for any other propose is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Where embezzlement is performed as regular profession, as part of an organized group or in case of substantial damage, the punishment is two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 113 (New). Intentional Destruction of or Damage to Citizens' Property

The intentional destruction of or damage to a person's property by any mean or form is punishable by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

In the case of substantial damage, hazards to the life and health of the population, it is punishable by two to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 114 (New). Unlawful Possession of Property

The intentional possession of other person's property, which has been found, collected, exploited or which the other person has handed over by mistake, without notifying the authorities is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 200,000.

In case the said property is of high value or in substantial quantity, it is punishable by one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 115 (New). Concealment and Unlawful Trade of Citizens' Property

The acceptance, purchase, keeping, concealment or sale of property with the knowledge that such property belongs to another person and has been robbed, stolen, mugged, swindled, embezzled or by other methods is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Where the offense is performed as regular profession, as part of an organized group or in the case of substantial damage, it is punishable by one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 116 (New). Loss of Assets to Fire Caused out of Carelessness

Fire damaging houses, warehouses, shops or crops of other persons thereby causing substantial damage out of carelessness or negligence is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

SECTION VI
Breach of Marital and Family Relationships and of
Customs

Article 117 (New). Adultery

A married person keeping sexual relationship with a third person is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

The partner in adultery is punishable of the same charges.

Article 118 (New). Failure to Perform Obligations towards Offspring, Parents or Spouse

The failure to care for offspring under legal age, parents in poverty, disabled or sick spouse in accordance with a court decision is punishable by public criticism and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 119 (New). Rape

The use of violence, armed threat, drugs, ether or otherwise to force into helplessness and rape a woman not being his spouse is punishable by three to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Where the victim of a rape is a woman between fifteen to eighteen years of age, a woman under the offender's dependence or treatment, the offense shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 2,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

In the case of multiple rape, rape of girls under fifteen years of age, battery during rape or a rape resulting in the victim's permanent disability or death, the offense is punished by seven to fifteen years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 15,000,000.

Where the rapist murders the victim, the punishment is fifteen to twenty years and fines from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000 or life imprisonment or execution.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 120 (New). Sexual relationship with a child

Sexual relationship with a girl or boy under fifteen years of age is punishable by one to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 2,000,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 121 (New). Sexual Act Committed by Monks

A monk or novice committing a sexual act with a female or male person is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

A female or male person willingly committing a sexual act with a monk or novice shall be punishable on the same charges.

Article 122 (New). Prostitution

A person engaging in prostitution is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment or by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 500,000.

Assistance or facilitation of prostitution is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Article 123 (New). Procuring

The generation of income through procuring prostitution in whatever form is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Where procuring is performed as regular profession or involves the prostitution of female persons under legal age or forcing a female person under the offender's guardianship into prostitution, the offense is punishable by three to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 124 (New). Incest

Sexual intercourse with a biological parent, parent by adoption, grandparent, a parent in law, offspring, adopted child, child in law, grandchild or sibling is punishable by six months to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

The partner in incest is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 300,000.

Article 125 (New). Pornography

An act of sexual intercourse or disclosure of sexual organs in public or in public places is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 200,000.

Article 126 (New). Outrage to Decency

Except for the offenses described under Article 119 of this law, any shameful sexual act against other person's will is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 500,000.

Article 127 (New). Dissemination of Pornographic Objects and Objects Contrary to the Fine National Customs

The widespread or in-depth production or distribution or dissemination of pornographic items or magazines, pictures, video cassettes and other materials contrary to the fine national customs is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

SECTION VII
Economic Infractions

Article 128 (New). Destruction of Forests

Tree felling, slashing inconsistently with the forestry regulations, forest fire or destruction through any other means is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines as provided by the forestry regulations.

In case of substantial damage, it is punishable by one to five years of imprisonment and fines as provided by the forestry regulations.

Article 129 (New). Destruction of Crops

The destruction of crops belonging to the state, collectives, social organizations or citizens is punishable by fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 500,000.

In case of substantial loss, it is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Article 130 (New). Illegal Hunting

Hunting inconsistently with hunting regulations, such as by hunting protected species, hunting during restricted season or prohibited places or hunting with prohibited tools and others is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines as provided under hunting regulations.

Article 131 (New). Illegal Fishing

Fishing inconsistently with fishing regulations, such as with the use of explosives, poisons, chemicals or other prohibited instruments, is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines as provided by fishing regulations.

Article 132 (New). Unlawful Exploitation of Natural Resources

The exploitation of natural resources, such as metals, minerals, rocks of value and forestry produces inconsistently with the laws shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

In the case of substantial damage, such offense shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 133 (New). Production and Sale of Health Hazardous Consumer Goods and Medicines

The production or sale of degraded and health hazardous drinks, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables or other consumer goods or medicines shall be fined from Kip 100,000 to 1,000,000.

Where intentional, such offense is punishable by three months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 134 (New). Sale of Prohibited Goods

The sale of prohibited goods is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines provided by the customs regulations.

Article 135 (New). Production, Trade, Consumption or Possession of Narcotics

The production, trade, distribution or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of narcotics, such as heroin, amphetamines, precursors, opium or marijuana is punishable as follows:

1. The production, trade, distribution or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit of less than one hundred grams of heroin through the Lao People's Democratic Republic is punishable by ten to fifteen years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 50,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000, and assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, trade, distribution or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit of heroin through the Lao People's Democratic Republic as regular profession or as part of an organized group, or in a quantity ranging between one hundred grams to three hundred grams is punishable by fifteen to twenty years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000,000 to Kip 500,000,000.

Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, trade, distribution or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of more than three hundred grams to five hundred grams of heroin is punishable by life imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000,000 to Kip 1,000,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, trade, distribution or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of more than five hundred grams of heroin is punishable by execution.

The consumption, purchase or possession of two grams or less of heroin for consumption is punishable by one to five years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty.

2. The production, processing or possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of less than one hundred grams of amphetamines or other psychotropic substances is punishable by five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 10,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, processing, possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of amphetamines or other psychotropic

substances as regular profession or as part of an organized group or in a quantity of one hundred to five hundred grams of amphetamines or other psychotropic substances is punishable by ten to twenty years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000,000 to Kip 500,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, processing, possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of more than five hundred to three thousand grams of amphetamines or other psychotropic substances is punishable by life imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000,000 to Kip 1,000,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, processing, possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of more than three thousand grams of amphetamines or other psychotropic substances is punishable by execution.

The consumption, purchase or possession of less than three grams of amphetamines or other illegal psychotropic substances for consumption is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty.

3. The production, processing or possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of less than five hundred grams of precursors for the production of narcotics shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, processing, possession, trade, distribution, import to export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic as regular profession or in an organized group or involving from five hundred grams to one thousand grams of precursors for the production of narcotics shall be punished by ten to twenty years of imprisonment and shall be fined from Kip 20,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production, processing, possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of more than one thousand to ten thousand grams of precursors shall be punished by life imprisonment and fines from Kip 50,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Furthermore, assets shall be confiscated as provided under articles 32 of this law.

The production, processing, possession, trade, distribution, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of more than ten thousand grams of precursors shall be punished by execution.

4. The production or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of less than one kilogram of opium for trade shall be punished from two to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000. Assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of opium for trade as regular profession or in an organized group or involving one to three kilograms of opium shall be punished by ten to fifteen years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 15,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000. Assets shall be confiscated as provided under articles 32 of this law.

The production or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of opium for trade as regular profession, or in an organized group or involving from three to five kilograms of opium shall be punished by fifteen to twenty years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 30,000,000 to Kip 40,000,000. Assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

The production or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through Lao People's Democratic Republic of opium for trade a regular profession or in an organized group or involving more than five kilograms of opium shall be punished by life imprisonment and fines from Kip 50,000,000 to Kip 100,000,000. Assets shall be confiscated as provided under article 32 of this law.

Opium consumption services shall be punished by three to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000.

5. The planting of marijuana from three kilograms to ten kilograms of raw marijuana for trade purposes shall be punished by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Planting of ten kilograms or more of raw marijuana for trade shall be punished by one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000.

The production or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through the Lao People's Democratic Republic of one to ten kilograms of dry marijuana for trade shall be punished by three to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 5,000,000 to Kip 20,000,000.

The production or possession, import to, export from, transport or transit through Lao People's Democratic Republic of dry marijuana for trade as regular profession or in an organized group or involving over ten kilograms of dry marijuana shall be punished by five to ten years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 20,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Services provided for the consumption of marijuana shall be punished by three months to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Addiction to marijuana smoking shall be punished by reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Article 136(New). Opportunistic Raise of Prices

The opportunistic raise of prices of goods or selling goods at excessive prices during periods of drought, flood or difficult situations in a locality is punishable by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 137 (New). Hoarding of Goods

The hoarding, concealment of goods in enterprises, companies, and shops or elsewhere for the purpose of creating instability in the economy and livelihood of the population is punishable by one to four years of imprisonment and fines as provided by customs regulations.

Article 138 (New). Unlawful Sale of State or Collective Goods

The unlawful sale of goods under the responsibility of a person whose duty is to sell goods in state or collective outlet shops out of greed is punishable by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 139 (New). Falsification of Scales or Weights

The tampering with scales and weights during the sale of goods and barter, or making use of sub standards scales and weights to gain in goods or money is punishable by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 140 (New). Falsification of Bank Cheques, Unlawful Use of Bank Cheques or Other Bonds

The falsification of cheques or bonds for cashing with a bank, for exchange with goods or other use is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or fines as provided by banking regulations.

The use of bounced cheques, or in excess of the deposit account's balance or unlawful sale and exchange of cheques is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or fines as provided by banking regulations.

Article 141 (New). Violation of State Tax Regulations

The violation of state tax regulations, such as land tax, royalties, customs duties, internal taxes and fees is punishable by three months to three years of imprisonment and fines as provided by the state tax regulations.

SECTION VIII

Breach of civil servants' responsibilities

Article 142 (New). Abuse of Power

The abuse of authority, position, duties for personal gains by a civil servant, thereby affecting the interest of the State, society or the right and interest of citizens is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

In the case of substantial loss, it is punishable by two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 50,000,000.

Article 143 (New). Abuse of Authority

The intentional excessive use by a civil servant of the authority provided by law, thereby affecting the interest of the state, society or right and interest of citizens is punishable by three months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

In the case the abuse of authority is committed with the use of violence, weapons, torture, gross words or acts affecting the honor and pride of the victim is punishable by three to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 2,000,000 to Kip 7,000,000.

Article 144 (New). Abandonment of Duty

The intentional abandonment of duty by a civil servant, thereby affecting state or social activities, is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 145 (New). Negligence in the Performance of Duty

The failure to perform an assignment or the negligent performance of such assignment, lack of responsibility by a civil servant, affecting the state, society or right and interest of citizens, is punishable by three months to three years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 100, 000 to Kip 1, 000, 000.

Article 146 (New). Bribery and Corruption

The claim, request, acceptance, or agreement of acceptance of a bribe by a civil servant to use his position for the bribing party's interest is punishable by one to three years of imprisonment and fines equal to the amount or value of the bribe.

The briber or party agreeing to bribe a civil servant is punishable by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines equal to the amount or value of the bribe.

In case of substantial bribe, the bribes party and the bribing party are punishable by three to five years and fined at two folds the bribe's amount or value.

Bribe intermediaries shall be punished by six months to two years of imprisonment and fines equal to the bribes' amount or value.

A person giving bribes under constraint, threat and thereafter notifying the authorities shall not be considered as an offender on the charge of bribery.

SECTION IX

Breach of the Administration and Judiciary

Regulations

Article 147 (New). Obstruction to the Performance of Officers' Duty

The threat or use of violence to obstruct officers in the performance of their public or social duties is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

In case the use of violence causes injury to officers, it shall be punished by two to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Where the use of violence causes officers' physical disability or loss of life, it shall be punishable by five to twenty years and fines from Kip 1,000,000 to Kip 10,000,000 or five imprisonment or execution.

Article 148 (New). Defamation of State Officials

The acts, use of gross words or false allegations towards state officials to damage their reputation and prestige, the population's confidence in such officials, is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Article 149 (New). Destruction, Concealment of Documents and Seals

The intentional destruction or concealment of official documents, seals, causing the loss or the inability to use such official documents or seals is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

In the case of important documents entailing substantial damage, it shall be punished by one to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 150 (New). Forgery of documents or Use of Forged Documents

The forgery of documents, signatures, seals, deletion or addition of wordings to documents is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

The use of forged documents knowingly is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

In the case of substantial loss due to the forgery or use of forged documents, the punishment is from two to five years and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 151 (New). Ordaining without Authorization

The ordainment as monk or novice without approval from the administrative authorities is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 50,000 to Kip 100,000.

A monk performing ordainment without authorization is punishable on the same charges.

Article 152 (New). False Allegations

Intentional reporting of false allegations to the authorities to induce court proceedings or arrest is punishable by one to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 3,000,000.

Article 153 (New). False testimony

A witness, victim, expert, interpreter intentionally giving false testimony, opinion or interpretation to the court or officials against a benefit shall be punishable by one to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000

A person agreeing to provide benefit in money or in kind or to serve the benefit of the above mentioned person against his false testimony shall be punishable by one to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 154 (New). Concealment of Offense

A witness to an offense without any previous promise with an offender but failing to report to the authorities shall be punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment or reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Article 155 (New). Concealment of Offender

A person having not previously agreed with an offender and providing shelter or assistance to such offender to evade arrest or trial shall be punishable by three months to five years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 156 (New). Destruction of Evidence

The intentional destruction of traces, concealment of documents or materials constituting the proof of an offense is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 5,000,000.
Attempts to commit such offense are also punishable.

Article 157 (New). Embezzlement of Evidence

A person responsible for the preservation of property or material constituting an evidence but selling, concealing mortgaging, using, exchanging or loosing the evidence or committing any other unlawful act is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment or reformation without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 200,000 to Kip 10,000,000.

Article 158 (New). Escape from Prison or Reformatory Center

An escape from prison or reformatory center during a trial or during the service of a sentence is punishable by six months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

In case the evasion from prison or reformatory center was made with the use of violence against officials the punishment shall be three to five years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 159 (New). Disorder in Prison or Reformatory Center

An incitement of disorder, breach of order in prison or reformatory centers is punishable by three months to three years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 5,000,000.

Article 160 (New). Physical Violence and Torture of Suspects or Prisoners

Physical violence and torture, use of measures or other acts inconsistently with the law against suspects or prisoners during arrest, trial or service of sentence shall be punished by three months to three years of imprisonment or reformatory measures without privation of liberty and fines from Kip 300,000 to Kip 2,000,000.

Article 161 (New). Allowing Suspects or Prisoners to Escape

A person, out of carelessness or negligence, allowing suspects or prisoners to escape during guard, protection or during the transport of suspects or prisoners is punishable by three months to two years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 1,000,000.

Where the offender intentionally allows suspects or prisoners to escape, such offender shall be punished by three to seven years of imprisonment and fines from Kip 500,000 to Kip 10,000,000

Article 162 (New). Non-Execution of Court Decision or Order

The failure to execute the court's order, decision, sentence or judgment or warrant is punishable by three months to one year of imprisonment and fines from Kip 100,000 to Kip 5,000,000

List of properties exempted from seizure

Necessary properties, objects to the use of the sentenced or individuals standing under his authority which are not to be seized are the following:

1. Permanent place of residence of the sentenced and of his family;
2. Cow, buffalo, elephant, horse, goat, sheep and pig if possessing one single piece per specie, poultry in case of persons making a living out of cultivation or animal husbandry;
3. Animal feed in case animals are not seized;
4. Seeds, production tools in case of persons living on agricultural practices.
5. Objects permanently used by the sentenced or by persons under the authority of the sentenced:
 - Clothes;
 - Bedding;
 - Kitchen utensils;
 - Household utilities (1 bed and chair for each person, tables, boards and coffer used by the family);
 - All kinds of children toys;
6. Food;
7. Necessary items for the profession of the sentenced, except if the court forbids to continue such profession or if such items are used in illegal activities.