

*only in English*

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Communicated to the  
Council and the Members  
of the League.

C.26.M.26.1946. XI.  
(O.C/A.R.1944/55)  
(Issued in English only)

Geneva, April 8th, 1946.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1944.

C E Y L O N

Communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom.

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Note by the Acting Secretary-General.

In accordance with Article 21 of the Convention of 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, the Acting Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the above-mentioned report to the parties to the Convention. The report is also communicated to other States and to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

(For the form of annual reports, see document O.C.1600).

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I. GENERAL

I.- Laws and Publications.

1. No new regulations have been introduced by Government.
2. No opium was imported.
3. No drugs are manufactured in the Island, as all drugs are imported and controlled by Government.
4. Raw opium received from Customs, Excise and Police:-  
130 lbs. 3½ oz. 86 grains (59 kg.190 gr.)
5. Raw opium issued to Depots:- 396 lbs. 2 oz.  
(180 kg. 39 gr.)
6. Smoking opium prepared from rinds:- 20 lbs. 8 oz.  
(9 kg.317 gr.)  
Smoking opium issued to Depots:- 34 lbs. 2 oz.  
(15 kg.510 gr.)

II.- Administration.

No new developments regarding addiction have been reported.

IV.- International Co-operation.

The Madras Excise Authorities have been responsible for making several detections of ganja and opium intended to be smuggled into Ceylon.

V.- Illicit Traffic.

1. Smuggling of opium and ganja from India into Ceylon is reported to have been less during 1944 on account of the greater vigilance of Madras Excise Authorities and frequent searches of schooners and catamarans, plying between the Northern Ports of Jaffna Peninsula and South India, by the Ceylon Customs and Naval launches. It will also be observed from the statement that the quantities of Indian ganja and opium seized during 1944 are considerably less than in the previous year.

2. Illicit cultivation of ganja on a fairly extensive scale is carried on by the villagers of Bintenne in the Province of Uva and the Batticaloa District. The cultivators usually barter the crop to Muslim traders from Batticaloa for cartridges, clothing etc. Ganja is also cultivated in the remote jungle hamlets of the North Central and Eastern Provinces. 2618 ganja plants were seized during 1944 as against 74 in the previous year. Offences relating to Ceylon Ganja increased considerably during 1944.

3. Statement in respect of prosecutions for illicit traffic in ganja and opium is annexed.

4. The fines imposed in ganja and opium cases have been adequate. The maximum has been a fine of Rs.750/- whilst the minimum has been a fine of Rs.1/-. The maximum jail sentence awarded was 13 months' rigorous imprisonment for sale and possession of ganja and opium in the case of an accused with four previous convictions for similar offences. Juvenile offenders were sentenced to receive 2 to 6 cuts.

5. The selling prices of unlawfully imported opium and ganja during 1944 were:-

	<u>Wholesale per</u> <u>lb. (454.5 grammes)</u>	<u>Retail per</u> <u>lb. (454.5 grammes)</u>
Opium	Rs.250 - 350.	350 - 450.
Ganja (Indian)	Rs.175 - 250.	200 - 300

Locally grown ganja was sold by the cultivators at Rs.10/- to Rs.40/- per lb. and the retail price was about Rs.60/- to Rs.150/- per lb.

XII.- Prepared Opium.

Particulars are given in the statement annexed.

STATEMENT OF OPIUM AND GANJA SEIZED BY THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT DURING 1944.

Article seized	Quantity seized		Prosecutions in Court	Number convicted	Number imprisoned	Number fined	Sentence to receive cuts	Amount of fine imposed	Method of disposal of article seized	REMARKS.
	lbs.	oz.								
<u>COLOMBO.</u>										
Opium	2	1 (937.4 grammes)	1*	1*	-	-	-	1000.00	sent to D.M.S.S.	*Fine paid and accused released after 3 days' imprisonment: fine imposed by P.C.C.
-do-	1	(454.5 grammes)	-	-	-	1	-	500.00	"	--do--
-do-	2	(909 grammes)	-	-	-	1	-	1000.00	"	--do--
-do-	2	4 (1 kg.23 gr.)	-	-	-	1	-	800.00	"	--do--
-do-	4	4 (1 kg.932 gr.)	1	1	1	-	-	-	"	--do--
-do-	19	(8 kg.635 gr.)	-	-	-	1	-	2250.00	"	--do--
-do-	A small quantity (2 grains=0.13gramme)		1	1	-	1	-	10.00	Destroyed by Court.	Fine imposed by Joint Magistrate.
Ganja	9 grains(0.6 gramme)		4	4	2	2	-	100.00	-do-	--do--
<u>TALAIMANNAR.</u>										
Opium	A small quantity					1		20.00	Sent to Civil Medical Stores.	Seized on person of outward-bound passenger .
-do- ) Ganja)	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz (14.2 grammes)									
	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.(14.2 grammes)					1		40.00	Opium sent to D.M. and S.S. by ACC Mannar.	

STATEMENT OF OPIUM AND GANJA SEIZED BY THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT DURING 1944.

Article seized	Quantity seized	Prosecutions in Court	Number convicted	Number imprisoned	Number fined	Sentence to receive cuts	Amount of fine imposed	Method of disposal of article seized	REMARKS.
Opium	Very small quantity							Ganja destroyed by A.C.C. Mannar	
"	1½ oz. (42.6 grammes)				1		30.00	Sent to DM and S.S. by A.C.C. Mannar	
"	Very small quantity				1		25.00	-do-	
" )									
" )	- do -				1		20.00	-do-	
	<u>POINT PEDRO.</u>								
"	17 oz. (482.8 grammes)								Opium and ganja sent to collector N.P. and deposited in the Jaffna Kachcheri Vault on August 17th, 1944
	37 oz. 9 grains (1 kg. 52 gr.) i.e. 13 miles from Pt. Pedro.								
	<u>KANKESANTHURAI</u>								
Ganja	9 grains (0.6 gramme )	6	6	5	1	-	50.00	Destroyed by Court.	

Statement of Prosecution in respect of Indian Hemp (Ganja, Cannabis Sativa L) in 1944  
by the Excise Department only.

Nature of Detection	Quantities seized	Number of de- tections	Number of con- victions	No. of (a) persons con- victed;(b) juveniles convicted out of No.(a) (a) <sup>(5)</sup> (b)		No. of persons imprisoned without op- tion of free- over	No. of persons fined or whipped	No. of persons whipped	Amount of fines im- posed	Method of Disposal
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)			(6)	(7)	(8)	Rs. (9)	(10)
Indian hemp;(Ganja); Cannabis Sativa L)	lbs. oz. grains									
Illicit import sale and possession of <u>Indian ganja.</u>	41 9 3½ (18 kg.890 gr.)	225	199	198	25	18	158	23	12,252.50	
Illicit sale and possession of <u>Ceylon ganja.</u>	41 15 29¼ (19 kg.80 gr.)	99	79	79	1	3	75	1	6,642.50	Destroyed
Illicit cultivation of the Indian hemp plant.	2,618 plants	26	19	19	-	-	18	-	3,175.00	
Total.....	83 8 300¾ (37 kg.970 gr.)	350	297	296	26	21	251	24	22,070.00	
Opium illicit import sale and possession.	2,618 plants	<u>Statement of Prosecution in respect of opium in 1944 by the Excise Department only.</u>								
	34 10 53½ (15 kg. 741 gr.)	140	110	113	3	11	98	2	9,033.50	Sent to Civil Medical Stores

OPIUM - POLICE DEPARTMENT 1944.

Provinces.	Type of detection				Quantity seized.		Prosecu- tions.	No. con- victed.	No. im- prison- ed.	No. fined.	Other punish- ments.	Amount of fines imposed.
	Illicit sales.	Illicit possess- ions.	Illicit trans- port.	Illicit importa- tions.	lbs. oz.	grains.						
Colombo City	4	1	-	-	5	411	19	18	4	11	3	Rs. 2075.00
Western	-	3	1	-	4	36	4	3	-	2	-	150.00
Central	-	3	-	-	1	323½	3	3	1	2	-	50.00
Southern	-	1	-	-		5	1	1	-	1	-	100.00
North Western	12	12	-	-	1	8 313	12	11	-	10	-	540.00
Saboragamuwa	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-
Uva	-	1	-	-		5	1	1	-	1	-	20.00
Eastern	-	4	1	-	1	272	5	5	-	5	-	830.00
North Central	1	1	-	-		115	2	2	-	2	-	75.00
						( 7.5 grammes )						
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5 168</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3840.00</b>
						( 1 kg. 516 gr. )						

GANJA - POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Provinces	Illicit sales	Type of Detection			Quantity seized	Prosecutions	No. of convicted	No. imprisoned	No. fined	Other punishments	Amount of fine imposed
		Illicit possessions	Illicit transport	Illicit importations							
Colombo City	56	209	-	-	lbs. 36 oz. 4 grains. 8½ (16 kg. 476 gr.)	266	250	14	214	20	Rs. 6430/00
Western	4	34	2	-	1 353 (477.4 grammes)	39	33	3	30	-	1262.50
Central	-	20	1	-	3 6 431 (1 kg. 562 gr.)	21	19	4	14	1	925.00
Southern	-	13	1	-	3 380½ (109.9 grammes)	14	12	-	10	2	1200.00
North Western	1	27	2	-	5 12 413½ (2 kg. 641 gr.)	32	25	-	24	1	838.50
Saboragamuwa	-	6	2	-	2 410 (935.6 grammes)	9	5	1	4	-	80.00
Northern	-	1	-	-	2 (56.8 grammes)	1	1	-	-	-	25.00
Uva	-	4	-	-	13 4 357 (6 kg. 45 gr.)	4	4	1	3	-	275.00
Eastern	-	25	7	-	4 4 196¼ (1 kg. 944 gr.)	28	27	6	26	-	3135.00
North Central	2	10	2	-	2 4 58½ (1 kg. 26 gr.)	14	13	1	12	-	690.00
Total.....	63	349	17	-	68 13 83¼* (31 kg. 281 gr.)	428	389	30	337	24	14861.00

\* Note by the Secretariat.

Accrding to detailed figures, this total should be 68 pounds 12 ounces 423¼ grains (31 kg. 274 gr.).