

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

C.56.M.56.1946.XI
(O.C/A.R.1945/20)

(Issued in English only)

GENEVA, July 8th, 1946

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR
1945.

M A U R I T I U S

Communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom.

Note by the Secretary-General.

In accordance with Article 21 of the Convention of 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the above-mentioned report to the parties to the Convention and to other States.

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

A. GENERAL

I. Laws and Publications.

No new legislation bearing on opium and other dangerous drugs was enacted during 1945.

2. The proposed Consolidation Ordinance referred to in my previous report * is still under revision by the Legal Adviser of the Government. It is expected that it will be submitted in the course of the current year.

II. Administration.

There is nothing new to report under this heading.

III. Control of International Trade.

The international trade is controlled by the import certificate system, which has worked satisfactorily during the year under review.

IV. Illicit Traffic.

Opium and gandia for smoking purposes are the only narcotics which are known to be illicitly imported in the Colony.

* See document C.66.M.65.1945.XI (O.C./A.R.1944/22).

During the year under review, there has been a decrease in the traffic in opium, and an appreciable increase in the traffic in gandia.

No new legislation respecting dangerous drugs was passed during the year.

The routine measures already described in my previous reports for the control of the illicit traffic have been maintained.

2. 29 persons were prosecuted for violation of the narcotic drugs laws;

4 persons for possession of prepared opium ;

2 persons for possession of pipes and utensils for smoking opium;

1 person for smoking opium. This case was still pending before Court at the close of the year under review;

15 persons for possession of gandia;

4 persons for cultivating gandia;

3 persons for possession of gandia. (These three cases were still pending before Court at the close of the year under review).

200 grammes of prepared opium were confiscated and destroyed.

8 1/2 pounds (3 kg.863 grammes) and 353 grammes of gandia, 375.57 grammes of gandia leaves, 4,233 gandia plants and 20 seeds were confiscated. With the exception of 1 pound (454.5 grammes) and 8 grammes gandia, - the cases respecting which had not been disposed of at the end of the year under review - all the gandia seized was destroyed.

The fines imposed ranged between Rs 30.- and Rs 500.- with costs, and the sentences inflicted between 15 days' and 18 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

3. One case of illicit importation of gandia has been recorded during the year. The offender was fined Rs 120.- by the Comptroller of Customs, and 7.4 grammes gandia found in his possession was confiscated and destroyed.

There is no appreciable change in the prices at which illicitly imported or illicitly grown drugs are retailed.

B. RAW MATERIALS

There has been no change in the conditions described under this Head during the year under review.

C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS

4. Trade and Distribution.

The routine measures already described in my Report for 1943^{x)} have been maintained. No infringement of the law was detected.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MAURITIUS

x) See document C.75.M.75.1944.XI.
(O.C./A.R. 1943/21).