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STATEMENTS.

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CHAPTER I.

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

1. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 45,50 lakhs, of which Rs. 32,88 lakhs were realised under sale-proceeds of opium (including sale-proceeds on opium supplied to the Indian States, French Settlements and Coorg—*vide* paragraph 4 below). In 1928-29 the revenue derived from opium amounted to Rs. 44·86 lakhs against Rs. 17·22 lakhs in the year 1912-13 (Statement III).

2. *Supply and Duty.*—The cultivation of the poppy in the Presidency was prohibited, the opium supply of the province being obtained from the Ghazipur Factory in the United Provinces. The drug was stocked in District treasuries in the first instance and thence distributed to taluk cutcheries. It was issued to licensed vendors from taluk cutcheries at Rs. 80 per seer. This price included Rs. 22·7 the cost of producing the opium. The balance of Rs. 57·9 was excise duty.

3. *Import.*—The import of raw opium was permitted in the following cases:—

(a) Importations from an Indian State or Foreign Settlement in India by land on behalf of the Local Government under the orders of the Commissioner of Excise (i) in cases in which opium supplied from the Government treasuries in the Presidency was returned by the authorities in an Indian State or Foreign Settlement and (ii) in cases in which Government stocks passed through an Indian State or Foreign Settlement while in transit from one part to another of British territory.

(b) Importations from any part of British India outside the Presidency (i) by or on behalf of the Local Government and (ii) by licensed dealers in morphia and licensed chemists under the rules for the time being in force in that part relating to the export of the drug and under the authority of an import authorisation granted by the Commissioner of Excise.

Provided that this restriction did not apply to the free import of opium from other provinces and Indian States in quantities not exceeding one tola by *bona fide* travellers for their personal use.

4. *Export.*—Export of raw opium to Indian States, French Settlements and to other provinces was permitted only under an export authorisation granted by the Commissioner of Excise in each case. The maximum annual quantities of opium to be supplied to the French Settlements in the Presidency were fixed. The States of Mysore, Travancore, Cochin, Pudukottai and Sandur and the French Settlements obtained their supplies wholly from the Madras Government. The opium required for Coorg was supplied from the Madras Taluk Office on receipt of an indent from the Commissioner of Coorg.

5. *Retail vend and incidence of taxation.*—The right of selling opium by retail and of manufacturing and selling intoxicating drugs made from

opium other than smoking preparations was put up to auction during the year shop by shop.

In 1929-30 the total number of licensed shops was 559 against the same number in 1928-29 and 851 in the year 1912-13. The receipts from rentals and license fees amounted to Rs. 12.62 lakhs and the sale proceeds of opium issued to licensed vendors to Rs. 28.51 lakhs. The total quantity of issues within the Presidency in 1929-30 was 35,739½ seers which gave an average incidence of taxation of nearly Rs. 35.49 from vend fees and Rs. 57.56 as gain on sale or in all Rs. 93.05 per seer. In 1928-29 the incidence of total taxation per seer of opium amounted to Rs. 89.17 compared with Rs. 38.5 in the year 1912-13 (Statement IV).

6. *Possession and sale.*—A licensed vendor could sell by retail at one time to any person :—

- (a) in the ordinary areas in the Presidency any quantity of opium not exceeding one tola or intoxicating drugs other than those used for smoking containing not more than one tola of opium;
- (b) in the Agency tracts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts any quantity of opium not exceeding two tolas or intoxicating drugs other than those used for smoking containing not more than two tolas of opium.

Intoxicating drugs other than those used for smoking could also be made up by private persons from opium in their lawful possession. Preparations for smoking could not be bought or sold, but could be made up by smokers for their own use from opium in their lawful possession up to a limit of half a tola at a time.

7. *Offences.*—The activities of opium smugglers operating for Ceylon and Burma continued. The demand for opium from Burma fell on account of the Shan States having become another avenue for supply. The smugglers found new markets for their contraband in the French Settlements of Karikal and Pondicherry. Opium was smuggled chiefly from the shops in the Northern Circars. There was also an organisation at work in the Mysore State with Bowringpet as the controlling centre supplying opium to smugglers in the South.

An important case of opium smuggling to Ceylon was detected by the Inspector, Excise Intelligence Bureau, at Villupuram in which a rich and influential merchant figured as the accused, the quantity of opium involved being 8½ seers.

Another important seizure of 8½ seers of licit opium smuggled from the Guntur district was made at Katpadi station by the Excise Intelligence Bureau staff.

A case of smuggling of licit opium to Ceylon was also detected in Madras. The drug in this case was concealed in the hollows of specially made wooden cap blocks which were included in a parcel of caps.

As a result of information given by the Excise Intelligence Bureau of this Province several seizures were effected by the Ceylon authorities. The preventive methods adopted by the Ceylon Government, coupled with the activities of the Excise Intelligence Bureau of this province, made smuggling more difficult but resulted in the organisation of more powerful smuggling gangs and the adoption of more elaborate methods.

For figures of convictions pertaining to the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30 please see Statement VI.

8. Calculated on the census figures of 1921 the consumption of opium in the Presidency excluding Indian States and foreign territory, in 1929-30 (35,739½ seers) worked out to 0·84 seer per thousand of population against 0·83 in the previous year.

9. *Measures adopted to check the practice of administering opium to children.*—In para. 10 of last year's report it was stated that Telugu and Oriya editions of the pamphlet on the evils of opium had been brought to the notice of all training schools and teachers in elementary schools and that students in training schools had been required to provide themselves each with a copy. Tamil and Malayalam edition of the pamphlet were also received from the Government Press by the Director of Public Instruction and similar use made of them. Copies of the pamphlet were also distributed for the use of inspecting officers in the educational department. Kanarese and Urdu editions of the pamphlet were under publication.

The practice of administering opium to children was confined to limited areas in the Northern Circars. During the year under review, 65 lectures were delivered by Municipal Health officers in 7 towns. Most of these lectures were delivered in Child Welfare Centres and Baby Homes.

10. *Intoxicating drugs, etc.*—In their letter R. Dis. No. 129 E. O./28, dated 11th May 1928, the Government of India stated that all preparations made from opium of whatever kind and containing more than 0·2 per cent. of morphine should be subject to the restrictions imposed by the Madras Law upon "Morphia Drugs" whether the preparations contain less, or not less than 10 per cent. of morphine. In accordance with this interpretation all opium preparations other than those made from opium prepared and sold by opium shopkeepers were treated as morphia drugs and dealt with under the Madras Morphia Rules with effect from 1st April 1929.

11. *Import.*—The import of morphia drugs was permitted in the following cases:—

- (a) importation from any part of British India, outside the Province, subject to the rules for the time being in force in such part relating to the export of morphia drugs;
- (b) importation from any foreign territory or Indian State under an import certificate previously obtained from the Commissioner of Excise and on payment of the duty leviable at the place of importation under the Indian Tariff Act, 1894, or any other enactment for the time being in force, and on the pass being endorsed by the Customs Collector;
- (c) importation from any place outside the Presidency not being British India, in transit to any other place outside British India, under an import authorisation granted by or under the orders of the Local Government within whose jurisdiction the port or place of importation was situated, such authorisation being marked "In transit".

12. *Export.*—The export of morphia drugs was permitted in the following cases:—

- (i) to any Indian State or Foreign Settlement in the Presidency of Madras subject to the production of an import certificate from the Government of the importing administration approving of the import and under an export authorisation obtained from the Collector of Customs, Madras, when the export was by sea to any place other than a maritime state in India, and from the Commissioner of Excise, Madras, in other cases;
- (ii) to any part of British India outside the province under an import authorisation granted in accordance with the rules in such part and countersigned by the Collector of the district of export.

Provided that no such authorisation was required in respect of drugs that were imported from any place outside British India into the Presidency in transit to a place outside British India by land if the import authorisation covering their importation had been marked "in transit" by the authority that issued such import authorisation.

13. *Licenses.*—Two classes of licenses for the sale of morphia drugs were issued (1) to a dealer in morphia drugs in the city of Madras for the vend of morphia drugs otherwise than on prescription and (2) to a chemist for the sale of morphia drugs on prescription. During 1929-30, 26 licenses under the first category and 341 licenses under the second category were issued. Sales under the first kind of license could be made to:—

- (a) another licensed dealer in morphia or a licensed chemist in the Presidency or in any other part of British India holding an authorization for the transport or export of the drugs;
- (b) an approved practitioner, and
- (c) a person holding an authorisation granted by the Secretary to the Commissioner of Excise for export to any Indian State or Foreign territory.

Preparations containing not more than 0.2 per cent. of morphine were exempted from excise restrictions.

14. *Possession and sale.*—Licensees could obtain their supply either by direct importation from a foreign country or from a licensed dealer in the Presidency or in another province of British India or by manufacture from opium or morphia drugs lawfully possessed by them. They could possess raw opium up to the quantities allowed in the licences for the manufacture of morphia drugs and had to obtain their supplies of opium from taluk cutcheries.

The limit of possession of morphia drugs was restricted in the case of ordinary persons to so much as was dispensed by a licensed chemist on a prescription given by an approved practitioner. An approved practitioner could possess, for his use in his practice but not for sale, morphia drugs containing in the aggregate not more than 120 grains of morphia.

CHAPTER II.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY PROPER.

15. *Revenue.*—The Excise opium revenue for the year 1929-30 was Rs. 28,08,771 of which Rs. 1,15,478 represented the profit on the sale of Government opium, including duty, and the balance on account of vend fees, etc. The revenue derived from Excise opium in the previous year amounted to Rs. 29.02 lakhs while in 1912-13 it was Rs. 12.15 lakhs. The decrease in revenue was due to the decrease in the consumption of opium.

16. *Supply to British Districts and Indian States.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in the Bombay Presidency and also in the Indian States under the Political control of the Local Government and requisite supplies were procured from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces.

17. The duty on opium obtained from the Ghazipur factory was Rs. 600 per chest, containing 60 cakes of one seer each. All opium, whether it was required by licensed vendors of British districts or by Indian States, was bought in the first instance by the Local Government and taken to the Government depôts established in each district of the Presidency proper, including the city of Bombay, and at Sadra and Baroda Cantonments. It was thence issued to vendors and States. The vendors were charged the depôt rate, which was so fixed as to include the duty and to yield a profit over and above the purchase price, whilst the States had to pay a duty of Rs. 10 per seer or Rs. 600 per chest of 60 seers, the cost price (Rs. 22.7 per seer) charged by the factory authorities at Ghazipur and the transport charges from Ghazipur to Depôt. The States were allowed remission of the duty on the supplies taken by them to the extent specified in the next paragraph. This was granted either at the time of issue of the opium or subsequently on their preferring a refund bill. The issue rate in force during the year under report was Rs. 75 per seer throughout the Presidency proper.

18. *Agreements with Indian States.*—Agreements were in force with all Indian Chiefs in the Presidency to secure their co-operation in stopping the contraband traffic in opium. Under these agreements—

- (i) The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in all Indian States except Baroda.
- (ii) Baroda was permitted to grow the poppy and to manufacture opium under a State monopoly for consumption in its own territory. The State undertook to prevent the introduction of Baroda opium into British territory and into the territories of adjoining Indian States and according to an understanding, subsisting since 1886, the minimum selling price of opium in Baroda territory and the adjacent Indian States, as well as in the British Districts in Gujerat (*viz.*, Ahmedabad, Kaira, Panch Mahals, Broach and Surat) was fixed at Rs. 2.8 per seer (of 80 tolas) over and above the issue rate at the Government Depôts. At the request of the Baroda Government they were absolved from the obligation to fix the minimum retail prices in Baroda territory at Rs. 2.8

per seer in advance of the British issue rate, provided that opium was issued to retail vendors in the State at a rate not less than that fixed for the issue of opium from depôts in neighbouring British districts and the retail arrangements including the method of disposal of shops were assimilated to those obtaining in British territory.

- (iii) All other Indian States had to obtain their supplies from a British Depôt in the manner indicated in paragraph 16 above.
- (iv) All Indian Chiefs were bound to exert themselves to prevent the introduction of untaxed opium into their territories.
- (v) In return for the obligations undertaken, the States were guaranteed the enjoyment of the privileges enumerated below so long as they faithfully carried out their agreements.

Baroda enjoyed the whole of the revenue derivable under its State monopoly; Cambay, Palanpur and the Mahi Kantha States were allowed a remission of the whole of the British duty levied on opium consumed within their limits; Cutch and Kathiawar were allowed similar remission to the extent of one-third; the Satara Jahagirdars (including the Bhor State, and the Jath and Dadapur States) of one-tenth; and all other States of one-fifth of the duty. Special compensation was also granted in all cases in which any loss of the opium revenue formerly enjoyed by the Chiefs was found to have been caused by the above arrangements.

19. *Retail vend arrangements.*—As regards retail vend arrangements, the separate shop system prevailed throughout the Presidency. Under this system the right of retail vend was disposed of as a rule by separate shops, the numbers and localities of which were determined by the Excise authorities. The shops in the Town and Island of Bombay were disposed of by inviting tenders and the others sold by auction. The licensees were required to obtain their supplies from a Government depôt. The total number of licensed opium shops was 683 as against 681 in the preceding year and 786 in the year 1912-13.

20. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total sales in British districts in 1929-30 amounted to 21,091 seers and the receipts for those districts were Rs. 28,08,771 of which Rs. 11,54,478 represented the profit on the sale of Government opium, including duty while the balance, Rs. 11.69 and 6.34 lakhs represented vend fees and cost price of opium respectively. The average taxation thus worked out to Rs. 54.74 per seer from vend fees, etc., plus Rs. 53.31 as profit including Rs. 10 duty, or in all Rs. 110.17 per seer. In 1928-29, the total sales in British districts amounted to 22,126 seers, against 44,259 seers in the year 1912-13. As regards the total receipts from opium and the average taxation per seer of opium during these years, please see Statements III and IV.

21. The Indian States under the Bombay Government indented for 7,053 seers of Ghazipur opium in 1929-30, while 5,734 seers of locally produced opium were sold in Baroda.

22. *Druggists' licenses.*—Druggists and medical practitioners were allowed, under license from the Collector, to retail for medicinal pur-

poscs, opium and preparations thereof (other than smoking preparations), and could for this purpose possess opium in larger quantities than was allowed to the general public. 1,070 such licenses were issued during the year under report, against 1,081 in the preceding year and 942 in 1912-13.

23. *Opium Drugs*.—The Bombay Opium Rules allowed of the preparation and the vend of opium drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) by licensed vendors; but in accordance with the terms of their license the vendors were in effect restricted to the sale of crude opium and poppy heads, so that intoxicating drugs, not being smoking preparations, could only be procured from licensed medical practitioners and druggists.

Smoking preparations could not be bought and sold, but could be possessed to the extent of a quarter of a tola by a smoker who prepared them for himself. In the case of two or more individuals assembled together for the purpose of smoking, the aggregate limit of possession was fixed at half a tola.

24. *Poppy Heads*.—There were no restrictions on dried poppy heads from which the juice had been extracted, but otherwise poppy heads were subject to the same restrictions as opium proper. No separate licenses were issued for their sale in the Bombay Presidency. They could be retailed by licensed vendors of opium who made their own arrangements for procuring them.

25. *Private possession*.—The ordinary limit of private possession was one tola of opium, including poppy heads from which the juice had not been extracted. Drugs prepared from opium, other than smoking preparations were allowed to be possessed by private individuals up to a limit of one tola of crude opium contained therein. The limit of individual and collective possession for smoking preparations was, as stated above, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ tola respectively.

26. *Import*.—Foreign opium could be imported by sea into the port of Bombay, in whole or half chests, for re-exportation after transhipment or in the same bottom, on payment of a small transhipment or re-export fee. Every transhipment of Persian or Turkish opium was referred to the Government of India before it was allowed by the Collector of Customs, Bombay. Opium could also be imported (by means other than that of the post) otherwise than in whole or half chests for re-exportation on payment of the full tariff duty and subject to any special orders passed by the Opium Commissioner as to its subsequent possession and disposal.

Import of opium by land was allowed only:—

- (a) for issue (by Government) to licensed vendors or Indian States; and
- (b) in the case of through-rail consignments for other parts of British India, etc., which entered Bombay territory.

27. *Opium offences*.—Opium offences increased from 323 to 366. Of these, 333 were tried in British territory and 33 in Indian States, against 295 and 28 respectively tried in the previous year. In 1912-13 the number of cases investigated under the Opium Act were 241. Cases of illegal possession during the year under report were 261 against 206 in the previous year, and those of illegal import 66 against 72. The contraband

opium seized amounted to 477 seers, of which 453 seers were seized in British territory and 24 seers in Indian States.

28. *Average consumption.*—Calculated on the census figures of 1921 the opium consumption in the Presidency proper for 1929-30, 21,091 seers worked out to 1·3 seers per 1,000 of population. In 1928-29 the opium consumption per 1,000 of population was 1·4 seers and in the year 1912-13, 2·7 seers.

29. *Measures to check the administration of opium to children.*—During the year under report the Baby and Health Week Association, Bombay Presidency, exhibited many lantern slides and films warning mothers against the danger of drugging their children with opium. These films and lantern slides were exhibited in about 130 towns and villages, in the course of the Baby-Week celebrations, which were attended by nearly 825,000 people. They have no doubt an educative value and may gradually bring about a change in existing practices. 72 centres were also supplied with popular literature on Public Health and Child Welfare. The Lady Inspector of Factories also availed herself of every opportunity of convincing women employed in mills and factories of the evil effects of opium and of inducing them to stop administering it to children. These activities no doubt had some instructive value, and probably contributed to the decline in the sales of opium.

CHAPTER III.

SIND.

30. *Revenue.*—The Excise opium revenue for the year 1929-30 was Rs. 5,37,423 of which Rs. 3,04,591 represented the gross receipts on issues of Excise opium (*i.e.*, cost price *plus* duty and gain on sale proceeds). The balance was derived from vend fees. In 1928-29, the revenue under this head amounted to Rs. 54.79 lakhs compared with Rs. 3.68 lakhs during the year 1912-13.

31. *Supply.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in Sind. Supplies were obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces. Opium was imported by Government in chests containing 60 cakes of one seer (two lbs.) each and deposited at treasuries and sub-treasuries. The duty which was credited to provincial revenues was fixed at Rs. 10 per seer. The cost price of the drug was notified by the Government of India from time to time.

32. *Issues to licensed vendors.*—Licensed opium vendors obtained their supplies by indent on the local treasury or sub-treasury, paying a price which included the duty on and the cost price of the drug and a margin which was credited to the provincial Revenue as gain on sale. The issue price in force in 1929-30 was Rs. 60 per seer.

33. *Retail vend arrangements.*—Retail vend licenses were disposed of under the open auction system. The total number of shops licensed during 1929-30 was 169 as in the preceding year and as against 246 in the year 1912-13.

34. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total sales amounted to 5,096 seers and the total receipts to Rs. 5,37,423 of which Rs. 3,04,591 represented the cost price *plus* duty and gain on the sale of Government opium and Rs. 2,32,832, the receipts from license fees, etc. The incidence of taxation was Rs. 105.46 (vend fee 45.69, cost price and gain including duty on sale Rs. 59.77). For the total sales and average taxation per seer of opium during the years 1912-13 and 1928-29, please see Statements III and IV.

35. *Druggists licenses.*—Druggists and medical practitioners were allowed, under license from the Collector, to retail opium and its preparations (other than smoking preparations) for medical purposes and could, for this purpose, possess opium in larger quantities (the maximum being fixed by the Collector) than that allowed to the general public. 30 such licenses were issued in 1929-30 as compared with 34 in the preceding year and 31 in 1912-13. The manufacture and sale of morphia and its preparations and derivatives was permitted under special licenses by approved medical practitioners, chemists and druggists only. The number of such licenses issued in 1929-30 was 34 against 40 in the preceding year and 30 in the year 1912-13.

36. *Opium drugs.*—The Bombay Opium Rules provided for the issue of licenses for the preparation and vend of drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) on conditions prescribed by the Commissioner with the previous sanction of Government. No such licenses were issued in the year under report and in the preceding year. Smoking preparations could not be sold but they could be possessed to the extent

of a quarter of a tola by an individual smoker, prepared from opium licitly obtained. In the case of two or more individuals assembled for smoking, the aggregate limit of possession was fixed at half a tola. The revised form for the retail sale of *bala golis* for the province of Sind was approved in G. R. No. 1485/24, dated the 23th August 1925.

37. *Poppy heads*.—There were no restrictions on the possession and sale of dry poppy heads from which the juice had been extracted but otherwise poppy heads were subject to the same restrictions as opium.

38. *Private possession*.—The ordinary limit of private possession was one tola of opium including poppy heads from which the juice had not been extracted. In the case of drugs prepared from opium, other than smoking preparations possessed by private individuals, the contents of crude opium could not exceed one tola. The limit of individual and collective possession of smoking preparations was, as stated above, one-fourth and one-half of a tola respectively.

In the portion of the Thar Parkar District lying east of the Eastern Nara Canal, the limit of private possession of crude opium or of drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) was 4 tolas.

39. *Import*.—Foreign opium could be imported by sea into the port of Karachi in whole or half chests for re-exportation after transhipment, or in the same bottom, on payment of a fee of Re. 1 per chest.

Import of opium by land was allowed only—

(a) For issue by Government to licensed vendors.

(b) For re-exportation to Indian States, if booked through by railway.

40. *Crime*.—There was a slight decrease in the detection of opium cases during the year, due probably to the vigilance of the Excise staff. Out of the total number of 71 cases of opium detected in the Province, 33 cases were detected in the Thar Parkar District and the rest in the other districts of the Province.

41. *Average consumption*.—Calculated on the census figures of 1921, the opium consumption for 1929-30 (5,096) seers worked out to 1.5 seer per 1,000 of population. The consumption in Sukkur and Hyderabad Districts was comparatively high. For figures of average consumption of opium per 1,000 during 1912-13 and 1928-29, please see Statement No. I.

CHAPTER IV.

BENGAL PRESIDENCY.

42. *Revenue*.—The opium Revenue for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 48.22 lakhs, of which Rs. 9.04 lakhs represented cost price and Rs. 23.65 lakhs were derived from duty and the balance from license or vend fees, compared with Rs. 48.08 lakhs in the preceding year and Rs. 23.76 lakhs in 1912-13.

43. *Supply*.—The supply was obtained from the Government Opium Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces. The opium was made up into cakes weighing one seer each, 60 of which were packed in a case.

44. *Retail vend and consumption*.—Licenses for the retail sale of opium were settled during the year under the "Bengal Fixed Fee System". The total number of shops settled in 1929-30 was 855 compared with 853 in the preceding year and 891 in 1912-13. The total consumption in 1929-30 was 993 maunds 21 seers excluding 13 maunds 15 seers exported duty-paid to Foreign territories and Indian States as compared with 937 maunds 24 seers in 1928-29 and 1,697 maunds in 1912-13.

The average consumption per 1,000 of the population in 1929-30 was .85 seer against .85 seer in 1928-29 and 1.5 seers in 1912-13.

Issues of opium to the retail shops in the districts of Midnapore, Hooghly, Howrah, the 24-Parganas, Calcutta, Nadia, Murshidabad, Khulna, Bakerganj, Faridpur, Chittagong, Noakhali, Tippera and Jalpaiguri and to a few shops in Jessore, Mymensingh and Rajshahi and one shop each in Bankura and Rangpur were limited to an amount based on the estimated local demand as ascertained by local inquiry and a study of the issues of previous years.

45. *Sale-proceeds and taxation*.—The treasury price of opium was Rs. 71 per seer except in the districts of Calcutta, 24-Parganas, Howrah and Hooghly where it was Rs. 91 per seer. In 1912-13, the treasury price of opium varied from Rs. 29 to Rs. 35 per seer.

The total amount credited to Government on account of sale-proceeds of excise opium during 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 32.69 lakhs including the sale-proceeds of 13 maunds 15 seers exported to Foreign territories and Indian States giving an average rate of Rs. 81.16 per seer. The sale-proceeds of opium in 1928-29 were 32.75 lakhs while in 1912-13 these were Rs. 14.80 lakhs.

The receipts from license or vend fees in 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 15.51 lakhs, giving an average of Rs. 39.02 per seer as compared with Rs. 15.32 lakhs in 1928-29 and Rs. 8.96 lakhs in 1912-13.

The total taxation per seer in 1929-30 was Rs. 120.18 against Rs. 119.97 in 1928-29 and Rs. 35.0 in 1912-13.

46. *Druggists' license*.—Druggists obtained licenses for the sale of opium and poppy heads for medicinal purposes only, at a nominal fee of Re. 1 per annum. Their supply for this purpose was limited to one seer of opium and ten seers of poppy heads at a time or such larger quantity as the Excise Commissioner allowed in any particular case.

47. *Intoxicating drugs, etc.*—Intoxicating drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) were prepared and sold for medicinal purposes by licensed druggists. They could also be made up, for private consumption, from opium in the lawful possession of the manufacturer, up to a limit of 5 tolas.

Smoking preparations were not permitted to be bought and sold but could be manufactured for personal use only from opium lawfully possessed, and then only to the extent of one tola at a time. Persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking could possess such preparations in a quantity not exceeding 2 tolas in the aggregate. A Bill for the purpose of compulsory registration of opium smokers with a view to the ultimate extinction of the habit has been drafted and is being considered by the Local Government.

48. *Manufacture of medicinal preparations of opium by chemists and druggists.*—The following quantities of opium powder and opium cakes were imported from Ghazipur to Calcutta by the local chemists during 1929-30 for manufacture of medicinal preparations at a special rate of duty.

	Opium powder at Rs. 15 per lb. lbs.	Opium cake at Rs. 19 per lb. lbs.
Messrs. Bathgate & Co.	75	...
Messrs. Smith Stanistreet & Co.	300	...
Dr. Bose's Laboratory, Ltd. . . . .	...	40
Messrs. Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works, Ltd.	221	...
Messrs. B. K. Paul & Co.	32	145
Messrs. H. S. Abdul Gunny & Co.	8	3
Messrs. Union Drug Co., Ltd.	40	...
TOTAL	676	188
	(against 734 in the pre- ceding year.)	(against 283 in the pre- ceding year.)

49. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was 3 tolas of Excise opium and 5 seers of poppy-heads. Morphia drugs could only be possessed on the prescription of an "approved practitioner".

50. *Import.*—The restrictions on the import of opium and its preparations continued in force and the import procedure prescribed by the League of Nations was maintained. Medicinal preparations containing opium or morphia which were exempted from other excise restrictions were subjected to the import certificate system to meet the requirements of the International Geneva Opium Agreement and Geneva Dangerous Drugs Convention of 1925. A chemist or druggist or any other person desiring to import foreign opium and preparations including morphia drugs and medicinal opium could only do so after obtaining an import authorisation and an import certificate in the form prescribed by the League of Nations from the Commissioner of Excise and after giving an undertaking that the drug to be imported was intended exclusively for medicinal purposes. No fee was charged for such authorisation and it

covered the import as well as the transport of the drugs to the place of business of the importer. Apart from the above, import into the Presidency was not allowed except on behalf of Government.

51. *Opium offences.*—The total number of persons convicted for offences relating to opium during the year was 173 compared with 214 in 1928-29 and 272 in 1912-13. The total quantity of contraband opium seized during the year was 36 maunds 17 seers against 44 maunds 4 seers during 1923-29.

The following statement summarises the cases in which opium, seized during the year under report, was found to have been smuggled from outside Bengal.

Province or State of origin.	Number of seizure(s).	Quantity seized.		
		Md.	Sr.	Ch.
Rajputana	9	0	28	6
United Provinces	18	6	18	9
Gwalior	6	1	0	4
Kapurthala	1	0	0	12
Nepal	1	0	0	3
North-West Frontier Province	2	0	15	1
Bihar and Orissa	1	0	20	0
Delhi	9	11	4	9
Punjab	1	0	0	2
	—	—	—	—
	48	20	8	1
	—	—	—	—

52. *Administrative changes and reforms.*—The following administrative changes were sanctioned during the year and came into effect from 1st April 1930:—

- (i) The treasury (selling) price of Excise Opium was fixed at Rs. 91 per seer throughout the Presidency except for some shops of the district of Midnapore close to the border of the province of Bihar and Orissa where the rate was fixed at Rs. 76 per seer, and the retail price of the drug for the consumer was fixed at Rs. 150 per seer throughout the Presidency except in the above shops of the Midnapore district where it was fixed as Rs. 135 per seer.
- (ii) The limit of individual private possession of Excise opium was reduced from 3 tolas to 1 tola (180 grains) and the sale of excise opium by licensed vendors to the extent of more than 1 tola (180 grains) to any private person on the same day was prohibited throughout the Presidency except in the colonisation area in the Sunderbans in the district of Bakerganj where the limits of retail sale and private possession were fixed at $\frac{1}{4}$ tola (45 grains).

CHAPTER V.

BURMA.

53. *Revenue*.—Excluding the cost of production (at Rs. 25-4-0 per seer) of the Benares opium supplied, but including the sale-proceeds of confiscated contraband opium sold to licensed vendors, the total opium revenue for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 36,92,000, of which Rs. 36,91,000 (excluding special license fees) were derived from duty and sale-proceeds of excise and confiscated opium. In 1928-29, the total receipts from opium amounted to Rs. 38-63 lakhs, against Rs. 42-27 lakhs in the year 1912-13.

54. *Special conditions of opium traffic in Burma*.—The opium traffic was carried on in Burma under special conditions and restrictions, owing to the fact that the possession and consumption of opium for ordinary purposes were only permitted to non-Burmans and to a limited number of Burmans who had been specially registered as opium consumers in Lower Burma—see paragraph 58 below.

55. *Opium Smoking*.—Special precautions were taken against the spread of the opium-smoking habit which is considered to be more insidious and harmful than the habit of eating opium. The effect of certain changes made in 1924 in the Burma Opium Rules was to prohibit the possession of “prepared” opium by any person other than registered opium smokers except in the Bhamo and Myitkyina districts and in the Backward Tracts of Burma notified for the time being under section 52A (2) of the Government of India Act. The register of opium smokers was closed to new entrants on the 8th July 1924. With the gradual disappearance of the persons on the register opium smoking will be illegal in Burma except in a few backward tracts. The sale of prepared opium has been discontinued since 1921-22.

56. *Cultivation*.—The cultivation of the poppy was absolutely prohibited by law throughout Burma, except in areas administered under the Kachin Hills Regulation, where cultivation was only permissible under license. The issue of licenses was restricted. Supplies were obtained from the Ghazipur Factory, supplemented by such confiscated contraband opium as was found on examination to be fit for consumption.

57. *Possession*.—(i) Burmans in Upper Burma could not possess opium except for medicinal purposes.

(ii) Burmans in Lower Burma, who had not been registered, could not possess opium except for medicinal purposes.

(iii) Non-Burmans and registered Burmans could possess opium for private consumption, provided that they had bought it from a licensed retail vendor.

(iv) Travellers of distinction entering Burma from the Shan States could possess opium produced in the Shan States which they had brought with them for their consumption.

(v) Persons to whom special licenses had been granted (pharmacists, doctors, tattooers and others) could possess opium in accordance with these licenses.

The ordinary limit of private possession was that prescribed for retail sale, *viz.*, three tolas of opium (other than opium used for medicinal purposes), six tolas of medicinal preparations; and five seers of poppy-heads. The possession of morphia and its compounds by private individuals was allowed only under medical prescription.

58. *Registration of Burma opium consumers in Lower Burma, etc.*—In 1893, it was decided to extend to Lower Burma the prohibition of the use of opium (except for medicinal purposes) by Burmans, which had always been enforced in Upper Burma. In order to avoid inflicting hardship on Burmans who had become habituated to the use of the drug, notices were issued in March 1893, to the effect that, after the new system had been introduced, no Burmans, except such as had registered themselves, would be permitted to possess opium, except for medicinal purposes; that all Burmans of 25 years and upwards who desired to continue the use of opium must register themselves, and that Burmans under 25 years of age were not permitted to register themselves. The rules provided that the names of registered consumers should be entered in Township Registers, and that extracts from these registers containing the names of registered consumers from each village or ward, should be given to the headman concerned. Every headman was thus acquainted with the names of registered consumers in his jurisdiction. A combined register for the whole of each district was also kept by the Deputy Commissioner. Each registered consumer was furnished with a certificate of registration. The rules further provided for the removal from the register of the names of consumers, who desired to have their names removed or who had died, and for the transfer from one register to another of consumers who changed their place of residence. These registers were subsequently re-opened during 1900—1903 for the registration of persons who were eligible for registration in 1893 but who omitted to get themselves registered at that time. This was found necessary, as the 1893 registration was defective and the existence of a large number of persons who ought to have been registered but were not, and could not thus obtain opium by licit means, promoted smuggling. In 1924-25 registration was opened in Myungmya district to Burmans who were found after careful enquiry to require opium for medicinal purposes. This experiment proved successful and has since been extended to Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Tharrawaddy and Akyab districts. Proposals are also under consideration to extend the scheme to a few other districts, where smuggling is rife and un-registered Burman consumers are numerous.

In Upper Burma, no Burman was allowed to purchase opium and (as in the Lower Province) sales were ordinarily restricted to three tolas at a time to one purchaser. Non-Burman consumers residing at a distance from licensed shops could, however, under cover of special licenses and subject to certain special restrictions, purchase opium to the extent of 10 or 20 tolas, according to the distance of their places of residence from the licensed shops.

59. *Rates of issue to licensed vendors.*—Excise opium was supplied by Government to District Treasuries and was issued to licensed vendors at rates ranging from Rs. 163 to Rs. 187-4-0 per seer in Lower Burma, and from Rs. 155 to Rs. 175-4 per seer in Upper Burma. In 1912-13, the rates at which Bengal Excise opium was issued to District Treasuries

and licensed vendors ranged from Rs. 40 to Rs. 95 per seer in Lower Burma, including the Thayetmyo district, and from Rs. 50 to Rs. 90 per seer in Upper Burma.

Confiscated Excise opium was issued to vendors in or near Rangoon at the same rates.

Confiscated foreign opium was issued to licensed vendors in the frontier districts of Bhamo, Katha, Myitkyina, Upper Chindwin and Lower Chindwin at rates ranging from Rs. 27 to Rs. 152-8 per seer.

60. *Vend arrangements*.—In 1929-30, there were 121 licensed opium shops in Burma, the same number as in 1928-29, and 124 in 1912-13. The right to sell in these shops was given to vendors selected by the Deputy Commissioner of the district subject to the Divisional Commissioner's approval. The auction system which formerly prevailed, was given up in 1902 in Lower Burma and in 1904 in Upper Burma, as the high prices paid for the shops tended to promote dealings in smuggled opium. Sales were conducted under the eye of a resident Excise Officer and the shops were in Government buildings or in isolated premises.

Opium was issued to licensed vendors at the rates specified in paragraph 56. The opium was retailed by the licensees at a fixed price of Rs. 2-6-0 per tola (Rs. 190 per seer) in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma the retail price was generally Rs. 2-4-0 per tola, but this rate was reduced in areas which afforded special facilities for smuggling. In 1912-13, the fixed price at which the licensees retailed opium was generally Re. 1-4-0 per tola (Rs. 100 per seer) for raw opium and Re. 1-9-0 per tola (Rs. 125 per seer) for prepared opium. Special rates for Frontier districts were Re. 1 in Myitkyina and Bhamo; Re. 1-4-0 for eight shops and Re. 1 for two shops, in Katha. It may be mentioned that, apart from the restrictions imposed on retail sales by the ordinary limit of private possessions of opium, it was further required that the amount of retail sales should, in the case of each consumer, be restricted with reference to his means and his personal consumption.

The working of the special arrangements made for the prevention of opium consumption by Burmans, except by registered persons in the Lower Province, required large preventive establishments. The cost of these in 1929-30 was Rs. 1,21,119 a month.

61. "*Medical practitioners*" that is persons who had a recognised diploma and practised medicine according to European methods could be licensed to possess such quantities of opium and its preparations as they required for the purposes of their profession, but medical officers in charge of notified hospitals and dispensaries could be deemed to hold licenses to possess and issue the opium required in the work of the hospital or dispensary subject only to the keeping of a daily account. "*Doctors*" (meaning persons who practise medicine according to Asiatic methods), pharmacists and tattooers had to take out yearly licenses to deal in the drugs in question. The sale of morphia and its compounds was, however, permitted only by dealers and chemists specially licensed in that behalf. Tattooers could not sell opium or its preparations of any kind, but could use the drugs (other than morphia and its compounds) in their operations. The license fees were Rs. 10 for a pharmacist, Rs. 5 for a doctor and Rs. 3 for a tattooer.

Three hundred and forty-seven of these special vend licenses were issued in 1929-30. In the preceding year the number of such licenses was 197, against 316 in the year 1912-13.

62. *Consumption and average taxation.*—Inclusive of confiscated contraband opium disposed of to licensed vendors, the total consumption in 1929-30 amounted to 608 maunds, on which Rs. 36,91,000 were realized by way of duty and gain on sale-proceeds of excise and confiscated opium. The average taxation per seer was thus Rs. 151·8 (duty).

In 1928-29 the total consumption of opium amounted to 632 maunds, against 1,192 maunds in the year 1912-13 and the average taxation per seer during these years amounted to Rs. 152·9 and Rs. 78·0 (duty), respectively.

The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of the population in 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30 was 4·5, 2·2 and 2·1 seers, respectively.

The quantity of confiscated contraband opium found fit for use and disposed of to licensed vendors amounted to about 57 maunds in 1929-30, against 67 maunds in the preceding year and 35 maunds during the year 1912-13.

63. *Poppy-heads.*—Poppy-heads were retailed by medical practitioners, licensed pharmacists and Burman doctors for medicinal purposes.

64. *Import.*—(a) Opium could be imported by sea (by means other than that of the post) into Burma, by a medical practitioner or pharmacist.

On opium thus imported by medical practitioners and pharmacists a duty of Rs. 24 a seer was levied under Schedule III of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894.

(b) Opium could be imported by land by travellers of distinction entering Burma from the Shan States. Such persons were permitted to bring a small quantity of opium into Burma for their private consumption and not for sale or barter.

65. *Smuggling and seizures of opium and the Shan States Opium Order of 1923.*—Since 1918-19 there has been a big increase in seizures of contraband opium as exhibited in the following table:—

	Seizures in seers.
1918-19	894
1919-20	1,335
1920-21	2,957
1921-22	2,755
1922-23	2,378
1923-24	3,355
1924-25	3,436
1925-26	7,913
1926-27	4,748
1927-28	4,695
1928-29	4,890*
1929-30	6,252

Since the passing of the Shan States Opium Order, 1923, considerable progress has been made towards the effective control of opium culti-

* Revised figure.

vation and consumption. The greater part of the so-called "Shan" opium, which finds its way into Burma, is really opium from Yunnan.

The prevalence of cheap illicit opium on the Chinese frontiers made it necessary to take steps to strengthen the preventive force in the frontier districts. This was done in March 1929.

66. *Number of Opium Smokers.*—The total number of registered smokers throughout the province on 31st March 1930 was 11,329 Chinese, 229 Burmans and 191 Indians.

67. *Offences and convictions under the Opium Act.*—It will be seen from paragraph 65 above that the amount of opium seized in 1929-30 increased by 27·9 per cent. The number of arrests (3,622) in 1929-30 showed an increase of 362 or 11·1 per cent. over the previous year's figures. The percentage of convictions to arrests was 77·5. In Rangoon seizures amounted to 141,739 tolas of opium. In 1912-13, there were 2,959 persons arrested and 2,481 convicted for offences relating to opium. The percentage of convictions to arrests during that year was 83·8. The total quantity of opium seized during 1912-13 was 121,840 tolas.

68. Seizures of morphia in 1929-30 amounted to 9,978 grains, against 67,959 grains in the preceding year.

CHAPTER VI.

BIHAR AND ORISSA.

69. *Revenue*.—The revenue from opium for the year 1929-30 including treasury price Rs. 6,82,425 on issues to Foreign and Feudatory States, amounted to Rs. 35,74,106 of which Rs. 28,21,510 were derived from the treasury price and the balance from license fees. In 1928-29 the total revenue from this drug amounted to Rs. 35,66,524 against Rs. 12,15,451 in the year 1912-13.

70. *Supply*.—The supply was obtained from the Opium Factory at Ghazipur. The opium was made into cakes weighing one seer each, 60 of which were packed in a case. It was supplied direct from the Ghazipur Factory to district and sub-divisional treasuries for sale to licensed vendors.

71. *Treasury price*.—During 1929-30, opium was sold from the district and sub-divisional treasuries at a fixed price of Rs. 81 per seer up to 31st May 1929 and Rs. 90 from 1st June 1929 to licensed vendors and licensed druggists only. The above rate included the cost price of opium which was taken at Rs. 22-7-0 per seer. The total quantity of opium sold in 1929-30 was 800 maunds and 18 seers including 195 maunds and 36 seers issued to the Feudatory States, etc., and the sale-proceeds amounted to Rs. 28,21,510 giving an average rate of Rs. 88-1 per seer (including cost price). The average rate of duty per seer in 1928-29 was Rs. 81 (including cost price), against Rs. 19-4 excluding cost price in the year 1912-13.

72. *Retail vend and total average taxation*.—Licenses for the retail sale of opium were settled during the year, in all the districts of the Province, under the "sliding scale" system, according to which the license fees of each shop were paid on the actual consumption during each month, leaving a sufficient margin for the vendor's profit. The rate of profit per seer under this system decreased in inverse ratio to consumption, so that the temptation to push up sales unduly was minimised. The total number of shops settled in 1929-30 was 506 and the receipts from license fees amounted to Rs. 7,52,596. In 1928-29 the number of shops licensed to retail opium was 506, against 563 in 1912-13, and the revenue from license fees during these years amounted to Rs. 8,13,825 and Rs. 3,24,645 respectively. On a consumption of 604 maunds and 22 seers, the license fees gave an average taxation of Rs. 31-1 per seer. The total taxation exclusive of the cost price per seer was thus Rs. 66-0 plus Rs. 31-1 or Rs. 97-1 per seer. In 1928-29, the quantity of opium consumed in the province was 629 maunds and 16 seers, against 926 maunds in 1912-13. In 1928-29 and 1912-13, the total taxation per seer of opium was Rs. 89-9 (Rs. 32-3 from license fees, and the balance from duty), and Rs. 28-1 (Rs. 8-7 from license fees and the balance from duty), respectively.

The consumption of opium on shop premises was forbidden.

73. *Druggists' licenses*.—Druggists were granted permits for the sale of opium, preparations thereof (other than those used for smoking, the sale of which was absolutely forbidden) and poppy-heads for medicinal

purposes only, on payment of a nominal fee of Re. 1 per annum. The supply for this purpose was ordinarily limited to one seer of opium, one seer of preparations of opium not being smoking preparations and 10 seers of poppy-heads. In 1929-30, there were 223 druggists' licenses for the retail sale of opium and its preparations, against 208 in the preceding year and 121 in 1912-13. The druggists obtained their supplies from certain specified sources only, viz. :—

- (a) opium, by purchase from a licensed retail vendor or a Government treasury or, with the sanction of the Collector, from another licensed druggist on the expiry of the latter's permit, or by import from foreign countries under a permit from the Excise Commissioner;
- (b) preparations of opium, not being smoking preparations, by purchase from another licensed druggist, or by manufacture on their own account from opium lawfully possessed by them, or by import from foreign countries under a permit from the Excise Commissioner;
- (c) poppy-heads, by purchase from a licensed retail vendor or another licensed druggist under the conditions mentioned in clause (a) above. As already stated, sales by licensed druggists were permitted for *bonâ fide* medicinal purposes only. They could not ordinarily be in quantities exceeding those allowed for private possession (paragraph 76 below) but sales to other licensed druggists could be made in excess of those quantities under the conditions mentioned above. Separate licenses were issued for the sale of morphia drugs by dealers and chemists in such a manner as was specified in their licenses.

No permit was required for the sale by qualified medical practitioners of medicinal preparations containing opium, except morphia and preparations thereof. The expression "qualified medical practitioners" has been defined in the Provincial Opium Rules as meaning only—

- (i) any person registered as a medical practitioner under the Medical Act, 1858, or any Act of Parliament amending the same, or under any law for the registration of medical practitioners for the time being in force in any part of British India, or
- (ii) any person registered as a dentist under the Dentist's Act, 1878, or any act of Parliament amending the same, or
- (iii) any person possessed of qualifications which render him eligible for registration as a medical practitioner or dentist, as the case may be, under the Medical Act, 1858, the Dentist's Act, 1878, or any Act of Parliament amending the same Acts, or under any law for the registration of medical practitioners or dentists for the time being in force in any part of British India and approved by the Collector for the purpose of these rules or of corresponding rules for the time being in force in any part of British India;
- (iv) any other person engaged in medical, dental or veterinary practice and approved by the Excise Commissioner for the

purpose of these rules or of corresponding rules for the time being in force in any part of British India.

74. *Intoxicating drugs.*—The manufacture and sale of intoxicating drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) by licensed druggists were permitted for medicinal purposes, as stated in the preceding paragraph. The manufacture was also allowed for private consumption, from opium in the lawful possession of the manufacturer, up to a limit of three tolas, except morphia and its preparations of which private manufacture was not allowed.

The sale of smoking preparations was not permissible; but they could be privately manufactured by the smoker from opium in his lawful possession, and then only in quantities not exceeding half a tola at a time.

With a view to regulating the smoking of opium in the Province, the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council passed a bill, intending to prohibit opium smoking directly and to make an exception only in favour of registered addicts, on the 20th January 1928. The Act came into force from 1st January 1929. 2,454 persons were registered under the Act up to 31st March 1930.

Certain recognized medicinal preparations, which contained opium in very small quantities, were exempt from the restrictions imposed by the rules.

75. *Poppy-heads.*—Licenses to sell poppy-heads were granted by Collectors at a nominal fee of Re. 1 per annum, the vendors being allowed to procure their supplies from cultivators licensed under Act XIII of 1857 or from other licensees. Only one such license was issued in 1929-30.

76. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession of opium or preparations thereof (other than morphia and its compounds and preparations used for smoking) was two tolas and a half in the district of Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur and Purnea and one tola and a half in the remaining districts of the Province, and of poppy-heads which had to be purchased from a licensed vendor or druggist, 10 tolas. Morphia and its preparations could be possessed in such quantity as was at one time dispensed and sold under a qualified medical practitioner's prescription. Smoking preparations, which had been made by an individual for his personal consumption from opium in his lawful possession, could be possessed up to half a tola, or, in the case of five or more persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking, up to two and a half tolas.

77. *Import.*—Opium, alkaloids of opium, or any intoxicating drugs made from the poppy, or any preparation or admixture thereof, could be imported by sea or by land from outside British India only by means other than the post, and only by persons who had obtained a permit for the purpose from the Excise Commissioner. Persons coming into Bihar and Orissa were allowed, subject to a definite restriction as to quantity, to retain possession of opium which they had with them for their personal consumption. Otherwise import of opium into the Province was not allowed, except on behalf of the Government.

78. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of cases of smuggling of opium in 1929-30 was 28 against 35 in the preceding year, the total seizures being 4 maunds and 5 seers, against 5 maunds and 29 seers in the previous year. The total number of persons convicted for offences against the Opium Act was 78, against 107 in the year 1928-29 and 81 in 1912-13. The statement below shows some important seizures of opium smuggled into the Province—

Alleged place of origin.	Quantity seized.	
	1928-29. Seers.	1929-30. Seers.
Malwa	105	85
Nepal	122	72
Afghan . . . . .	...	6
Orissa States	2	2
	229	165

The decrease in smuggling from Nepal was due chiefly to very considerable reduction in poppy cultivation in that territory.

79. *Average consumption.*—Calculated on the census figures of 1921, the consumption in 1929-30 (604 maunds and 22 seers) works out to 0.71 seer per 1,000 of the population. It was highest in the Orissa division. In 1928-29 the average consumption of opium per 1,000 was 0.74 seer, against 1.1 seer in 1912-13.

CHAPTER VII.

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

80. *Revenue.*—The total opium revenue for the year ending 31st March 1930 amounted to Rs. 22.91 lakhs of which Rs. 15.28 lakhs were derived from duty. In 1928-29 the total opium revenue amounted to Rs. 23.67 lakhs of which Rs. 15.75 lakhs were realised from duty. The total opium revenue for 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 11.99 lakhs of which Rs. 8.18 lakhs were derived from duty.

81. *Supply.*—The supply was obtained from the Government factory at Ghazipur. Opium was sold at all the district treasuries and certain specified sub-treasuries to licensed vendors and licensed druggists in half-seer and one-seer cakes at a fixed price. The cost price of opium was credited to Central Revenue as soon as an issue was made from the factory.

The inhabitants of certain portions of Jaunsar-Bawar Pargana in the hill country of Dehra Dun district were permitted to cultivate poppy and to extract opium for private use. It is however the intention of Government to prohibit cultivation, and the matter will be determined when the revision of Settlement in that pargana takes place which is expected will be in 1934. Meanwhile the district officer has been instructed to see that the area does not increase.

82. *Issue price, duty and consumption.*—Licensed vendors and licensed druggists were supplied during the year with full-seer cakes at Rs. 70 and half-seer cakes at Rs. 35. Rs. 22.7 per seer of this price represented the cost price of the article, and the balance (Rs. 47.9) represented the Excise duty. In 1912-13, the price at which farmers, non-official licensed vendors and licensed druggists were supplied, varied from Rs. 18 to Rs. 22, for full-seer cakes of opium. Of this price Rs. 8½ were credited to "opium" revenue and the balance represented the "Excise" duty.

Opium was supplied from treasuries at cost price (Rs. 23.5 per seer in 1928-29 and Rs. 8½ per seer in 1912-13) to District Board and Charitable Dispensaries on a certificate of the Civil Surgeon.

The Rampur State was supplied from the Moradabad treasury with 20 maunds of Excise opium at the cost price (Rs. 22.7 per seer) and as much more as the State desired to purchase, at Rs. 67 per seer. The Benares State got 500 seers of opium at cost price direct from the Opium Factory at Ghazipur.

The total quantity of opium sold in the year ending 31st March 1930 was 546 maunds, against 562 maunds in 1928-29 and 1,609 maunds in 1912-13. The duty credited to Excise in 1929-30 was 15.28 lakhs compared with Rs. 15.75 lakhs in 1928-29 and Rs. 8.18 lakhs in 1912-13.

83. *Retail vend and total incidence of taxation.*—The total number of shops for the retail vend of opium in 1929-30 was 921. Rs. 7.03 lakhs were realised as licence fees from these shops on a total issue of 546 maunds which gave an incidence of Rs. 34.9 per seer. In 1928-29 the number of shops for the retail vend of opium was 901; against 1,094

including places of official vend in 1912-13. The receipts from licence fees in 1928-29 amounted to Rs. 7.92 lakhs against Rs. 3.81 lakhs in 1912-13. The incidence of licence fees per seer of opium in 1928-29 amounted to Rs. 35.2 against Rs. 5.9 in 1912-13. Licensees were selected and fees assessed in the same manner as in the case of shops selling country spirit and hemp drugs under the graduated surcharge system. The official vend of opium at the treasuries and sub-treasuries was abolished from April 1st, 1922.

84. *Licensed druggists.*—Approved druggists could obtain licenses for sale for medicinal purposes only of opium and intoxicating drugs not being preparations used for smoking. In 1929-30, 269 such licences were issued, 28 of which were in Lucknow, 28 in Benares, 26 in Meerut, 22 in Agra, 21 in Allahabad, 18 in Dehra Dun, 14 in Cawnpore, and 12 in Jhansi. In 1928-29, the number of druggists' licenses was 283 against 203 in the year 1912-13.

85. *Manufacture of intoxicating drugs.*—Intoxicating drugs containing opium (other than smoking preparations) could be prepared and sold, for medicinal purposes, by licensed druggists only. Licensed retail vendors sold only the excise opium as issued from the Ghazipur factory. Intoxicating drugs other than morphia and its preparations could be manufactured by any person for domestic use, in quantities containing not more than two tolas in weight of factory opium.

86. Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold but could be prepared in quantities not exceeding half a tola, by smokers for their own use from opium in their lawful possession.

87. *Private possession.*—Any person could possess opium to the extent of two tolas and intoxicating drugs other than preparations used for smoking, containing opium to the extent of two tolas. The limit of private possession in the case of preparations used for smoking was half a tola provided they had been manufactured by the possessor for private consumption and not for sale.

88. *Import.*—Import was allowed only on behalf of Government but foreign horse dealers and travellers of distinction entering the United Provinces were allowed to bring with them, under certain restrictions, opium produced out of India and intoxicating drugs, other than morphia and its preparations, produced therefrom, subject in the case of horse dealers to the exception of smoking preparations and to the imposition of a duty of Rs. 2 per seer on the opium, etc., so imported. The rules of import were under the consideration of Government during the year.

The importers of medicinal opium, morphia and preparations of morphia had to obtain import certificates and import authorisations as prescribed by the Geneva Convention, 1925. Import of morphia and its preparations from other provinces was permitted by post under certain restrictions.

89. Special rules regarding the sale of morphia and its derivatives by chemists and druggists were brought into force in July 1918. The rules are analogous in the main to those regulating the sale of cocaine and allied drugs. The number of such licences in 1929-30 was 257 against 277 in 1928-29.

90. *Important changes or new legislation.*—The more important administrative changes effected during the year were:—

- (1) The limit of possession and retail sale of opium was reduced from 3 to 2 tolas.
- (2) Restrictions to prevent persons below the age of 18 years (except members of the vendor's family) from entering an opium shop during the hours of sale were introduced.
- (3) The cost price of opium was reduced by the Government of India from Rs. 23-11 to Rs. 22-7 a seer. The rate of duty in the United Provinces consequently increased from Rs. 46-5 to Rs. 47-9 a seer, the issue price remaining at Rs. 70 a seer as before.
- (4) The Excise Licensing Board rules were amended so as to give additional powers to the Board in regard to the selection of licensees.
- (5) The Excise Advisory Committee rules were changed so as to give the committee a voice in the matter of selecting licensees.
- (6) The Licensing Board and Excise Advisory Committee rules were amended so as to admit the Assistant Excise Commissioners as members.

91. *Prosecutions and convictions.*—Cases under the Opium Act increased from 432 in 1928-29 to 638 in 1929-30 or by 47·6 per cent. The total number of opium cases in 1912-13 amounted to 342.

There were 70 cases against 62 in 1928-29 under the United Provinces Smoking Act of 1925. This Act was of great assistance in putting down *chandu* and *modak dens*.

Cases of embezzlement by cultivators numbered 8 against 5 in 1928-29.

Organised smuggling on an extensive scale continued for so long as smugglers were able to collect large quantities of opium in the Indian States of Rajputana and Central India, and it will be very difficult to effectively check this evil. Opium collected in the Indian States was not smuggled for disposal in the United Provinces. Some of it however passed through the United Provinces on its way to Bengal where smugglers apparently found a ready market. Opium was not generally collected by smugglers in the United Provinces.

The total quantity of contraband opium seized during the year was 13 maunds and 32 seers against 4 maunds 16 seers last year. One consignment of illicit opium seized during the year was of 10 maunds 17 seers.

92. Calculated on the census figures of 1921, the opium consumption in 1929-30 (546 maunds) worked out to 0·4 seer per 1,000 of the population. The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of the population amounted to 0·5 seer in 1928-29 as compared with 1·4 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER VIII.

PUNJAB.

93. *Revenue.*—The revenue from opium in the Punjab for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 38·47 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·04 lakhs was derived from import and transport duty and acreage taxation, as against Rs. 38·23 and Rs. 1·10 lakhs in the preceding year and Rs. 12·24 lakhs and Rs. 6·41 lakhs respectively in 1912-13.

94. *Supply and duty.*—Most of the opium consumed in the Punjab was Excise Opium from the Government Opium Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces. 2,021 seers of Hill Opium grown in Kulu Sub-Division in Kangra District, and Kot Khai Tahsil in Simla District were consumed. Although opium grown in the Hill States under the control of the Punjab Government or the Agent to the Governor General, Punjab States, may lawfully be consumed in the Punjab, no such opium was imported in 1929-30 into the Punjab for licit consumption. A transport duty of Rs. 46 for Kulu Opium and Rs. 47 for Kot Khai Opium and an import duty of Rs. 47 for Hill States opium per seer was levied on all Hill Opium consumed in the Punjab. Consumption was only permitted in the Divisions of Jullundur and Lahore, and in Lahore Division the consumption was confined almost entirely to Lahore and Amritsar districts. Most of the Hill Opium consumed in the Punjab found its way to Ferozepore District and even there it rapidly lost ground in competition with the purer and more potent Excise Opium produced at Ghazipur. Large quantities of Hill Opium were smuggled from the Hill States into the Punjab, and into the Punjab States in the plains where the cultivation of poppy was not allowed. It released large quantities of Excise Opium for smuggling to Calcutta and the Far East. Malwa opium was also smuggled in large quantities into the districts of the southern Punjab from the States of Rajputana.

95. *Poppy heads.*—The cultivation of poppy for the production of poppy heads only (*post*) was permitted in Jullundur District and Hoshiarpur Tahsil, where an acreage duty was levied. In 1929-30 this stood at Rs. 8 per acre. "*Post*" was used as a cheap substitute for opium and its usage increased. The average annual acreage from 1925 to 1930 was 809 acres as compared with 590 from 1920 to 1925 and 329 from 1915 to 1920.

96. *Arrangements for vend.*—Wholesale vend licenses, for which a fee of Rs. 16 was charged, covered the purchase of opium or poppy heads from licensed cultivators. Excise Opium was issued direct from treasuries to retail vendors, who obtained their licenses by public auction held at the same time as the auction of liquor licenses. The receipt from license fees in 1929-30 was Rs. 11·52 lakhs as against Rs. 11·28 lakhs in the preceding year and Rs. 5·83 lakhs in 1912-13.

97. *Total consumption, average taxation, and retail price.*—The total consumption of Excise and Hill Opium amounted to 923 and 51 maunds in 1929-30 as against 926 and 57 maunds in the previous year. The issue price of Excise Opium from treasuries was Rs. 70 per seer, of which Rs. 22·7 was the cost of production charged by the Opium Factory at Ghazipur and Rs. 47·9 was the duty. The maximum retail price was

fixed at Rs. 1-4 per tola from 1st April 1925. The number of wholesale and retail vendors was 53 and 671 in 1929-30 as against 51 and 672 in the previous year, and 103 and 902 respectively in 1912-13.

98. *Druggists' licenses.*—Licenses were issued without fee by the Collector for the retail vend of opium for medicinal purposes only. 161 licenses were issued in 1929-30 as against 154 in the previous year and 278 in 1912-13.

99. *Limit of private possession.*—The ordinary limit for private possession without a license was two *tolas* of opium, two seers of poppy-heads and half a tola of preparations of opium made for smoking. Morphia and its compounds could only be possessed up to the limit detailed on a prescription. Opium had to be prepared for smoking by the smoker himself.

100. *Opium Smoking Act.*—The smoking of opium in company was prohibited in all municipalities and cantonments under the Punjab Opium Act, which came into force on the April 1st, 1924, 47 persons were arrested in 1929-30 as compared with 68 persons in the previous year.

101. *Import.*—Raw opium could only be imported by licensed vendors and medicinal opium and medicinal preparations containing opium could only be imported under the authorisation of the Financial Commissioner.

102. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium in the Punjab in 1929-30 worked out to 1·8 seers per thousand of the population. The highest consumption was recorded in Ferozepore District, where, especially in Moga Tahsil and Nathana Sub-Tahsil, the Sikh cultivators were much addicted to it. They are, however, a race of exceptional vigour and generally speaking do not appear to suffer from this indulgence. Any further restriction would tend to encourage an increase in the consumption of country spirit, which would certainly result in an outburst of violent crime.

CHAPTER IX.

CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR.

103. *Revenue*.—Including cost price of opium, the opium revenue for the year 1929 amounted to Rs. 38,24,000*, of which Rs. 22,27,000, were derived from issue price† and the balance from license fees. In 1928, the Opium revenue amounted to Rs. 38,53,000, against Rs. 19,23,000 in 1912-13. The receipts from issue price in 1928 were Rs. 22,77,000, compared with duty Rs. 11,20,000 in 1912-13.

104. *Supply and duty*.—Cultivation of the poppy was not permitted in the Central Provinces and Berar. Opium was supplied from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces to the treasuries and excise warehouses. The cost price of opium was reduced from Rs. 23-5 to Rs. 22-7 per seer throughout the province, with effect from 1st April 1929. The issue price was fixed at Rs. 90 per seer throughout the province, with effect from 1st January 1929. In 1912-13 opium was issued to licensed vendors at Rs. 27-8 a seer, and the cost price of opium was Rs. 8½ a seer.

105. *Privileged issues to Feudatory Chiefs*.—District treasuries in the Central Provinces also supplied the Feudatory Chiefs of the province, who agreed to obtain all the opium required in their territories in this way. The issue price charged to these States was Rs. 5 a seer less than that fixed for British districts, Rs. 85 a seer except in the case of the five States‡ transferred from Bengal in 1905, which were charged the full price of Rs. 90 a seer.

The total issues in 1929 amounted to 551 maunds to retail dealers and 71 maunds to Feudatory Chiefs against 587 maunds to retail vendors and 87 maunds to Feudatory Chiefs in the preceding year and 1,362 maunds to retail vendors and 153 maunds to Feudatory Chiefs in 1912-13.

106. *Retail vend and average taxation*.—Shops for the retail vend of opium were sanctioned in specified localities, and the right of selling therein was disposed of during the year by auction, by separate shops. The total number of shops sanctioned in 1929 was 853 against 876 in 1928 and 1,047 in 1912-13; and the license fees amounted to Rs. 15,97,000 in 1929 against Rs. 15,76,000 in 1928 and Rs. 8,03,000 in 1912-13. On a consumption of 551 maunds in 1929, the revenue from license fees gave an average taxation of Rs. 72·5 per seer; adding issue price the general average taxation on licit opium consumed in the province came to Rs. 162·5 per seer. In 1928 the total average taxation per seer of licit opium amounted to Rs. 152·1 (Rs. 67·1 from vend fees) against Rs. 33·8 (Rs. 14·8 from vend fees) in 1912-13.

107. *Druggists' licenses*.—Under the opium rules in force in the Central Provinces and Berar druggists could be licensed by the Deputy Commissioner of a district to retail (subject to a maximum limit of stock) opium and its preparations (other than those used for smoking) and

* The statistics of revenue are in each case given to the nearest thousand rupees.

† Including cost price of opium referred to in paragraph 104 and issue price on issues to the Feudatory Chiefs referred to in paragraph 105.

‡ Jashpur, Sirguja, Udaipur, Koris and Changbhakar.

poppy-heads* for medicinal purposes only. Nineteen such licenses were granted in the year 1929 and 14 in 1928 against 2 in 1912-13.

108. *Intoxicating drugs.*—Intoxicating drugs prepared from opium, and not being smoking preparations, could be prepared and sold for medicinal purposes only by licensed druggists. Private persons could prepare non-smoking preparations of opium (other than morphia and its preparations) for their own use from opium in their lawful possession, to the extent to which they were authorized to possess it (*vide* paragraph 110).

Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold, and had to be manufactured by the smoker for his own use from opium of which he was lawfully in possession, and then only to the extent of 30 grains at a time.

109. *Poppy-heads.*—The druggists' licenses referred to in paragraph 107 above included the right of retail sale of poppy-heads for medicinal purposes.

110. *Private possession.*—The limit of possession in the Central Provinces and Berar was (a) in the case of private persons, half a tola of opium or of intoxicating drugs (other than smoking preparations) prepared therefrom, such quantity of morphia as may have been prescribed by an approved medical practitioner, 5 seers of poppy-heads, and 30 grains of smoking preparations by one person. These had, however, to be prepared by the possessors for their own use; and (b) in the case of licensed druggists, one seer of opium or intoxicating drugs (other than smoking preparations) prepared therefrom, such quantity of morphia as had been specified in his license and 10 seers of poppy-heads.

111. *Import.*—Except in the case of through consignments of pure opium for other provinces, which could pass through by specified routes under a pass granted by the Opium Agent at Indore or one of his authorized assistants, import was allowed only on behalf of Government and private persons for their personal use, up to the limit of their private possession. The import of preparation of opium (other than those used for smoking) in excess of that limit was allowed only in the case of licensed druggists and approved practitioners, under a permit, obtainable from the Excise Commissioner for each consignment.

112. *Important changes.*—The Central Provinces Opium Smoking Act, 1929 (IV of 1929), with the exception of section 7, came into force from the 1st June and 1st July 1929, in the Central Provinces and Berar, respectively. The Act prohibited opium smoking in the company of two or more persons. Any person who kept or used any place for the purposes of an opium smoking assembly, or, who had the care or management of such place, or, who being the owner or occupier of such place failed to give notice of an opium smoking assembly to the authorities, was liable to punishment under the Act. Section 7, which totally prohibits the smoking of opium will come into operation three years after the remaining sections are in force.

The issue price of opium was raised to Rs. 90 per seer throughout the province. On account of the rise in retail selling prices owing to the enhancement of the issue price to Rs. 90 per seer and the closure of 23

* There were no restrictions on the possession, import, export, transport, transit or sale of poppy-heads which had been lanced and dried or from which the juice had been extracted.

shops the total consumption of opium in 1929 fell from 587 maunds in 1928 to 551 maunds.

113. *Offences and convictions.*—The total number of offences under the Opium Act was 1,330 in 1929 against 1,263 in the preceding year and 476 in the year 1912-13. The number of offences relating to opium smuggling in 1929 rose to 87 from 71 in 1928. In 1912-13 the number of cases of smuggling of opium was 11. The total quantity of contraband opium seized in 1929 was 3 maunds 27 seers against 1 maund 14 seers in 1928 and 16 seers in 1912-13. Offences relating to the sale of Treasury opium numbered 36 against 38 in the preceding year and 31 in 1912-13, those relating to the possession in excess of the legal limit 198 against 248 in 1928, and 41 in 1912-13 and those pertaining to *modak* 218 against 72 in 1928 and 5 in 1912-13. A few of the more important smuggling cases detected during the year are noted below:—

- (1) Udaipur State opium weighing two maunds $13\frac{1}{2}$ seers was recovered by the Government Railway Police at Khandwa Railway Station from a party consisting of an European, an Anglo-Indian or Jew, and two Mahomedans. They were convicted and received sentences of rigorous imprisonment ranging from six months to a year.
- (2) Two men, one of Agra and the other of Rutlam were found in possession of a little more than 24 seers of Gwalior opium at Bhilsa Railway Station. They were convicted and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment each.
- (3) A Mahomedan waiting at the Khandwa Station to entrain for Bombay was arrested by the Railway Police in possession of $9\frac{1}{2}$ seers of Indore opium. He was sent to jail for six months.
- (4) A man from Bhopal travelling to Lucknow was detected at Bina Railway Station by an Inspector of the Opium Contraband Department of Central India and Rajputana in possession of $6\frac{1}{4}$ seers of Gwalior opium.
- (5) A Brahmin of Gwalior State was caught at the Pulgaon Railway Station by an Excise Sub-Inspector in possession of one seer of Gwalior opium.
- (6) An Excise Sub-Inspector arrested two Pathans in Burhanpur in possession of $2\frac{1}{2}$ seers of Gwalior opium.

114. Calculated on the census population of 1921, the consumption of opium in 1929 (551 maunds, excluding issue to Feudatory Chiefs) worked out to 1.6 seers per 1,000 of the population. It was highest in the Amraoti, Buldana, Akola, Balaghat and Narsinghpur districts. In 1928 the average consumption of opium per 1,000 was 1.7 seers against 3.9 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER X.

ASSAM.

115. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 30.56 lakhs. Of this figure Rs. 5.28 lakhs represented the cost price of opium, Rs. 12.38 lakhs the duty on opium and the balance being derived from license fees. In 1928-29 the opium revenue amounted to Rs. 33.07 lakhs (Rs. 5.86 lakhs cost price of opium, Rs. 13.01 lakhs duty). In 1912-13 the total revenue was Rs. 27.38 lakhs of which Rs. 20.48 represented cost price and duty respectively.

116. *Supply and duty.*—The supply was obtained in one seer cakes from the Opium Factory at Ghazipur. There were no licensed vendors in the Lushai or the Garo Hills. Elsewhere opium was issued from the district and sub-divisional treasuries to licensed vendors and licensed druggists at the fixed price of Rs. 75 per seer, throughout the province. This price included Rs. 22.7 per seer which was taken as the cost of producing the opium at the Ghazipur Factory and was credited to "Excise". The high rate is rendered possible by the fact that the people are largely addicted to opium consumption in this province. Assam was in fact an opium producing tract before it became part of British India. The high prices and the restriction of issues of licit opium have however attracted smugglers and illicit opium now comes into the province in large quantities.

117. *Registration of opium consumers and Pass system.*—The system of restricting the issue of opium to pass-holders continued in force throughout the province. At the beginning of the year 1929-30, there were 86,411 pass-holders with a monthly ration of about 54 maunds, as against 85,976 and 58 in 1928-29. The increase in the number of pass-holders was due to the fact that a fresh statement of numbers was obtained from district officers after the close of the year. A further reduction of 10 per cent. in rations of those under 50 years of age was made during the year, making a total reduction of 20 per cent. from the ration as it stood on April 1st, 1928. At the same time steps were taken as mentioned in last year's report to issue temporary passes to unregistered addicts and to new-comers to the province. Altogether 6,289 such passes were actually issued with a total ration of 8,955 tolas. The result was that on 31st March 1930 there were after various cancellations 82,363 registered consumers in the province with a total monthly ration of just over 48 maunds.

An important meeting of an Advisory Committee of the Legislative Council, summoned by the Minister in January 1930, advised that the Deputy Commissioners and Sub-divisional Officers might be given discretion to renew temporary passes with or without medical advice, subject to an annual reduction of 10 per cent., and that a permanent pass might be given to a registered consumer above the age of 50 for the amount which might be shown to the satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner or Sub-divisional Officer to be his genuine requirement.

Steps were also taken to collect the passes of deceased consumers and of persons who had ceased to take opium and orders were issued to the effect that an opium pass should be suspended if no purchase were made

on it for a period of two months. Officers inspecting the shops were required to look through the registers and to suspend such passes accordingly. Passes so suspended were ordered to be cancelled if no opium were taken on them for a further period of 4 months.

118. *Retail vend.*—The number and the sites of retail shops were fixed in consultation with Local Boards and Municipalities and the right of selling at each was disposed of under the vend fee system under which lessees paid at a fixed rate for each seer of opium issued to them. A system of settling opium shops by tender instead of by open auction was in force throughout the province. With a view to give greater security of tenure to, and to encourage honest management by the lessees, opium licenses in some districts was settled as an experiment for two years. The number of shops settled in 1929-30 was 291 against 292 in 1928-29 and 402 in 1912-13. The amount paid for licenses in 1929-30 was Rs. 12,88,923 compared with Rs. 14,19,424 in 1928-29 and Rs. 6,90,000 in 1912-13.

119. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The opium issued to vendors in 1929 amounted to 590 maunds, 30 seers compared with 626 maunds, 18 seers in 1928-29 and 1,551 maunds in 1912-13. The fall in consumption was due to pursuance of the policy of gradual reduction of ration in the case of consumers below 50 years of age. As already noted a further reduction was carried out in all the plains districts of the province, but as regards the hill districts and the backward tracts and the Mikirs and Bhois of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills no reduction was effected in view of the facts that the necessary agencies for enforcing control and obtaining medical advice were not readily available, and opium could easily be smuggled in from unadministered areas across the border. Average taxation per seer in 1929-30 was Rs. 129.34 against Rs. 131.98 per seer in 1928-29 and Rs. 44.1 per seer in 1912-13.

120. *Druggists' licenses and intoxicating drugs.*—The rules as to druggists' licenses and intoxicating drugs were similar to those in force in Bengal. 65 druggists' permits were issued in 1929-30 against 53 in 1928-29 and 3 in 1912-13.

121. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession of raw opium was 3 tolas in the hills and backward tracts and 2 tolas in the plains or the amount of the monthly ration whichever was less. Opium could also be possessed on the prescription of a medical practitioner. Medical practitioners and druggists were allowed to possess up to 10 tolas of raw opium or 10 seers of poppy-heads on a special permit. The sale or delivery of opium to any person apparently under the age of 20 years whether for consumption by such person or by any other person was strictly prohibited. Morphia and its preparations could be possessed to the extent of 120 grains by an approved medical practitioner for use in his practice, by a licensed dealer or a chemist up to the quantity specified in his license, and by a private individual in such quantity as was prescribed by a qualified medical practitioner. Opium smoking was prohibited by the Assam Opium Smoking Act (III of 1927).

122. *Import.*—The import by sea of foreign opium and medicinal preparations containing opium was permitted for medicinal purposes only and subject to the payment of the tariff duty and on production of an import authorization in the form prescribed by the League of Nations to meet the provisions of the International Opium Convention of 1912.

Poppy-heads could be imported by licensed druggists and qualified medical practitioners subject to the conditions of their licenses and permits and to such other orders as were passed by the local authorities in this behalf.

123. *Important changes relating to opium.*—(1) It was decided on the advice of the Committee already mentioned to introduce the sale of opium in pill form whenever this was practicable, and to employ official vendors for the purpose.

(2) The Opium Act, 1878 (Act I of 1878), as subsequently amended was extended to the Balipara and Sadiya Frontier Tracts.

124. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of offences relating to opium in 1929-30 was 391 as against 361 in the previous year and 39 in 1912-13. Out of these, the cases of illicit possession of Excise opium in 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30 were 22, 230 and 180 respectively. The number of cases of unlicensed sale of Excise opium in 1929-30 was 65 against 57 in 1928-29 and 16 in 1912-13. Cases of illicit possession of contraband opium rose from 37 in 1928-29 to 122 in 1929-30 and of poppy cultivation from 8 in 1928-29 to 20 in 1929-30.

125. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of population in 1929-30 was 3·1 seers compared with 3·8 seers in 1928-29 and 9·4 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XI.

NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.

126. *Revenue*.—The opium revenue for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 2,31,780 of which Rs. 1,56,800 were derived from sale proceeds and Rs. 74,980 from vend fees. In 1928-29, the revenue from Opium amounted to Rs. 2,20,823 (Rs. 1,40,490 from sale proceeds and the balance from vend fees) against 1.19 lakhs (Rs. 0.55 lakhs from sale proceeds and the balance from vend fees), in the year 1912-13.

127. *Sources of supply and rates of duty*.—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in the Provinces and the sources of opium were as follows:—

- (a) The Punjab.
- (b) The United Provinces.

128. *Import*.—The conditions under which opium was imported from the various sources were as follows:—

- (a) Punjab grown opium, which paid duty in the Punjab, was imported free of duty into the North-West Frontier Province, but practically no such imports were made.
- (b) The North-West Frontier Province obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces its yearly supply of Excise opium based on the estimated requirements. This opium was issued to licensed vendors from Government Treasuries at a price of Rs. 70 a seer. From this must be deducted Rs. 21-10 per seer credited to the Opium Department as the cost price of the Opium *plus* freightage. The balance represents the "Excise Duty" levied in the Province. The rate of duty per seer of this opium in 1928-29 was Rs. 46-11 against Rs. 9-8 in 1912-13. The receipts from duty on Excise Opium in the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 50,478, Rs. 93,449 and Rs. 1,06,540, respectively.

129. *Vend arrangements*.—Wholesale vend licenses were not much in request and there was only one such license in each of the years 1928-29 and 1929-30, compared with two in the year 1912-13.

Retail licenses were disposed of by separate shops, the fee for each shop being determined by public auction. The number and sites of shops were fixed by the Collector in each district. All District monopolies were terminated on the 1st April 1912. The total number of retail vend licenses issued in 1929-30 was 60 against 56 in 1928-29 and 70 in 1912-13. The receipts from license fee amounted to Rs. 74,980 against Rs. 80,333 in the preceding year and Rs. 64,000 in 1912-13.

130. *Total consumption and average taxation*.—The total consumption of opium in 1929-30 was 2,234 seers, compared with 2,013 seers in the preceding year and 5,713 seers in the year 1912-13. The average total taxation per seer of the opium consumed in the Province amounted to

NOTE.—The statistics of revenue in each case are given to the nearest thousand rupees.

Rs. 81.12 (Rs. 47.56 from duty and Rs. 33.56 from vend fees) in 1929-30, against Rs. 96.30 (Rs. 46.68 from duty and 49.62 from vend fees) in the preceding year and Rs. 20.8 (Rs. 9.6 from duty and 11.2 from vend fees) in the year 1912-13.

131. *Druggists' licenses.*—Medical Practitioners and druggists could obtain licenses free of fee from a Collector for the retail vend, for medical purposes only, of opium and its preparations and of poppy-heads. In 1929-30, 21 such licenses were granted as against 24 in the preceding year and 65 in the year 1912-13.

132. *Intoxicating drugs, etc., and poppy-heads.*—The sale of intoxicating drugs made from opium was practically confined to licensed druggists, who were authorised to sell opium (other than preparations and admixtures used for smoking) in all forms, and poppy-heads for medicinal purposes. Admixtures of opium other than those used for smoking could, however, be prepared by private persons, in quantities not exceeding two tolas for their own use, from opium in their lawful possession.

Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold but could be prepared for individual use by any person, from opium lawfully in his possession, in quantities not exceeding half a tola.

There were no restrictions regarding spent poppy-heads. But poppy-heads from which the juice had not been extracted and which were used to produce a drink called "*post*" could be retailed only by licensed vendors of opium.

133. *Limits of private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was two tolas of opium and its preparations, half a tola of smoking preparations which had been made up by the owner for his own use and two seers of poppy-heads.

The collective limit of possession of smoking preparations of opium by two or more persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking, was one tola.

134. *Import and export of opium.*—Import of opium otherwise than on behalf of the Government was permitted to the following extent:—

(i) By persons holding wholesale or retail licenses from the Punjab. The license holder in this case was also required first to obtain a permit from the Collector or officer-in-charge of the excise revenue of the district in which he held a license and then an Export Pass from the Collector of the District of the Punjab from which the import was to be made. The Export Pass so obtained was sufficient authority from the import of the opium into the Province and its further transport to the district of destination.

(ii) By licensed medical practitioners and druggists, from foreign countries by sea, on payment of the tariff rate of duty, and subject to such further conditions as were laid down by the Revenue Commissioner.

135. License-holders in the North-West Frontier Province were at liberty to purchase opium from wholesale vendors in the Punjab and *vice versa*, and no duty was levied on either side on such imports and exports.

136. *Important changes.*—Under orders of the Government of India, issued in November 1924, the import of any kind of opium across the land frontier of India into British India was prohibited.

The Punjab Opium Smoking Act (VI of 1923) was extended to the North-West Frontier Province, with effect from the 1st April 1925.

137. *Illicit traffic.*—The opium smuggling trade seemed to have shrunk appreciably owing to the decrease of poppy cultivation in Ningrahar and efficient supervision by the Excise Staff. Although the number of offences reported under this head fell from 80 in the preceding year to 79 in the year under report—yet the quantity seized amounted to only about one and a half of that captured in the preceding year. It may, however, be mentioned that the poorer class of the population (who form the bulk of the opium eaters) are still unable to afford the cost of licit opium and resorted to contraband, which could be had without much difficulty at a cheaper rate.

138. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of persons convicted for serious offences relating to contraband opium in 1929-30 was 64, against 74 in the preceding year and 27 in 1912-13. The number of convictions for minor offences (breach of conditions of licenses, etc.) in 1929-30 was 4, compared with 16 in the preceding year and 1 in 1912-13.

139. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of the population in 1929-30 was .98 against 89 seers in the preceding year and 2.5 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XII.

DELHI.

140. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue for the year 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 1,78,240 of which Rs. 65,540 were derived from license fees and the remainder represented the sale proceeds of excise opium. In 1928-29 the opium revenue amounted to Rs. 1,85,000 of which Rs. 66,000 were realized from license fees, the balance representing the sale proceeds of Excise opium. The corresponding figures during 1912-13 were Rs. 36,795 and Rs. 35,282 respectively or Rs. 72,077 in all.

141. *Source of supply.*—There being no poppy cultivation in the Province the supply of opium was obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur.

142. *Duty.*—Opium was sold to licensed retail vendors from the treasury at Rs. 70 per seer. From this amount Rs. 22-7 was credited as the cost price of the opium and the balance as Excise duty, which amounted to Rs. 76,576 against Rs. 79,000 in the preceding year and Rs. 35,282 in the year 1912-13.

143. *Vend arrangements.*—There were no wholesale dealers and the retail shops were disposed of by public auction. The number of licenses during the year 1928-29 and 1929-30 was 11 against 12 in 1912-13.

144. *Total issues and average taxation.*—The total sales during the years 1928-29 and 1929-30 were 42 maunds, 18 seers and 39 maunds, 2 seers respectively, as against 76 maunds, 23 seers during the year 1912-13. The decrease in the sales during 1929-30 was due to the rise in prices, the smaller influx of outsiders to the province as compared with the previous year and the decrease in the habit of administering opium to infants.

The average taxation per seer on opium during the year 1928-29 and 1929-30 was Rs. 85-57 (Rs. 46-68 from duty and 38-89 from vend fees) and Rs. 89-31 (Rs. 47-66 from duty and 41-75 from vend fees respectively, as against Rs. 21-13-6 (Rs. 11-8 from duty and Rs. 10-6-6 from vend fee) in 1912-13.

145. *Druggists licenses.*—Druggists and medical practitioners could on application to the Deputy Commissioner, obtain licenses for the retail vend of opium for medicinal purposes only on payment of Rs. 5 per annum as license fee. During each of the years 1928-29 and 1929-30 36 licenses were issued as against 32, in 1912-13.

146. *Intoxicating drugs, etc., and poppy-heads.*—The sale of intoxicating drugs prepared from opium and morphia was confined to licensed chemists. Separate licenses were also issued for the sale of morphia drugs by licensed chemists otherwise than on prescriptions.

147. *Limit of private possession.*—The ordinary limit of possession was two tolas of opium and its preparations including decoctions from poppy-heads. In the case of morphia and its compounds, possession was limited to the quantity allowed by the prescription of an approved medical practitioner, of poppy-heads 2 seers and of smoking preparations of opium half a tola. Smoking preparations had, however, to be made by the owner himself from opium obtained by him in a lawful manner.

148. *Chandu smoking*.—The Punjab Opium Smoking Act, 1923, continued to be in force in the Province and proved effective in minimising to a considerable extent the evil habit of smoking *chandu*.

149. *Offences*.—The total number of persons convicted for offences relating to opium during the years 1928-29 and 1929-30 was 6 and 3 as against 7 in 1912-13.

150. Calculated on the Census returns of 1921 the average consumption of opium per 1,000 of population in 1928-29 and 1929-30 worked out to 3.48 and 3.2 seers respectively, while the average for the population during 1912-13 was 7.67.

151. *Administering opium to children*.—The practice of administering opium to children was not altogether abandoned, but is likely to diminish still further as education increases.

CHAPTER XIII.

AJMER-MERWARA.

152. *Free production, sale, etc., of opium formerly allowed in the rural areas.*—Till the year 1900-01, this small territory was divided in respect to opium administration into two distinct spheres—the municipal areas which included the municipalities of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri and the cantonment of Nasirabad, and the rural areas which covered the remainder of the territory. In the rural areas the cultivation of the poppy and the production, sale and possession of opium and poppy-heads were absolutely free, subject only to the restriction that smoking preparations could not be sold and could be possessed only by a person who had manufactured them for his own consumption. This freedom was allowed owing to the territory being surrounded by opium producing Indian States and to the local population being much addicted to the use of opium.

153. *Introduction of revised rules from 1st April 1901.*—With effect from 1st April 1901, however, revised rules were introduced under which the opium traffic throughout the district has been brought under control. Cultivation of poppy has been prohibited in Ajmer-Merwara.

154. *Local revenue, vend arrangements and average taxation.*—No quantitative duty was levied on opium consumed in Ajmer-Merwara till the year 1904-05, and the only taxation realised on the drug was that derived from vend fees. The levy of duty at Rs. 4 per seer on opium imported into the district as well as on that locally produced was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1904 and the 1st April 1905, respectively. Subsequently, however, the imposition of the excise duty was restricted to opium consumed within Ajmer-Merwara, and the duty on opium removed for export outside the district was remitted with effect from the 1st April 1908. The right of vend was farmed out in the municipal towns in Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri, and the cantonment of Nasirabad, while in the rural areas it was disposed of by annual auction of independent shops. The number of shops in the municipal and cantonment areas during the year 1929-30 was 8 and in the rural areas 32 against 8 and 33 respectively in 1912-13.

The receipts were as shown below :—

	1912-13.	1926-27.	1927 28.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Retail vend fees	22,188	41,171	43,143
Import duty	6,871	15,736	14,388
TOTAL	29,059	56,907	57,531

155. The following statement shows the quantity of opium issued and the distribution of taxation in comparison with the previous years :—

	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929 30.
	Mds.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.
Quantity of opium issued . .	71	90 22	.....
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Average taxation per seer . .	10 3 0	15 11 4	15 6 8
Proportion of average taxation derived from vend fees	7 13 0	11 5 11	11 9 1
Proportion of average taxation derived from duty . .	2 6 0	4 5 5	3 13 7

156. *Sale and possession of opium and intoxicating drugs and poppy-heads.*—(a) Sale was only permitted by a licensed vendor or, for medicinal purposes by a licensed druggist. In 1929-30, 9 druggists' licenses were issued, against 1 in 1928-29 and 3 in 1912-13.

(b) *Possessions* by ordinary persons was limited to three tolas of opium and its preparations (other than smoking preparations); five seers of poppy-heads; morphia and its preparations not exceeding 10 grains in weight; and half a tola of smoking preparations which had been made up by the possessor for his own use; provided that such opium or poppy-heads had been bought from a licensed vendor of opium or poppy-heads or from a licensed druggist or, in the case of preparations or admixtures of opium or intoxicating drugs prepared from the poppy had been manufactured from opium bought from a licensed vendor of opium or poppy-heads or from a licensed druggist.

(c) *Intoxicating drugs other than smoking preparations* could be prepared and sold by a licensed vendor of opium or, for medicinal purposes, by a licensed druggist, and could be made up by any person for his own use within the quantity he was authorised to possess.

Smoking preparations could not be bought and sold and could only be privately made up by the smoker in quantities not exceeding half a tola, as stated in clause (b) above.

(d) *Poppy-heads* could be sold by the same class of persons by whom the sale of intoxicating drugs, other than smoking preparations, was permitted.

157. *Import, transport and export.*—The import, transport and export of opium into, through and from Ajmer-Merwara were regulated under passes. Import by rail was permitted only through prescribed railway stations, while export by rail was permitted from the Ajmer railway station only. No duty used to be levied on imports till the year 1904-05; but the levy of duty on both imports and exports was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1904 and the 1st April 1905, respectively.

158. *Offences and convictions.*—The following comparative statement shows the number of persons prosecuted under the Opium Act and the number convicted:—

	Prosecuted.	Convicted.
1912-13	22	20
1928-29	20	18
1929-30	17	14

159. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of the population in the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30 was 5·7, 7·3 and 7·5 seers, respectively.

CHAPTER XIV.

COORG.

160. *Law regulating traffic.*—The Opium Act, 1878 (I of 1878), continued to be in force in the province.

161. *Supply.*—The cultivation of poppy in Coorg was prohibited and the opium required for consumption in Coorg was purchased from Madras. The supply of opium continued to be in the hands of Government.

162. *Retail vend.*—The fixed-salary system introduced in 1926-27 for the retail vend of opium was continued during the year under report. There were only two shops and they were disposed of on a monthly salary of Rs. 10 and Rs. 13. One of the vendors was a Private Medical Practitioner. The vendors had to purchase opium from the treasury at Rs. 125 a seer of 80 tolas and dispense it to the public at the same rate.

163. *Revenue.*—The sale proceeds of opium was the only source of revenue under this head. The gross revenue during the year 1929-30 was Rs. 3,062·5 against Rs. 3,335 in 1928-29 and Rs. 2,049 in 1912-13. The drug was obtained from Madras at Rs. 23-14-10 a seer. Deducting the cost price and the salary paid to the vendors, the net receipt under opium during 1929-30 was Rs. 2,200-4-7.

The issue price of opium was Rs. 120 a seer till 30th June 1928 and Rs. 125 a seer till 31st March 1929 as against Rs. 30 a seer in 1912-13.

164. *Consumption and incidence of taxation.*—Consumption of opium in 1929-30 was 24·5 seers against 27 seers in 1928-29 and 62·5 seers in 1912-13. The incidence of taxation thereon in 1929-30 and 1928-29 was Rs. 125 and Rs. 123-8-4 against Rs. 32-8 in 1912-13.

165. *Import, export, etc.*—Raw opium could be imported only from Madras. Medical practitioners could, under special permits from the Commissioner import from any place, preparations or admixtures of opium or intoxicating drugs other than smoking preparations which were not locally procurable. Import or sale of smoking preparations was strictly prohibited. Opium or its preparations and admixtures were not exported from Coorg.

166. *Druggists' licenses.*—Rules 5 and 11 of the Coorg Opium Rules permitted special licences to be issued to Medical Practitioners free of cost for retail sale for medicinal purposes of opium and its preparations or admixtures other than smoking preparations. Six such licences were in force during 1929-30 against the same number in the previous year and none in 1912-13.

167. *Private possession.*—No person whose age was below 20 could possess opium or its preparations in any quantity. The limit of private possession in case of others was half a tola of opium while, in the case of preparations containing opium, the opium contents of such preparation could not exceed half a tola. Poppy-heads were not used in the province and the rules did not permit their possession or sale. The limit of private possession in case of morphia and its compounds was 10 grains. The limit of possession of these drugs by two or more individuals together, was the quantity allowed for one.

168. *Average consumption.*—Calculated at the census figures of 1921, the opium consumption in 1929-30 worked out to 0·15 seer per 1,000 of population compared with 0·16 seer in 1928-29 and 0·40 seer in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XV.

BALUCHISTAN.

169. *Revenue.*—The Opium revenue in 1929-30 amounted to Rs. 66,000 (including Rs. 15,280 on account of cost price of opium) of which Rs. 24,830 were derived from vend fees. In 1928-29, the receipts from opium amounted to Rs. 57,000 (including Rs. 15,317 on account of cost price of opium) of which Rs. 17,500 were derived from vend fees, against Rs. 33,000 (including Rs. 7,000 on account of cost price of opium) of which Rs. 20,000 were derived from vend fees in 1912-13.

170. *Consumption.*—The total consumption of opium (issues from Treasury) during the year was 15 maunds and 4 seers excluding 1 maund and 37 seers issued for the Kalat State. In 1928-29 the total consumption of opium in the Agency was 14 maunds and 22 seers excluding 1 maund and 35 seers issued from the Kalat State, compared with 17 maunds, 29 seers in the year 1912-13.

171. *Supply and duty.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited. The system previously obtaining whereby licensed contractors were allowed to import opium, purchased from dealers in the Punjab, was superseded with effect from the 1st October 1909. From that date Excise Opium has been imported by Government Agency at fixed rates. The issue price during the year under report was Rs. 60 per seer, Rs. 22-7 being credited as the price of opium and the balance treated as duty (gain on sale price). In 1912-13 the issue price of opium was Rs. 16 a seer.

The source of supply of unalanced poppy-heads was the Punjab, whence they were imported under pass by licensed vendors who made their own arrangements for procuring them. No import duty was levied thereon.

172. *Retail vend.*—The exclusive right of retailing opium, preparations thereof (other than smoking preparations) and poppy-heads for ordinary purposes was put up to auction for each shop separately. The number of shops licensed for the retail sale of opium during the year 1912-13 was 37 while in 1928-29 and 1929-30 it stood at 36 and 34 respectively.

173. *Druggists' licenses.*—Medical practitioners and druggists could obtain licenses to sell opium, etc. (other than smoking preparations), and poppy-heads, for medicinal purposes only, on payment of a fee of Rs. 10 per annum. Sixteen such licenses were issued in the Quetta-Pishin District during 1929-30 against 17 in the preceding year and six in 1912-13. No such licenses were issued in other districts.

174. *Intoxicating drugs, etc., and poppy-heads.*—Intoxicating drugs (other than smoking preparations) and poppy-heads were sold as stated above by licensed opium vendors, and (for medicinal purposes) by licensed druggists, etc. Drugs other than smoking preparations could also be privately made up for domestic use within a limit of half a tola.

Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold, and had to be made by the smoker from opium in his lawful possession and then only to the extent of half a tola at a time, except in cases when two or more persons were present for smoking, in which case the limit was one tola.

The ordinary limit of private possession was two tolas of opium and its preparations (other than smoking preparations) one seer of poppy-heads, half a tola of smoking preparation which were required, as above mentioned to be prepared by the possessor for himself; and ten grains of morphia and its compounds.

The collective limit of possession of smoking preparations of opium by two or more persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking was fixed at one tola.

175. *Import.*—Outside the arrangements referred to in paragraph 171, import was only permitted (a) by Government; and (b) under special permission by a licensed medical practitioner or druggist who required varieties of opium which he could not procure locally.

176. *Smuggling of opium.*—Opium was occasionally smuggled from Persia and Afghanistan. One such case was detected during the year. Opium so detected, from Afghanistan weighed 6 seers $8\frac{3}{4}$ chittaks while none was detected from Persia during the year under report.

In order to minimise the chances or smuggling opium from across the border, the selling price was fixed at Re. 1-4 a tola, with effect from the 1st April 1927. Prior to this, the selling rate was not fixed and the licensees sold opium at any rate they choose. The price at which it was generally sold varied from Rs. 2-4 to Rs. 2-8 a tola. The result of the above measure was that the consumption of licit opium increased from 242 seers in 1926-27 to 526 seers in 1927-28, and from 582 seers in 1928-29 to 604 seers in 1929-30. This measure, therefore, proved to be satisfactory.

177. *Average consumption and taxation.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of population in 1929-30 was 1·6 seer against 1·5 seer in the preceding year and 1·7 seer in 1912-13. The incidence of taxation per seer of opium in 1929-30 was Rs. 78·67 against Rs. 66·77 in the preceding year and Rs. 36·7 in the year 1912-13.

The evil effects of administering opium to young children were brought to the notice of the public through the Agency of Revenue and Levy Staff. There seemed, however, to be no ground for believing that this vicious practice was prevalent among the local inhabitants and no instance of it came to light during the year under report.

The Punjab Opium Smoking Act, 1923 (VI of 1923), was extended to Baluchistan with effect from the 1st April 1927 in order to restrict the use of opium smoking.

CHAPTER XVI.
STATEMENTS
Numbers I to VIII.

I

Statement showing consumption (issues) of opium during 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30 and percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) of average consumption in 1929-30 compared with that of 1912-13 and 1928-29 respectively.

Province.	1912-13.		1928-29.		1929-30.		Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) of average consumption on the figures of 1912-13.	Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) of average consumption in 1929-30 on the figures of the previous year.
	Consumption of opium (in seers.)	Average consumption per 1,000 calculated on the census figures of 1911 (in seers).	Consumption of opium (in seers.)	Average consumption per 1,000 calculated on the census figures of 1921 (in seers).	Consumption of opium (in seers.)	Average consumption per 1,000 calculated on the census figures of 1921 (in seers).		
Madras Presidency	39,523	1.0	35,186	.83	35,739½	.84	—16.00	+1.20
Bombay Presidency Proper	44,259	2.7	22,126	1.40	21,350	1.30	—51.76	—3.51
Sind	10,450	2.9	5,309	1.60	5,076	1.50	—51.42	—4.39
Bengal Presidency	67,880	1.5	39,504	.85	39,741	.85	—43.30	Stationary.
Burma	47,696	4.5	25,261	2.2	24,312	21.2	—53.3	—4.5
Bihar and Orissa	37,040	1.1	25,176	.74	24,182	.71	—34.72	—3.95
United Provinces	64,371	1.4	22,495	0.50	21,829	.48	—66.09	—2.96
Punjab	66,520	3.3	39,327	1.80	38,943	1.80	—45.40	—5.20
Central Provinces and Berar*	54,450	3.9	23,492	1.7	22,037	1.6	—59.53	—6.19
Assam	62,040	9.4	25,058	3.30	23,630	3.10	—61.90	—5.60
N.-W. F. Province	5,713	2.5	2,013	.89	2,234	.68	—60.80	+10.11
Delhi	3,068	7.67	1,698	3.48	1,562	3.20	—49.10	—8.06
Ajmer-Merwara	2,840	5.70	3,622	7.3	3,728	7.60	+31.57	2.73
Coorg	62	.40	27	.16	245½	.15	—62.50	—6.25
Baluchistan	709	*1.70	582	1.50	604	1.60	—5.88	+6.67
Total figures for British India	506,656	2.08	270,857	1.10	264,992	1.1	—47.68	—2.17

* Figures relate to Calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

II

Statement showing the number of shops for the retail sale of raw opium (total as well as average per 100,000 of population) and the average area per shop during the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Province.	1912-13.			1928-29.			1929-30.		
	Number of opium shops.	Average area per shop (in square miles).	Number of shops per 100,000 of population.	Number of opium shops.	Average area per shop (in square miles).	Number of shops per 100,000 of population.	Number of opium shops.	Average area per shop (in square miles).	Number of shops per 100,000 of population.
Madras Presidency	851	167.25	2.06	559	254.94	1.32	559	254.94	1.32
Bombay Presidency Proper	786	96.68	4.87	681	113.12	4.25	683	112.78	4.26
Sind	246	191.00	7.00	169	275.18	5.15	169	275.18	5.15
Bengal Presidency	891	88.33	1.96	853	83.96	1.84	855	83.86	1.84
Burma	124	1,861.60	1.02	121	1,031.46	0.92	121	1,031.46	0.92
Bihar and Orissa	563	148.75	1.63	506	164.65	1.48	506	164.65	1.48
United Provinces	1,094	98.05	2.34	901	117.97	1.99	921	115.41	2.03
Punjab	902	110.62	4.61	672	132.80	3.20	671	133.00	3.20
Central Provinces and Berar*	1,047	95.34	7.52	876	114.1	6.29	853	117.1	6.13
Assam	402	131.88	5.99	292	170.00	3.80	291	170.00	3.80
N.-W. F. Province	70	191.69	3.19	56	239.63	.75	60	253.47	.76
Delhi	12	..	3.00	11	53.9	2.20	11	53.91	2.20
Ajmer-Marwara	41	66.12	8.18	40	67.77	8.07	40	67.77	8.07
Coorg	3	527.33	1.71	2	791.00	1.22	2	791.00	1.22
Baluchistan	60	903.80	14.48	36	1,506.33	8.56	34	1,594.94	8.08
Total figures for British India	7,092	153.67	2.9	5,775	188.9	2.34	5,776	185.73	2.34

* Figures relate to Calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

III

Statement showing opium revenue derived in each province its percentage to total Excise revenue and the average Excise Opium taxation per head of population in 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Province.	Opium revenue (in thousands of rupees)			Percentage of opium revenue to total Excise revenue in			Incidence of opium revenue per head of population during		
	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929-30.
							Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Madras Presidency	17.22	44.86	45.50	5.2	8.0	7.7	0 0 8	0 1 8	0 1 9
Bombay Presidency Proper	12.15	29.32	28.09	6.4	8.6	7.9	0 1 2	0 2 11	0 2 9
Sind	3.68	5.48	5.37	15.9	11.88	12.32	0 1 8	0 2 8	0 2 8
Bengal Presidency	23.76	48.08	48.22	17.27	21.31	21.23	0 0 10	0 1 7	0 1 7
Burma	38.36	38.63	36.92	47.2	29.0	29.1	0 5 10	0 4 8	0 4 6
Bihar and Orissa	12.15	35.66	35.74	11.7	18.7	18.6	0 0 7	0 1 8	0 1 8
United Provinces	11.99	23.67	22.91	9.50	18.10	17.67	0 0 5	0 0 10	0 0 10
Punjab	12.24	38.23	38.47	18.90	28.60	30.40	0 1 0	0 3 0	0 3 0
Central Provinces and Berar*	19.28	38.53	38.24	18.2	31.5	30.4	0 2 3	0 4 5	0 4 5
Assam	27.38	33.07	30.56	56.40	49.80	46.10	0 6 7	0 6 11	0 6 6
N.-W. F. Province	1.19	2.21	2.32	22.80	22.45	24.17	0 0 10	0 1 6½	0 1 8
Delhi	72	1.85	1.78	18.01	34.40	28.70	0 2 10	0 6 1	0 5 10
Ajmer-Merwara	29	57	57	8.20	7.63	8.00	0 0 11	0 1 10	0 1 10
Goorg	2.00	3.33	3	0.80	0.88	.79	0 0 2	0 0 4	0 0 4
Baluchistan	26	57	66	9.30	9.60	10.60	0 1 2	0 2 2	0 2 6
Total figures for British India	1,80,69	3,40,46,33	3,35,38	14.8	17.6	13.25	0 1 2	0 2 3	0 2 2

* Figures relate to Calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

IV

Classified statement showing the total average taxation per seer (both from duty and vend fees) on Excise opium in the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Province.	Average taxation per seer on Excise opium.								
	1912-13.			1928-29.			1929-30.		
	By duty.	By vend fees.	Total.	By issue price.	By vend fees.	Total.	By issue price.	By vend fees.	Total.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras Presidency	25·5	13·2	38·5	56·69	32·48	89·17	57·56	35·49	93·05
Bombay Presidency Proper	21·7	5·5	27·2	51·80	50·60	102·40	53·30	55·40	108·70
Sind	28·8	6·4	35·2	37·83	42·39	80·22	59·77	45·69	105·46
Bengal Presidency	21·6	13·2	34·8	81·19	38·78	119·97	81·16	39·02	120·18
Burma	78·0	2·4	80·4	152·9	..	152·9	150·8	..	151·8
Bihar and Orissa	19·4	8·7	28·1	57·68	32·30	89·98	66·02	31·10	97·12
United Provinces	12·7	5·9	18·6	46·70	35·20	81·90	47·60	34·90	82·50
Punjab	9·6	8·8	18·4	46·66	29·69	76·30	46·53	29·58	76·11
Central Provinces and Berar*	19·0	14·8	33·8	45·00	67·1	152·1	90	72·5	162·5
Assam	33·0	11·1	44·1	75·30	56·50	131·98	74·80	54·54	129·34
N. W. F. Province	9·6	11·2	20·8	46·08	49·62	95·88	47·56	33·56	81·12
Delhi	11·5	10·4	21·9	46·68	36·89	83·57	47·56	41·75	89·31
Ajmer-Merwara	2·4	7·8	10·2	4·34	11·37	15·71	3·85	11·57	15·42
Coorg	25·5	7·3	32·8	123·50	..	123·50	125·00	..	125·00
Baluchistan	8·6	28·2	36·7	36·70	30·07	66·77	37·56	41·11	78·67

* Figures relate to Calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

Statement showing the wholesale price (charged to retail vendors) and the average retail price (at which the retail vendors sold opium to the public) of opium per seer during the year 1912-13, 1928 and 1929 respectively.

Province.	Wholesale price of opium per seer to be charged to retail vendors.			Average retail price of opium per seer.		
	1912-13.	1928.	1929.	1912-13.	1928.	1929.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras Presidency	33†	80	80	50 to 88	112 to 190	107 to 205
Bombay Presidency Proper	24 to 27	75	75	32 to 34	(a)	(a)
Sind	27	60	60	35	Not fixed	Not fixed.
Bengal Presidency	29 to 35	71 to 91	71 to 91	35 to 120	120 to 150	130 to 150
Burma	40 to 95	30 to 187	30 to 187	60 to 160	80 to 190	80 to 190
Bihar and Orissa	17 to 35	81	81 to 90	20 to 55	110 to 130	120 to 135
United Provinces	18 to 22	70	70	25 to 30	120	120
Punjab	16 to 33	Ex. 70 Hill 57 to 66	Ex. 70 Hill 57 to 67	60 to 100	Ex. 95 to 100 Hill 75 to 90	Ex. 95 to 100 Hill 75 to 92
Central Provinces and Berar*	From 9/6 to hospitals to 27/8 to Khalsa and Feudatories transferred from Bengl.	85	90	20 to 55 (a) 23-11 to 53 35 to 70	130 to 300	130 to 480.
Assam	37 to 40	75	75	45 to 80	140	140
N.-W. F. Province	18 to 32	70	70	27 to 140	120 to 130	100 to 103
Delhi	20	70	70	32	100	100
Ajmer-Merwara	(a)	20 to 21 (Non-Ex.)	24 to 25 (Non-Ex.)	16 to 40 (Non-Ex.)	40 (Non-Ex.)	40 (Non-Ex.)
Coorg	30	123-5	125	45	123-5	125
Baluchistan	16	60	60	40 to 50	100	100

(a) Information not available.

† Rs. 34 for issues from Taluk Cutcheries (the rate for Mysore was Rs. 11-9-0 per seer).

* Figures relate to Calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

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VI

Statement showing the number of convictions for offences relating to opium for the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Province.	Convictions for offences relating to opium for the years					
	1912-13.		1928-29.		1929-30.	
	Total.	Average per 100,000.	Total.	Average per 100,000.	Total.	Average per 100,000.
Madras Presidency	250	0.6	170	0.40	192	0.45
Bombay Presidency Proper	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Sind	80	0.9	75	2.29	69	2.10
Bengal Presidency	272†	.6	214†	.4	173 (a)	.37
Burma	2,481	20.5	2,594	19.6	2,808	21.3
Bihar and Orissa	(a)	(a)	107	0.31	78	0.23
United Provinces	344	0.7	341	0.75	544	1.20
Punjab	64	0.4	160	0.70	168	0.70
Central Provinces and Berar	(a)	(a)	380 (cases)	2.7	454 (cases)	3.3
Assam	16	.2	361 (cases)	4.80	391 (cases)	5.20
N.-W. F. Province	28	1.3	90	3.99	88	3.89
Delhi	7	2	6	1.20	3	0.60
Ajmer-Merwara	20	4.0	18	3.63	14	2.82
Coorg . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Baluchistan	5	(a)	2	.48	6	1.43

(a) Information not available.

† Inclusive of convictions for illicit possession or sale of Modak or Chandu.

VII

Statement showing the percentage of total gross revenue derived from opium during the years 1912-13, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Province.	Total gross revenue. (In lakhs of rupees.)			Revenue from opium. (In lakhs of rupees.)			Percentage of the total gross revenue derived from opium in		
	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1912-13.	1928-29.	1929-30.
Madras Presidency	808.4	1758.1	1872.9	17.2	44.86	45.50	2.1	2.6	2.4
Bombay Presidency Proper	795.8	1525.7	1591.5	15.0	38.00†	35.06†	1.9	2.5	2.2
Sind	23.2	46.12	43.57	3.7	5.48	5.37	15.9	11.88	12.32
Bengal Presidency	71.5	1070.5	1135.4	13.8	48.05	48.22	3.3	4.5	4.2
Burma	698.3	1104.1	1097.8	37.2	38.6	36.9	6.1	3.5	3.4
Bihar and Orissa	325.2	578.	594.5	12.3	35.6	35.7	3.7	6.1	6.0
United Provinces	707.9	1151.3	1298.1	11.99	23.67	22.61	1.7	2.1	1.8
Punjab	509.5	1113.45	1117.74	13.20	*42.67	*40.72	1.1	3.8	3.6
Central Provinces and Berar*	325.4	513.7	506.5	19.3	37.9	37.8	5.9	7.4	7.5
Assam	178.1	276.10	276.80	27.40	33.00	31.50	15.4	11.9	11.0
N.-W. F. Province	4.04	9.84	9.60	1.20	2.21	2.32	2.8	22.45	30.20
Delhi	3.15	6.38	6.20	0.72	1.65	1.78	18.01	34.38	28.71
Ajmer-Merwara	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Coorg . . . . .	..	14.29	15.51	..	.03	0.03	..	0.23	0.19
Baluchistan	16.56	24.01	24.87	.26	.67	.66	1.57	2.37	2.65
Total figures for British India	4512.55	1190.59	9600.99	183.27	152.52	343.47	79.48	115.71	117.17

(a) Information not available.

* Figures relate to calendar years except for 1912-13.

† Inclusive of cost price of opium.

VIII

Statement showing the quantities of opium confiscated by the Excise Department of Local Governments in 1912-13, 1926-27, 1927-28, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Province.	1912-13.			1926-27.			1927-28.			1928-29.			1929-30.		
	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.
Madras Presidency	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bombay Presidency Proper	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sind	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bengal Presidency	8	9	0(a)	60	22	0	39	15	0	44	4	0	36	17	0
Burma	38	3	0	120	11	48	117	4	21	122	10	4	156	12	17
Bihar and Orissa	0	35	40	19	15	0	9	17	16	5	29	70	4	5	65
United Provinces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Punjab	*	*	*	10	0	0	15	20	0	8	11	0	8	29	0
Central Provinces and Berar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assam	...	...	...	1	0	0	(a) 10	23	5	*	*	*	†	64½	0
North-West Frontier Province	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Delhi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ajmer-Merwara	0	14	22	...	...	...	27	28	0	21	28	74	0	32	42½
Coorg	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Baluchistan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total															

(a) Represent seizures in important cases only.
 * Information not available.