

THE



Bombay Government Gazette.

Published by Authority.

THURSDAY, 17TH OCTOBER 1872.

Separate paging is given to this Part, in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART VI.

BILLS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The following Bill was introduced into the Council of the Governor General of India for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations on the 2nd October 1872, and was referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report thereon in a week:—

Bill No. 24 of 1872.

A Bill to amend the Law relating to Opium in the Panjáb.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the law relating to opium in the Panjáb; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called "The Panjáb Opium Law Amendment Act, 1872":

It extends only to the territories under the government of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb;

And it shall come into force on the passing thereof.

2. Wherever in the said territories an acreage duty is for the time being leviable on the cultivation of the poppy, sections fifteen, nineteen, sixty-two, sixty-five and sixty-six of the Excise Act, 1871, shall have no effect so far as they restrict, directly or indirectly, the sale of opium grown within the said territories to persons

other than licensed vendors, or prohibit the possession of such opium by persons other than licensed vendors.

3. In prosecutions under the said sections respectively, it shall be assumed, until the contrary is proved, that the opium in respect of which an offence is alleged to have been committed, has been grown without the said territories.

4. Whenever any rule made by the Local Government under the Panjáb Laws' Act, 1872, and relating to the growth, sale or possession of opium, is broken, the opium in respect of which the breach is committed shall be liable to confiscation.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The culture of the poppy and the possession and sale of opium in the Panjáb differ somewhat from the rest of Northern India. In the Ambála, Jálandhar, Amritsar and Lahor Divisions (excluding the hill-districts of Kángrá and Simla), an acreage duty is levied on poppy cultivation. In the other divisions (with the exception of Delhi and Hissár), the cultivation is free. In all the districts the cultivator is obliged to sell the drug to licensed vendors only. No Government stores exist.

Under these circumstances, and pending the introduction of the Bengal system of cultivating the poppy, the present Bill proposes to modify certain sections of the Excise Act so far as they interfere with the system now in force. The

Modification in certain Districts of Act X of 1871, sections 15, 19, 62, 65 and 66.

the Excise Act, 1871, shall have no effect so far as they restrict, directly or indirectly, the sale of opium grown within the said territories to persons

power to make rules, intended to be conferred by the Panjáb Laws' Act, sections forty-nine and fifty, will then be exerciseable.

The Bill also amends that Act by authorising the confiscation of opium in cases of breach of rules relating to that drug.

(Signed) R. E. EGERTON.

SIMLA,
The 8th September 1872.

WHITLEY STOKES,
Secretary to the Government of India.

The following Bill was introduced into the Council of the Governor General of India for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations on the 2nd October 1872.

Bill No. 25 of 1872.

A Bill to give the force of law to certain Rules relating to salt in the Panjab.

Whereas certain Rules for the realization and protection of the revenue derived from the Salt

Mines in the Sind Ságar Doáb and at Kálábágh prepared by the late Board of Administration for the Affairs of the Panjáb were, on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1851, approved by the Governor General, and, under the Indian Councils' Act, 1861, received the force of law: And whereas the said Rules were repealed by the Panjáb Laws' Act, 1872, and such repeal took effect on the first of June, 1872: And whereas it is expedient, pending the passage of an Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to Inland Customs, to revive and continue such Rules with the modifications hereinafter mentioned; It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. The said Rules shall have, and shall, from the said first day of June, 1872, be deemed to have had, the force of law, subject to the following modifications (that is to say):

(a) In Rule 2, for the figure and words "(2) two rupees," the words "three rupees, one anna" shall be substituted;

(b) In Rule 3, after the word 'Panjáb,' the words "that may from time to time be determined by the Local Government" shall be inserted;

(c) In Rule 8, for the words "the Jhelum Division," the word "Commissioner of Inland Customs" shall be substituted;

(d) In Rule 17, for the words "Board of Administration," the words "Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb" shall be substituted;

(e) In Rule 21, for the last twenty words, the following words shall be substituted (that is to say): "alimentary salt illegally manufactured or imported";

(f) To Rule 22, the following words shall be added (that is to say): "and may from time to time be altered by like notification";

(g) In Rule 24, for the last twenty-eight words, the words "Inland Customs" shall be substituted;

(h) In Rule 26, for the words "in charge of the Preventive Line," the words "of the Division" shall be substituted; and for the words, "salt is not the produce of the Sind Ságar or Kálábágh Mines," the words "possession of the salt is prohibited by paragraph 21" shall be substituted;

(i) In Rule 30, for the words "but that obtained from the Sind Ságar Mines or from Kálábágh," the words "the possession of which is prohibited by paragraph 21" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

In May 1851 the Government of India sanctioned certain rules for the realization and protection of the revenue derived from the salt mines in the Sind Ságar Doáb and at Kálábágh, and, under the Indian Councils' Act, these rules acquired the force of law. They were repealed by the Panjáb Laws' Act, 1872. One of the results is, that the transport of Kohát salt across the Indus is no longer illegal and other provisions in the rules, necessary for the protection of the Government revenue, have ceased to be valid.

The object of this Bill is simply to revive and continue these rules (with certain slight modifications which have for some time been made in practice), pending the passage of the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Inland Customs.

(Signed) R. TEMPLE.

SIMLA,
The 2nd October 1872.

WHITLEY STOKES,
Secretary to the Government of India.