

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1598	Press Mis.
	(115-116)	
Dated	21-10-	19 187/

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

21st October 1871.

No. 115. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce (General), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 10th October 1871, No. 338:—

It has frequently been alleged that the abuse of ganja produces insanity and other dangerous effects.

2. The information available in support of these allegations is avowedly imperfect, and it does not appear that the attention of the Officers in charge of Lunatic Asylums has been systematically directed to ascertain the extent to which the use of the drug produces insanity.

3. But, as it is desirable to make a complete and careful inquiry into the matter, the Governor-General in Council requests that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, you will be so good as to cause such investigations as are feasible to be carried out in regard to the effects of the use or abuse of the several preparations of hemp. The inquiry should not be simply medical, but should include the alleged influence of ganja and bhang in exciting to violent crime.

The Police and Magistracy will, doubtless, be able to furnish information upon this branch of the subject.

4. If the result of the investigation should seem to call for any action in the direction of restricting the use of ganja and the other preparations of hemp by enhancement of the duty upon consumption, or of limiting or even prohibiting the cultivation of the plant, it is desirable that the Government of India should be in possession of the advice of the several Local Governments concerned as to the expediency and practicability of any such measures.

5. The question should be considered in all its bearings, and with reference to the whole policy of the Excise Department.

No. 116. ORDER THEREON, 21st October 1871, No. 1598.

Referred to the Board of Revenue, the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, and the Inspector-General of Police for inquiry and report.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R. E.,

*Acting Joint Secretary, P. W. D.,
for Chief Secretary.*

To the Board of Revenue.

„ Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.

„ „ „ of Police.

Exd. J. Wright.

Bobt. of 1871 ~~by~~ *by* ~~the~~ *the* ~~author~~ *author*.

PUBLIC.

to
THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
Secy. Secy. &c.

Dated October, 21st.

Recd. *Recd.*

G. O., 21st October 1871, No. 1598.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 115-116.

Forwarding, for report, a paper from the Govern-
ment of India on the subject of the abuse of ganja
leading to insanity.

No. 338

FROM

A. O. HUME, Esq., C. B.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

To *The Secretary to the Government of Madras*

*Dept. of Agriculture,
Revenue, and Commerce.*

(General.)

SIMLA, the 10 October 1871.

SIR,

It has frequently been alleged that the abuse of ganja produces insanity and other dangerous effects.

2. The information available in support of these allegations is avowedly imperfect, and it does not appear that the attention of the officers in charge of lunatic asylums has been systematically directed to ascertain the extent to which the use of the drug produces insanity.

3. But, as it is desirable to make a complete and careful enquiry into the matter, the Governor General in Council requests that, with the permission of *His Excellency the Gov. in Council* you will be so good as to cause such investigations as are feasible to be carried out in regard to the effects of the use or abuse of the several preparations of hemp. The enquiry should not be simply medical, but should include the alleged influence of ganja and bhang in exciting to violent crime.

The police and magistracy will doubtless be able to furnish information upon this branch of the subject.

4. If the result of the investigation should seem to call for any action in the direction of restricting the use of ganja and the other preparations of hemp by enhancement of the duty upon consumption, or of limiting or even prohibiting the cultivation of the plant, it is desirable that the Government of India should be in possession of the advice of the several local Governments concerned as to the expediency and practicability of any such measures.

5. The question should be considered in all its bearings, and with reference to the whole policy of the Excise Department.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. O. Hume

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

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115-116

Public 1871. *Sept*

Department of Agriculture, Re-
venue, and Commerce.

[General.]

CIRCULAR.

From
The Govt. of India.

File 110-802009 of 1872 No. 338.

Dated 10 Octr/71
By 18th

650 No 2220

*13 Dec 1871
29 Dec 1871
1871
1871*

ABUSE of ganja as leading to insanity

Coatacanund 21 Octr 1871 No 1598

*Reported to the Secy. of the
the Insp. Gen. Indian
Dept. & the Secy. of the
Office for Insuring*

5-
Govt. of Madras.
Public

For Secy Bd of Rev
Fr.

Dated

Recd

G. O. 1 Oct, 1871, No. 1398

Nos. 115-116

Forwarding for report
a paper from the port
of India, a paper on
the subject of the abuse
of Ganja leads to
insanity