

**ANNUAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENTS**

UNDER THE CONVENTION OF 13 JULY 1931 FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 11 DECEMBER 1946

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL -- The Secretary-General has the honour to communicate herewith an annual report forwarded to him in pursuance of Article 21 of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946. (For the form of annual reports, see document E/NR. 1949/Form)

THAILAND

Annual Report For 1952

Communicated by the Government of Thailand

A. GENERAL**I. LAWS AND PUBLICATIONS****A. Laws:**

1. There were no new laws, orders and regulations issued during the year.

2. Nil.

B. Publications:

3. There was an important official publication declaring the drugs listed below as narcotic drugs to be controlled under H.H.F.D. Law B.E. 2465 since 24 July 1952.

(1) 4-(3-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methyl-4-piperidyl ethyl ketone hydrochloride which is registered under the name "Keto-Bemidone" or others.

(2) 1-methyl-4-metahydroxyphenyl-piperidine-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester which is registered under the name "Bemidone".

(3) 1,3-dimethyl-4-phenyl-4-propionoxy piperidine which is registered under the name "Alphaprodine" or others.

(4) 1,3-dimethyl-4-phenyl-4-propionoxy piperidine which is registered under the name "Beta-prodine" or others.

(5) 4,4-diphenyl-6-dimethylamino-heptanone-3 which is registered under the name "Methadone" or others.

(6) 4,4-diphenyl-5-methyl-6-dimethylamino-hexanone-3 which is registered under the name "Iso-methadone".

(7) 6-dimethylamino-4,4-diphenyl-3-heptanol which is registered under the name "Methadol" or others.

(8) 6-dimethylamino-4,4-diphenyl-3-acetoxy-heptane which is registered under the name "N.I.H.-2953".

(9) 6-morpholino-4,4-diphenyl-3-heptanone

which is registered under the name "Phenadoxone" or others.

(10) 1-methyl-3-ethyl-4-phenyl-4-propionoxy piperidine which is registered under the name "NU-1932".

(11) 3-hydroxy-N-methyl morphinan which is registered under the name "Methorphan" or others.

(12) Dihydrocodeine (Paracodine) and its salts.

(13) Acetyldihydrocodeine (Acetylcodeine) and its salts.

II. ADMINISTRATION

1a. No important modification in the administrative arrangements for the execution of the international conventions.

b. Nil.

c. Nil.

2. Drug Addiction:**A. Extent of addiction.**

1. Apart from opium addicts there is no record of the number of addicts in the country because there is no registration of such cases. The number of opium addicts registered during the year was 19,249.

b. Unknown.

c. The quantities of illicit narcotics seized within the country were as follows:

	Kilogrammes
Raw opium:	19,085
Morphine hydrochloride:	94.340
Indian hemp:	0.750

2. The following table shows the number of opium addicts in Thailand as to age grouping as well as their sexes and professions:-

Age grouping	Sex		Profession
	Male	Female	
21 - 25	122	7	labourers
26 - 30	419	11	"
31 - 35	1,703	15	"
36 - 40	2,379	14	"
41 - 45	3,225	11	"
46 - 50	3,399	19	"
51 - 55	2,802	18	"
56 - 60	2,313	21	"
61 - 65	1,493	12	"
66 - 70	830	3	"
71 - 75	330	1	"
76 - 80	101	-	"
81 - 85	1	-	"
86 - 90	-	-	-
91 - 95	-	-	-

Total 19,249

3. Morphine injection as a substitute for opium smoking is still favoured by the poorer Chinese opium addicts.

4. Nil.

B. Nil.

C. Nil.

3. Nil.

III. CONTROL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

1. The import certificate system for controlling the importation of harmful habit forming drugs to Thailand has been working satisfactorily. Thailand not being a producing country, export authorization does not exist.

2. Nil.

3. Nil.

4. Thailand is not an exporting country.

5. Nil.

6. Transit, transshipment, diversion, free ports, free zones and bonded warehouses are not in existence in the kingdom.

7. Thailand has no dealing with countries which have not adopted the system of import certificates.

8. Nil.

IV. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

1. No treaty or international agreement has been entered into during the year.

2. Co-operation between Thailand and other countries concerned in the drug traffic is at present limited to the exchange of copies of import certificates and export authorizations in accordance with Article 13 of the Geneva Convention of 1925. The exchange is effected directly between the competent offices of the countries concerned. There are no new points of interest to report.

Although Thailand has seized over ten thousand kilogrammes of opium coming over the northern frontier, there was no apparent co-operation from any other governments in suppressing this illicit traffic.

3. Nil.

V. ILLICIT TRAFFIC

1. Apart from raw opium the illicit traffic in dangerous drugs in Thailand during this year consists of morphine hydrochloride and Indian hemp. So far no marks or labels have been found on the seizures. The commune is in the close neighbourhood of Chow Phya River, where foreign steamers usually anchor. The place of origin and the route of the illicit traffic are not known, but the latter is understood to be by means of sea going vessels.

As will be seen from the quantity involved, it will be found that it is not quite possible to follow the methods and means of possession adopted by smugglers.

2. There is no cultivation of the coca plant in Thailand. The cultivation of Indian hemp may be specially authorized for scientific or medical purposes in accordance with the Indian Hemp Act B.E. 2477. However, no licence for the cultivation of Indian hemp was granted during this year. The use of Indian hemp in medicine is controlled by the Harmful Habit Forming Drugs Law B.E. 2465 and the Indian Hemp Act B.E. 2477.

3. Prosecutions during the year 1952 totalled 16 as follows:

(a) 15 cases for illicit possession of morphine hydrochloride.

(b) 1 case for illicit possession of 750 g. of Indian hemp.

4. There was no important case of illicit traffic during the year.

5. Statistics of total quantities of dangerous drugs confiscated during the year are as follows:

	Kilogrammes
Morphine hydrochloride:	94.340
Indian hemp:	0.750

6. The prices of morphine hydrochloride and Indian hemp sold in the illicit traffic were Bahts 20 - 30 (U.S. \$1.60 - \$2.40) per g. and Bahts 200 (U.S. \$16) per kg. respectively.

The average degree of adulteration of morphine hydrochloride was about 57.3 per cent.

OPIUM:

1. There is still a large illicit traffic in opium (chiefly in raw opium) coming over the northern land frontiers into the interior of Thailand.

2. A certain quantity of opium is clandestinely cultivated by tribesmen in the wild mountainous regions of north and north-eastern Thailand for their own consumption.

It is not possible to give any reliable estimate of the area under such cultivation or of the amount of opium harvested therefrom.

Periodic raids have been undertaken by the administrative authorities to destroy growing poppy crops and to seize poppy seeds and opium produce, but effective suppression is not possible on account

of the inaccessibility and arduous nature of the mountainous and forest regions.

3. The total number of prosecutions of all offences against The Opium Law was 2,098. There were 756 convictions, 266 unapprehended, 1,052 court decisions not yet known and 24 acquittals. Most of these prosecutions were cases of illicit imports of opium or having in possession illicitly imported opium. Penalties imposed are in accordance with The Opium Act B.E. 2494.

4. Nil.

5. Raw opium confiscated during the year amounted to 19,085.09 kg.

6. Price of illicit opium during the year varied from Bahts 1,000 to 2,000 (U.S. \$80 to \$160) per kg.

VI. OTHER INFORMATION

Nil.

B. RAW MATERIALS

VII. RAW OPIUM

1. No licenses for cultivation of opium in Thailand have been issued since 1949.

2a.-b. Nil.

3. None.

4. Nothing to report.

5. No licenses for the cultivation of or trade in raw opium have been issued.

6. The amount of revenue derived directly from opium during the year was about Bahts 109,770,000 (U.S. \$88,913,700) being 3.5 per cent of the total revenue of the country.

7. Nothing to report.

VIII. COCA LEAF

Coca plant is not cultivated in Thailand.

IX. INDIAN HEMP

Indian hemp is strictly controlled by the Indian Hemp Act B.E. 2477 and while the law may permit such cultivation for medical and scientific purposes, there has been no permit issued for the cultivation of Indian hemp during this year.

C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS

X. INTERNAL CONTROL OF MANUFACTURED DRUGS

Thailand is not a manufacturing country.

D. OTHER QUESTIONS

XI. CHAPTER IV OF THE HAGUE OPIUM CONVENTION OF 1912

Nil.

XII. PREPARED OPIUM

A. Does not apply to Thailand.

B. (c) The total number of registered opium smokers was 19,249.

i. Nationality: Chinese (about 95 per cent of all), Indian and Thai.

ii. Profession: labourers.

iii. Age: between 21 - 85 years.

iv. Sex: both male and female.

(d) Unknown.

(f) Thailand intends to suppress the practice of opium smoking gradually.

Prepared opium confiscated during the year amounted to 3,812.47 kg. The number of prosecutions in respect of prepared opium was 898. There were 322 convictions, 113 unapprehended, 451 court decisions not yet known and 12 acquittals. The illicit opium mostly originates from neighbouring countries bordering northern and north-eastern frontiers of Thailand, such as the Shan State of the Union of Burma, the Yunnan State of China and the Laos State of French Indochina. The amount of prepared opium confiscated was added to Government stock to be re-manufactured for sale to licensed establishments.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS

No fact of importance to report.

