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Opium Act, 1857

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SECTION 21: PENALTY FOR UNLICENSED CULTIVATION Any person who shall cultivate the poppy without license from a38[district opium officer] or other officer duly authorized in that behalf, and any person who shall in any way cause, encourage or promote such illegal cultivation, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred rupees, unless the quantity of land so illegally cultivated shall exceed twenty bighas, in which case the fine may be at the rate of twenty-five rupees per bigha; and the poppy plants shall be destroyed, or, if any opium have been extracted from them, it shall be seized and confiscated. If the opium shall have been extracted and shall not be seized, the offender shall be liable to a further fine not exceeding the rate of thirty-two rupees per bigha of land illegally cultivated.