

**Shri U. C. Patnaik:** Do Government approve of his views that plainsmen and tribesmen should be segregated so as to avoid tribesmen being contaminated by the advanced views of the plainsmen?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** It is not a question of approving or disapproving. We seek his technical advice on certain matters.

#### SULPHUR

\*143. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the yearly production of Sulphur in India for the years 1952-53 and 1953-54;

(b) the consumption in India in the year 1953; and

(c) the quantity of sulphur imported during the year 1953-54?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) There is no production of Sulphur in India.

(b) About 50,000 tons are expected to be consumed during the year 1953-54.

(c) 36,457 tons from April to December, 1953.

**Shri Nanadas:** Arising out of answer to part (a), may I know whether there is no possibility in our country of producing any sulphur at all?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Sir, there are no deposits of elemental sulphur in India.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Have the Government done everything to discover and exploit all the sources of sulphur which is such an important commodity, in view of the fact that sulphur which is obtainable in Baluchistan has been deprived to us after partition and that sulphur was found in my constituency of Kanara, i.e. in North Kanara?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Sir, according to the information that is

at our disposal, there are no deposits of elemental sulphur in India.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know if it is a fact that a source of supply of sulphur has been discovered in the Shahabad District in Bihar, and if any steps are being taken to work out the mine there?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I take the information from the hon. Member.

#### FERRO-SILICON

\*144. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of ferro-silicon produced in the country in 1953 and the quantity imported into the country during the same period; and

(b) how does the cost of its production compare with the landed cost of imported ferro-silicon?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Local production was 3,981 tons. There were no imports in 1953.

(b) As there have been no imports in 1953, a strict comparison of present costs is not possible.

#### VILLAGE INDUSTRIES

\*145. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Research Committee of the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board has in its report, formulated a plan for a well-equipped modern industrial research institute for utilizing and adopting current technology to village industries; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations and suggestions made by the Research Committee in the report?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) The Research section of this Board has drawn up such a plan.