

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 Chakravartty:** 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.

(b) The information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 29.]

Shri Dabhi: May I know, Sir, whether Government have accepted or are going to accept the Research Committee's plan for the setting up of a Research Institute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government have not come to any decision on this matter.

Shri Dabhi: May I know the approximate time within which the Government are likely to come to a decision on that matter?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: One part of that scheme that has been suggested by the Research section of the Board is now before the Finance Ministry. It is very difficult for me to say when a decision will be taken on that proposal before the Finance Ministry.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether Government experience any difficulty in accepting the recommendations of the expert body?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Obviously, the matter of finance has to be scrutinised. Probably there are difficulties. I cannot say as to what the categories of difficulties are. There must be some difficulties for Government to come to a decision because there has been some delay in the matter. Perhaps we may be able to come to a decision very soon.

Shri S. N. Das: What is the estimated expenditure on this account?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The present scheme for 1953-54 is for about Rs. 25,000. For 1954-55, it is Rs. 3,95,400, and they have schemes running into various years upto 1956-57 which in the aggregate, if accepted, would mean about Rs. 79 lakhs and odd.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether it is under consideration of Government to open some training centres for training students in village industries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There are some proposals. I cannot say definitely what those proposals are because I do not carry them in my mind. I think the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Organisation have put up some proposals, and I think some proposals have also been accepted.

INDIANS IN AFRICA

*146. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians in the three Central African Federated States of Southern and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland do not enjoy equal rights with the other citizens of those States;

(b) if not, in what way they are treated differently; and

(c) whether Government have any information that the Governments of those States are contemplating to restrict Indian immigration?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). Indians do not enjoy equal rights with other citizens, particularly in Southern Rhodesia where they are subjected to several disabilities. For example, they are not admitted to the armed forces of the country, they are not eligible for appointment to the 'fixed' establishment of the Civil Services, and they have to obtain special permits to purchase, possess and sell fire-arms.

(c) No official announcement of such a step has been made, but recent press reports indicate that the Immigration Regulations of the newly established Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland may be made use of to restrict the immigration of Indians.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the present position of Indian immigration in the Federated States?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Well, the Federation has come into being officially only recently and there are enough indications that Indians would