

PRODUCTION OF BARIUM SALT

80. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the places where barium salt is produced in India; and

(b) what is India's requirement of such salt and how much is produced at present?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a) Alwar and Nidadavole in the States of Rajasthan and Andhra respectively.

(b) *Requirements*.—About 1,000 tons per annum.

Indigenous production.—About 100 tons per annum.

PRODUCTION OF OIL BY GHANI

81. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's policy that all edible oils should be produced only by Ghanis has been fully implemented; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a) and (b). In the first Five Year Plan, Planning Commission recommended adoption of a policy of developing the production of edible oils through Village Industry. Government have appointed a Committee to go into this recommendation. A copy of Government's Resolution in this behalf, issued on the 4th January 1955, is attached. The Committee is expected to complete its work shortly. [See Appendix XII, Annexure No. 43.]

SALE OF 'CURTIS COMMANDO' AIRCRAFT

82. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for WORKS HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire payments have been made, and the spare parts taken delivery of, by the purchasers of the "Curtis Commando" aircrafts; and

(b) whether the purchasers of these articles are the same which were concerned with the Japanese cloth deal?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) The purchaser has paid Rs. 59 lakhs in terms of the agreement under which the aircraft and spares were sold. This includes Rs. 24,93,300 relating to the spare parts which have been taken delivery of by the purchaser. 90 per cent. of the spares have been shipped to the U.S.A. by Messrs. Dascomp Aircraft Sales, S.A. San Francisco, U.S.A., who had, in turn, purchased these spares from the party who purchased them from Government. The remaining 10 per cent. are still in the custody of Government, pending some dispute between the purchaser and Messrs. Dascomp Aircraft Sales.

(b) Yes, Sir.

COST OF PRODUCTION OF SULPHURIC ACID

83. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of sulphuric acid in India at present, and whether it is high; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to reduce this high cost of production?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a) The cost of production varies from Rs. 100 to Rs. 170 per ton depending on the size of the plant, the process adopted and the cost of sulphur. It is not considered high.

(b) Does not arise