

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) Yes. The Government of the Union of South Africa have refused to recognise Sr. Luis de Faro, who has been nominated by the Secretary General of the U.N. to assist in the negotiations between the Government of India, Pakistan and the Union of South Africa.

(b) This question will come up again in the forthcoming session of the U.N. General Assembly.

REQUIREMENT OF RUBBER

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

(a) what is our estimated requirement of rubber in 1960; and

(b) what are the measures that are proposed to be taken to make India self-sufficient in rubber by that time;

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) About 40,000 tons.

(b) (i) Government have approved a scheme for replanting 70,000 acres of old and worn out areas under rubber with high yielding varieties over a period of 10 years.

(ii) A scheme for extending the area under rubber cultivation by 10,000 acres is under consideration.

Under both the schemes it is proposed to give financial assistance to the rubber growers.

PRODUCTION OF COAL BY PRIVATE COLLIERIES

261. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state what was the total production of coal in the private owned collieries in 1954?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): 33,765,965 tons.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform hon. Members that the following letter has been received from Shrimati Maya Devi Chetty: —

"I have been undergoing treatment in the School of Tropical Medicine and Hospital, Calcutta, for the last seven weeks. After this prolonged treatment I am feeling somewhat better at present, but the doctor has advised me to take complete rest for a couple of months and to avoid all sorts of exertions. I, therefore, respectfully request you to kindly grant me leave of absence for this session."

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shrimati Maya Devi Chetty for remaining absent from all meetings of the House during the current session?

(*Vo hon. Member dissented.*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (EXCLUDING RAILWAYS) FOR 1955-56

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND CIVIL EXPENDITURE (SHRI M. C. SHAH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Expenditure of the Central Government (Excluding Railways) for the year 1955-56. [Placed in Library. See No. S-323/55.]

REPORT OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION TOGETHER WITH CONNECTED PAPERS ON THE CONTINUANCE OF PROTECTION TO (1) ELECTRIC MOTOR AND (i), DIESEL FUEL INJECTION EQUIPMENT INDUSTRIES.

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under subsection (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951: —