

Negotiations for the setting up of joint Tea Promotion Councils in Canada, Australia and the principal tea consuming countries in Europe, in collaboration with other tea producing countries and the tea trade, are now in progress. At present there are no proposals for doing tea "propaganda" in South America.

(b) Indian tea is exported mainly to the United Kingdom, the United States, Eire, Canada, Australia, Arabia, Iran, the U.S.S.R., Turkey, Chile, Germany, Egypt and Sudan.

CONSTITUTION OF RAILWAY COLLIERIES UNDER INDIAN COMPANIES ACT

311. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to constitute any of the railway collieries as companies under the Indian Companies Act;

(b) if so, which are those collieries;

(c) whether shares will be issued for the public to subscribe; and

(d) what will be the percentage of Government share in such a company?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) and (b). Whether the future pattern of management of the railway collieries should be by formation of a limited company under the Indian Companies Act or departmentally, as at present, is under the consideration of Government.

(c) and (d). These matters will be considered if and when a decision is taken to form a company. But I may add that it is likely that the shares of such a company when formed will be fully owned by the Government.

MANUFACTURE OF CIVILIAN EXPLOSIVES

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

(a) whether Government propose to set up a factory for the manufacture of explosives for civilian use;

(b) when this factory will be started; and

(c) where it will be located?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a), (b) and (c). Under an agreement signed between the Government of India and Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., recently, the latter will take steps to set up a factory at Gumia, in Hazaribagh District, Bihar for the manufacture of explosives for civilian use, the Government of India, subscribing Rs. 40 lakhs out of the total authorised capital of Rs. 4 crores.

It is expected that the factory will begin trial production in about 3 years' time.

ASIAN COUNTRIES SHOWING PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO INDIAN GOODS

313. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether any of the countries in Asia show preferential treatment to our goods; if so, which are those countries?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): Yes, Sir., Pakistan, Ceylon, Federation of Malaya and other British colonies in Asia.

PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL

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

(a) the quantity of crude oil produced at Digboi in Assam;

(b) the names of other places in India where crude oil is produced and the quantities produced at each such place; and