

Shri Tangamani: I wanted to find out whether it is going to be used for industrial purposes, particularly for the steel plant at Salem, in view of the statement made by a Minister on the floor of the Madras Assembly that it was going to be used only for domestic purposes.

Mr. Speaker: It appears that some Minister stated in the Madras Assembly that all this lignite would be used only for domestic purposes. Is there any prospect of its being utilised for any future steel plant that is going to be established at Salem? That is what the hon. Member wants to know.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would like to study the statement supposed to have been made by the Madras Minister before I could offer any useful comment thereon. But, so far as the utilisation of the power is concerned, I have tried to explain it here.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has said that the mining plant will go into full swing by the end of 1960. What would be the output? Will it be the original target of three million tons per annum?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think our target is 3.5 million tons.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will it go into full production by 1960 to produce 3.5 million tons?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, Sir; a little later, I think.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know the value of machinery imported and the names of countries from which they were imported?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The value of the machinery that has already been received is of the order of Rs. 5.5 crores and I have not got readily the names of countries from which they were imported.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: May we know the employment potential of the integrated scheme?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That does not arise out of this.

Mr. Speaker: They ask for machinery and go to employment. Next question.

Uniform Coal Price

***70. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage is the proposal to have uniform price for coal all over the country;

(b) when the proposal is likely to be finalised; and

(c) the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). Government would like to study the recommendations of the Rail-Sea Coordination Committee and the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee before proceeding further.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if the Government proposes to enlarge the terms of reference of the Committee which has been appointed recently to go into the price structure of coal by including this subject as well?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, Sir, that is not the intention.

Shri Barman: May I know whether the coal-bearing States of Bihar and Bengal have been consulted in the matter and if so, what their views are?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Consult them for what? I do not follow. All that I have said is that we are studying the reports of the Rail-Sea Co-ordination Committee and the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee. Surely, all interests including the interests pointed out by the hon. Member will be consulted before a final decision is taken.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister please tell us if his attention

has been drawn to an article published by the Director of the Fuel Research Institute some months ago justifying the increase in the price of coal and if so, whether he approves officials writing publicly on this kind of a subject before the Government has made up its mind?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I must confess that I have not studied that article and it will be very difficult for me to say as to whether what he has done is correct or incorrect unless I have studied it.

Shri Barman: May I know from the hon. Minister whether this policy of having a uniform coal price will also affect domestic and industrial users throughout the whole of India or whether it will be confined only to particular departments of Government?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It will be a big decision and a major decision. Its implications in all its respects will have to be carefully examined before a final decision is taken, either accepting a suggestion of that type or even rejecting a suggestion of that type.

Higher Technological Institute

*71. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have taken any decision regarding the location of the Higher Technological Institute proposed to be set up with the help of the West German Government; and

(b) if not, the reason for the delay?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) The matter is under consideration and a decision will be taken as soon as possible.

(b) There is no delay since the firm offer of technical assistance has been received from the German Government only recently.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the highest incidence of educated unemployment in Kerala State, may I know whether the claims of Kerala State will be considered for the location of this Higher Technological Institute?

Shri M. M. Das: So far as the location of the Southern Higher Technological Institute is concerned, a decision has been taken by the All India Council for Technical Education that Madras is the place where the Southern Higher Technical Institute will be located.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: rose—

Mr. Speaker: I think a number of questions on this subject have already been answered.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: All unsatisfactorily answered, Sir. I want to know whether the co-operation of the West German Government will be utilised for the technological institute in the northern region or in the southern region?

Shri M. M. Das: That question has yet to be decided.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Has the location for the Southern Higher Technological Institute been decided?

Shri M. M. Das: Yes. I have already stated that the All India Council for Technical Education has accepted the recommendation of the Southern Zonal Council that Madras should be the place where this institute should be located.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The decision was taken a year ago. May I know...

Mr. Speaker: These questions were put, I remember, and answered a number of times.

Shri Biren Roy: Is Kharagpur one of the locations suggested for the purpose?

Shri M. M. Das: There is already a Higher Technological Institute at Kharagpur.