

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.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know what is the delay?

Mr. Speaker: These questions have been asked many times. We will go to the next question.

International Monetary Fund

*72. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Monetary Fund has given short term accommodation to India to tide over foreign exchange deficit; and

(b) if so, how much of it has been utilised so far?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) We have so far drawn \$ 127.5 million.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know the amount of foreign exchange offered to us and how it compares with the demand made by us?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There is no question of any dollar exchange being offered to us. It is drawn in dollars and it has gone into our foreign exchange pool.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that under the terms of the agreement we were entitled to get something more than was actually offered to us? May I also know what are the special difficulties in demanding more help from the IMF?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Well, Sir, we can draw up to 200 million dollars, and according to our arrangements 72 and odd million dollars could be made use of up to March, 1958. We are not drawing on it.

Shri E. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know how much India has received from the International Monetary Fund since its inception?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There is no question of receipts. We did

borrow from them for getting over temporary difficulties in regard to our foreign exchange position, I think about 100 million dollars, which we returned. If I remember aright, this is the second time we are taking advantage of the facilities offered by the IMF. It must be understood that these facilities are only for temporary imbalance in the foreign exchange position and could not be used as a permanent part of our outfit for getting over foreign exchange difficulties.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Has Government's attention been drawn to a statement in the Press a few months ago to the effect that the International Monetary Fund had wanted us to tone down the tempo of our Plan and, if that is a correct report, has Government apprised the Fund of our position in the matter?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I cannot recollect any such mandate from the IMF, nor do I recognise their claim to give us a mandate as such. It is likely that they might have commented on certain aspects of our Plan. That so many people do, and what we do ultimately with our Plan depends on this House and nobody else.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: As this amount has only been advanced to tide over the short-term difficulties that have arisen in our foreign exchange resources, may I know when and how this will again be deposited in the International Monetary Fund?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I could not catch the last portion of what the hon. Member said.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: What I wanted to ask is this. This amount has only been allotted to India for getting over the short-term difficulties of foreign exchange. May I know whether the Government have made any commitments about returning it and depositing it in the International Monetary Fund again?