

they fit in with the date of commission.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know when the other two washing plants are likely to be set up?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That is a separate question for which I would require notice.

American Assistance for Higher Technological Institute

*193. **Shri C. E. Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether any American technical and financial assistance was offered for the establishment of Higher Technological Institute in the country;

(b) if so, at what stage the negotiations are; and

(c) where the Institution is likely to be located?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. M. M. Das): No offer of American assistance has been received for the establishment of a Higher Technological Institute. However, it is for the Central Government to consider financing the project out of the Foreign Aid Funds available.

I may add that there are certain Foreign Aid Funds available for financing various development projects in this country. These funds consist of the funds provided by the U.S.A. including funds under the Surplus Agricultural Commodities Agreement between India and the U.S.A. It is for the Government of India to finance any developmental project including a Higher Technological Institute out of these funds.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether the services of the American experts who have helped us in the setting up of the higher technological institute at Kharagpur will be utilised for the setting up of the other technological institutes which are going to be set up in the northern and southern regions?

Dr. M. M. Das: The whole question is under the consideration of the Government of India now.

Revision of Coal Prices

*194. **Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to further raising of prices of coal;

(b) if so, the extent of the rise agreed to; and

(c) the reasons for agreeing to such rise?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). The question has been under consideration ever since the pronouncement of the Award of the Labour Appellate Tribunal on colliery disputes. In the meantime, the colliery owners moved the Supreme Court for special leave to appeal and also obtained an *ad interim* stay against the operation of the Award. The decision of the Supreme Court is awaited. Meanwhile a Coal Price Revision Committee has been set up.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether any rise in price has been agreed to, pending the decision of the Coal Price Revision Committee?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Actually, the committee which has been constituted to advise Government on the price structure is to examine this matter, and it will be after that examination that Government will take a decision.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether Government are going to give effect to the award of the Labour Appellate Tribunal in their own collieries?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Whatever is the final decision of the judicial tribunal, whether it be the Labour Appellate Tribunal or the Supreme Court, will be the decision which Government will respect.