

Shri K. D. Malaviya: According to the Industrial Policy resolution of Government, whatever mines are being operated by the private sector are not necessarily to be taken over but only new ventures have to be in the public sector.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know whether the nationalisation of these minerals has been ruled out or all the prospecting of industries also?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Nothing as such has been ruled out as said by the hon. Member.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know what steps are being taken by Government to speed up the production of these mines and to ensure the stepping up of the setting up of these industries there?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Government is anxious to step up the production of zinc and with that end in view we have had several negotiations with the private company concerned and they have promised to step up production of zinc ore. But, there are certain conditions which are necessary; for instance, supply of power and communications. We are looking into that question and as soon as it is settled, we hope production of the ore will be stepped up.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: Is there any programme for the stepping up of production and has the private enterprise kept up the promise?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There has been a programme settled between us for the stepping up of production. But, unfortunately, that programme has not been kept up by the private sector and we do not feel happy about it. Left to myself I would like this programme to be stepped up.

Palam Air Port

*85. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 295 on the 22nd November, 1956 and state:

(a) whether Government have decided to separate civil air traffic from Palam air port; and

(b) if so, when will it be shifted from there?

The Minister of Legal Affairs and Civil Aviation (Shri Pataskar): (a) The matter is still under the consideration of the Ministry of Defence.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether there is any proposal to construct a new airport for civil traffic?

Shri Pataskar: So far as civil traffic is concerned we are anxious that it should be from the Palam aerodrome itself.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know what is the position of the scheme which was under the consideration of Government some four years back for the construction of a civilian aerodrome in Delhi? How does that stand; has it been dropped?

Shri Pataskar: It is not dropped. At the present moment, the Palam airport is being used both by the Indian Air Force and the Civil Aviation Department and it has become very difficult either for the Defence Department or for the Civil Aviation Department to find a suitable place where they can construct a new aerodrome.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know whether the Government have considered the possibility of strengthening the Willingdon Airport so that bigger traffic or international traffic may be accommodated instead of having a separate airport?

Shri Pataskar: You mean the Saf-darganj airport. The difficulty is that it is too near habitation. We are going to have new aeroplanes of a bigger size and, therefore, this site will not be suitable.

Shri Joachim Alva: When the Russian jets arrived at Palam, there was difficulty about runways. The American Boeing jets are expected to come up soon and may I know what immediate arrangements have been made for enabling the Palam aerodrome to provide for the landing of these planes?

Shri Pataskar: The Boeings are expected to arrive here by about 1960 and before that the Department is anxious that we should have an international airport which can accommodate such large aircraft.

Southern Regional Higher Technological Institute

*86. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken with regard to the location of the Southern Regional Higher Technological Institute;

(b) if so, the name of the place selected;

(c) whether any site has been acquired; and

(d) the amount likely to be spent during the year 1957-58 for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) to (c). The matter is under consideration.

(d) No financial provision has yet been made in the budget for 1957 for the Institute.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know the reasons for the delay in finalising the location of this Institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The present position is that the Regional Committee has recommended that the Institute should be located in Madras and the Co-ordinating Committee has also endorsed this recommendation; and the Madras Government are looking for sites. As soon as that is finalised, the Government will take necessary action.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether there is any proposal to take over the present Engineering College at Guindy, Madras and locate this Southern Regional Institute there?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: There was such a proposal at an earlier stage but there is no such proposal now.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know when the work regarding the construction of buildings for housing this Institute will be taken up?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As early as possible in the Second Five Year Plan.

Dr. Rama Rao: The hon. Minister has stated that no amount has been allocated for this in 1957-58. When they are looking for the site, what is the reason for not even provisionally allocating some funds for this Institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Rs. 7.5 crores have been provided in the Second Five Year Plan for the development of this Institute as well as the other 2 Institutes. Now, as soon as the arrangements are finalised, Government will make the necessary provision for the development of this Institute.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know whether foreign offers of technical advice in this regard are under consideration and, if so, whether any of them will be utilised in the case of the proposed Southern Regional Institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The Federal Republic of West Germany has offered assistance in the establishment of one Technological Institute and the Government will certainly take advantage of this offer.

Election Day

*87. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some of the Government concerns and offices did not declare the various dates of elections as regional holidays?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Instructions were issued early in February that the Central Government offices in the various States should remain closed on the respective polling date(s) in a particular area(s). Instructions were also issued about the same time