

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, It is under the consideration of the Government. To a certain extent we are also committed that the proposed refinery in the eastern part of the country will be in the public sector. Further details, I am afraid, cannot be given now.

Shri Ranga: Are we to understand that the Government have already decided to take this assistance from the U.S.S.R. but they are only considering where the refinery is to be started and so on?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. There is a general offer by the U.S.S.R. which contains several proposals. Those proposals, I learn, are just now under negotiation. More than that, I cannot give as a specific answer.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know on what date the proposal was received by the Government and when a final decision would be taken?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I haven't got those specific details.

Displacement of Persons in Neiveli Project Area

*1583. **Shri Kanakasabai:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons so far displaced on account of mining operations at Neiveli and the number likely to be displaced before the end of 1960; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to rehabilitate them?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) So far no person has been displaced. The number of persons that is expected to be displaced before the end of 1960 is about 27,000

(b) The Government of Madras have made a gift of 11,657 acres of reserve forest land for rehabilitating the displaced persons. The Government of India have sanctioned an expenditure amounting to Rs. 10 lakhs

for this purpose. About 155 acres in the Kuppanatham reserve forest have been cleared and house sites over the cleared area marked. Bore wells are being put in, and a model plan for the village has been prepared and approved. All the above are in addition to the compensation payable for the properties acquired.

Shri Kanakasabai: May I know whether any representation has been received from the displaced persons and, if so, what action has been taken?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I do not know what particular representation is in the mind of the hon. Member. We have been receiving representations from time to time about the amount that they claim by way of compensation and we have been considering them. But it is principally for the State Government to take a final decision about the quantum of compensation

Shri Tangamani: In reply to the question, the hon. Minister said that no person has been displaced so far. But actually under the pilot scheme several persons have been displaced and representations have been made. The latest representation was given to the Prime Minister when he visited Neiveli. May I know what action has been taken on the representations made by these displaced persons?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The representation about which the hon. Member is referring, and which is said to have been handed over to the authorities at the time of the last visit of the Prime Minister, is receiving the consideration of the Government.

Shri H. C. Dasappa: May I know what the time lag will be between displacement and rehabilitation?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Our intention is that the two should marry.