

Shri Kanungo: We have no information about it. But we would certainly like any State Government to undertake planning on its own account.

Neiveli Lignite Project

*827. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Sardar Akarpuri:
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:

Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1743 on the 12th September, 1956 and state:

(a) whether actual work on the Neiveli Lignite Project has started; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b). The purchase of conventional earth moving machinery and specialised mining equipment at a cost of about Rs. 5.5 crores has been sanctioned so far. Acquisition of 26,750 acres of land has been sanctioned and steps are now being taken to acquire it. A Rehabilitation Officer has been appointed to resettle the displaced persons on forest lands to be made available by the Madras Government. A town Planner and an Architect have been appointed to plan the township and the industrial area. Construction of houses is in progress. The power Wing of the Central Water and Power Commission have set up a Planning Cell at Madras for drawing up the plans and specifications for the thermal Power station of 200MW. Certain foreign firms have been asked to indicate the terms and conditions of technical assistance in setting up the fertilizer factory. A pilot briquetting and carbonising plant is being acquired under the T.C.M. aid. The Neiveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. has been registered under the Companies Act to take over the management of the project.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether there is going to be any proposal to set up a fertilizer factory also in a nearby locality there?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The setting up of a fertilizer factory is part of the integrated project.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know whether the pumps that have been installed are enough to keep the pits completely dry?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Yes, Sir.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know when the first ton of lignite will be raised at these mines?

Shri K. C. Reddy: By about the middle of 1960.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether there has been any difference between the original estimated cost and the final estimated cost and, if so, may I know the difference?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The final estimated cost is yet to be assessed and so the question of difference does not arise now.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार इस बात का खयाल रखेगी कि जो लोग बर्पा डिसप्लेस होंगे उनको अच्छी तरह से बसाया जाये क्योंकि अब तक जहाँ जहाँ कारखाने बने हैं, उन कारखानों के स्थानों पर बसे जो लोग डिसप्लेस हुये हैं उनको ठीक तौर से नहीं बसाया गया है।

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not follow the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is whether any arrangements have been made to rehabilitate the displaced persons at some place nearby.

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have already referred to it in the answer that I have read out. I said that a Rehabilitation Officer has been appointed to resettle the displaced persons on forestlands to be made available by the Madras Government.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What will be the estimated annual output of these mines when they work in full swing?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have not got the exact figure available with me; but, it is about 3 million tons.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The hon. Minister said that plant and mining material are being imported from foreign countries. Is there any likelihood of any delay in this?

Shri K. C. Reddy: There is no likelihood of delay.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question 829.

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): The Prime Minister wanted to reply to this question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It may be taken up later.