

decided and, if so, what are the details?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. Government will have 51 per cent, Philips 25 per cent, Duncan Brothers 2 per cent and balance of 22 per cent is thrown open to the public.

Shri Warrior: May I know whether the portion of shares reserved for the public will be reserved for the State or it will be available for individuals and private corporations?

Shri Alagesan: We have asked the LIC to take an interest in these shares. The State Government also will be welcome to take shares in this company.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it a fact that the American firm which is the partner of the Cochin Refineries Limited, will be the purchasing agent of the refinery for crude oil for a period of fifteen years from the beginning of the commercial operation of the refinery and, if so, may I know the basic reason for giving monopoly rights to this American firm for such a long time?

Shri Alagesan: All this forms part of the agreement which was entered into by Government with the Philips Company. Since that company has sources of supply for crude, it was agreed that it may be permitted to supply crude. But it will be on competitive basis.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: It was announced by the previous Minister that this refinery will begin production within a period of thirty months. May I know whether the Government still thinks that the target can be achieved?

Shri Alagesan: The schedule still holds good.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: What type of products will be imported for production in the refinery?

Shri Alagesan: Only crude oil will be imported.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: When this refinery goes into production, how far will it be able to satisfy the needs of our country?

Shri Alagesan: The capacity of this refinery is 2.5 million tons. To that extent, it shall satisfy the needs of the country.

Oil Exploration Equipment from Russia

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 Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri B. K. Das:
 Shri N. R. Laskar:
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri R. Barua:
 Shri Mohan Swarup:
 Shri Koya:
 Shri Morarka:
 Shri Ravindra Varma:
 Shri D. D. Mantri:
 Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether any contract of Rs. 9 crores between Techno Export of Russia and Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been signed for the supply of oil exploration equipment to India;

(b) if so, the main equipments likely to come; and

(c) when?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri O. V. Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir. The value is, however, Rs. 7.84 crores.

(b) Drilling rigs and auxiliaries as well as production, transportation, geophysical and geological equipment.

(c) Within 12 to 36 months.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether these machineries are imported for use only in Assam or elsewhere also for oil exploration?

Shri Alagesan: It will be used in Assam, Gujarat and also in other places. I am not able to indicate the quantum that will be used in each of the areas.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether Bihar will also be included in that?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir.

Indian Oil Company

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*63. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of profits made by the Indian Oil Company in 1962-63;

(b) the number of pumping stations in the country at present; and

(c) the steps proposed to have more pumping stations in the country?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) The Indian Oil Company has made a profit of Rs. 59,60,697.74 (Rupees fifty nine lakhs sixty thousand and six hundred ninety-seven and Naye Paise seventy four only) in 1962-63 after providing for taxation.

(b) and (c). While it may not be in the commercial interest of the concern to disclose the number of pumps, it may be stated that Indian Oil Company is making vigorous efforts to install more pumps.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I would like to know whether it is a fact that during 1961-62 no profits had been made and whether they had sustained a loss; if so, to what extent?

Shri Thimmaiah: In the year 1961-62 the company had incurred a loss to the extent of Rs. 13,95,528|08 nP. The reasons for the loss is that the Price Inquiry Committee suggested that the company should surrender some discount by way of customs and excise duties which the company did not include in the selling price. Another reason is that the company had to pay high rail freights for the Nunmati products which was also not included in the selling price. A third reason is that we give certain concessions to co-operative societies who are selling our oil. All these things amounted to a certain loss which is common in the initial stages for the public concerns.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The question only relates to further steps proposed to be taken for more pumping stations in the country. I would like to know—it may not be in the commercial interest to disclose the total number—whether pumping stations are likely to be increased or whether some of the existing pumping stations owned by other oil companies are to be taken over by the IOC.

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan): As stated in the original reply, we do not want to give the number of pumps existing and the number of pumps that have been planned to be installed; also, the Indian Oil Company is making vigorous efforts to install consumer pumps as well as dealer pumps. There is no question of taking over the pumps of other companies, but we will install our own pumps.

Shri Daji: On a point of order, Sir. How can we allow the hon. Minister to withhold information in commercial interest? After all, we have to be vigilant about our rights. He has