

- (vii) to transport and handle all materials and equipment including construction equipment;
- (viii) to store and preserve the equipment and materials required for the construction of the refinery;
- (ix) to construct and erect the refinery with the assistance and under the technical supervision of the Rumanian engineers.

I have no doubt that this collaboration with the Rumanian Government for the establishment of the first oil refinery in the Public Sector will pave the way for greater association with them on other projects as well.

The development of the Assam oil fields and the refining of crude oil from this source is one major project. Its constituent parts are the production and transportation of crude oil by a pipeline to be constructed in two stages, a refinery in Assam to process approximately 0.75 million tons per annum and a refinery in Bihar to process approximately 2 million tons per annum. With the conclusion of the agreement with the Rumanian People's Republic, the Assam Refinery will take shape gradually and, I hope, be on stream by April, 1961. The offers of collaboration for the construction and erection of the Bihar Refinery are at present under consideration and a decision is expected to be taken shortly. As the House is aware, the refineries will be entirely in the Public Sector and the production and transportation of crude oil have been entrusted to Oil India Private Ltd. a participatory scheme with the Burma Oil Co./Assam Oil Co. in which Government of India have 1/3rd share. The Government have taken reasonably speedy actions to see that the Public Sector Projects are established according to a time schedule. Likewise, I hope that the Oil India Private Ltd. which has hitherto

been functioning under the aegis of an *ad hoc* Board of Directors and is shortly being incorporated will also take concerted measures to ensure that the production of crude oil is kept at or about 2.5 million tons per annum and to lay and construct the pipeline upto Barauni in accordance with the time schedule already indicated to them.

12.10 hrs.

ASSAM RIFLES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend Assam Rifles Act, 1941.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend Assam Rifles Act, 1941."

The motion was adopted.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I introduce the Bill

12.11 hrs.

POISONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Poisons Act, 1919 be taken into consideration."

The Bill is essentially non-contentious. It is very simple. In fact, the amendment sought is of a formal nature.

The Poisons Act, 1919, which is in force at present did not apply to Part B States. It was applicable to the rest of the country. When the States Reorganisation Act was passed, the

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary. Part II—Section 2. dated 19-11-1958.