

tion of dollar exchange being involved. That is why I am asking whether the prices of the second-hand equipment purchased from Belgium were lower than the prices quoted by Poland.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, the prices will become comparable only when we purchase second-hand machineries from both the countries.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: May I know, Sir, what was the purpose of purchasing second-hand machinery? Was not any new machinery available for that purpose?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, the cost factor was there. Also, Sir, as we were advised by our Ambassador that there was a good deal of machinery, second-hand machinery, which would be useful to us, we went in for that.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Ordinarily what is the life of the coal-mining plant and for how long has this machinery already been used and also for how long is it expected to be in use when it is purchased?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Not ce may be given for a separate question, Sir.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: What is the foreign exchange component of the purchase price?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The amount was paid in foreign exchange; it was Rs. 11 lakhs.

#### **BISRAMPUR COLLIERY**

\*4. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bistrampur Colliery in the Sarguja District of Madhya Pradesh which is to be developed under the National Coal Development Corporation will not be able to start working on the due date; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Production in the Bistrampur Colliery started nine months ago. The colliery is, however, still under development and it will reach its targeted output of 2' 7 million tonnes per year in 1965-66.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: May I know the total per tonne cost of production of coal from this colliery?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not have the figures, Sir. We have started now and, as I said, the optimum production of 2:7 million tonnes per annum is expected to be achieved by March 1966. But the total non-recurring capital expenditure is Rs. 9,61.00.000.

#### **EXPANSION OF PRIVATE SECTOR OIL REFINERIES**

\*5. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expansion of private sector oil refineries at Trombay and Vizagapatam has been permitted; and

(b) if so, the terms thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: In view of the shortage of petrol and petroleum products, will the Government consider expanding the private sector refineries as far as possible, when there is no possibility of any competition for a long time to come as far as the public sector refineries are concerned?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Without accepting the premise, Sir, I should like to say that we are having this