

12.00 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE—Contd.

AFFIDAVIT FILED BY SHRI C. R. DAS GUPTA OF I. O. C. BEFORE THE PIPELINES INQUIRY COMMISSION

MR. SPEAKER: On the 30th April, 1974, Shri Madhu Limaye sought to raise a question of privilege against Shri C. R. Das Gupta of I.O.C. in respect of the affidavit filed by him before the Pipelines Inquiry Commission (Takru Commission) on the 8th February, 1971. Subsequently on the 10th May, 1974, the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri D. K. Borooah), laid on the Table of the House a statement giving the background regarding the appointment of Shri C. R. Das Gupta as Chairman of I.O.C. I had then said that I had not come to any conclusion till then about question of privilege sought to be raised by Shri Madhu Limaye against Shri C. R. Das Gupta.

During the discussion on this matter in the House on the 30th April, 1974, Sarvashri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Madhu Limaye had suggested that the relevant papers on the subject might be circulated to the members. I now find that printed copies of the Lok Sabha Debates dated the 30th April and 10th May, 1974, have since been circulated to the members. Copies of the relevant Reports of the Committee on Public Undertakings and Committee of Privileges were also earlier circulated to the members.

I have examined the matter carefully. I find that Shri C. R. Das Gupta, in his affidavit filed before the Pipelines Inquiry Commission (Takru Commission) on the 8th February 1971, had not made any reference, direct or indirect, to the Committee on Public Undertakings. Further, that affidavit was filed by Shri C. R. Das Gupta before the Pipelines Inquiry Commission (Takru Commission) about two years prior to the apologies and

corrections made by Sarvashri P. R. Nayak and S. S. Khera.

I am, therefore, of the view that on the facts of this case, no question of privilege is involved in the matter.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): Sir, may I submit that your remark that Shri C. R. Das Gupta had not made any reference to the Public Undertakings Committee which seems to form the basis largely of your judgment does not seem to be quite in order. My submission would be that a reference to any Committee would not ipso facto involve any official in any breach of privilege because it is a matter of privilege, therefore, I would like that, in these things, the Chair must take a strictly technical view of the matter also. Even on the last occasion I had made a submission and I have my difference of opinion with the Chair.

अप्यक्ष नहीं (दय : वह शुभ घड़ी कब होगी, जब आपका डिफरेंस ग्राफ ऑनियन नहीं होगा।

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Whenever there would be a real point of difference, the difference of opinion on the part of Mr. Mishra would arise.

12.05 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

GUJARAT CANAL (AMDT.) RULES, 1974

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Gujarat Canal (Amendment) Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.H./J/34-74/BIA-1074/4/P in Gujarat Government Gazette dated the 14th June, 1974, under sub-section (2) of section 70 of the Bombay Irrigation Act, 1879 read with clause (c) (iii) of the Proclamation dated the 9th February, 1974 issued by the President in relation to the State of Gujarat. [Placed in library. See No. LT-8108/74.]