

recommendations contained in the Eighteenth Report of the Estimates Committee (Fifth Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Foreign Trade—Tea Board.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE  
LEGISLATION

TWELFTH REPORT

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): I beg to present the Twelfth Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.50 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: INDIAN OIL CORPORATION

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the course of discussions on a Notice under Rules 222 and 224 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha by Hon'ble Member, Shri Madhu Limaye, the question of the appointment of Shri C. R. Das Gupta as Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation was raised.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a long statement containing seven Pages. Please lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: Sir, I lay the statement on the Table of the House.

*Statements*

In the course of discussions on a Notice under Rules 222 and 224 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha by Hon'ble Member, Shri Madhu Limaye, the question of the appointment of Shri C. R. Das Gupta as Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation was raised. The Notice itself pertained to an alleged breach of privilege and contempt

of the Committee on Public Undertakings and of this august House by Shri C. R. Das Gupta in the course of a statement and affidavit filed before the Pipelines Inquiry Commission on 8th February, 1971. In the matter of privilege, this august House has sovereign powers and the question will be decided under directions of the Hon'ble Speaker in due course. I shall submit to the Hon'ble Speaker all the relevant facts and material on this subject available to me in this Statement, I shall confine myself to the matter of Shri C. R. Das Gupta's appointment as Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation.

2. I had requested a Committee presided over by Shri P. N. Haksar to assist me in finding suitable Chairman for the Oil & Natural Gas Commission and for the Indian Oil Corporation. However, while a recommendation was made for the ONGC, this Committee was unable to recommend a name for the IOC. As the Indian Oil Corporation which is one of the major public sector organisations, was without a Chairman for several months, and a the management of the oil economy, of which the Corporation commands a major share, was assuming growing importance, I decided that the best man available inside that organisation should be appointed to the post. In the totality of the Corporation's operations, the refinery sector which has major programmes of expansion, requires the greater direction and control, and hence it was decided that the Chairman should be a person with considerable experience of constructing and managing refineries. After taking all factors into account, and in view of his long experience and excellent record, I chose Shri C. R. Das Gupta, the senior most officer in the Refineries & Pipelines Division, and my recommendation was approved by Government.

3. An allegation has been made in the Hon'ble Member's Notice that Shri Das Gupta did not implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry on the Pollution of Ganges Waters. At the outset I would like to point out that Shri Das Gupta was