

12.20 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Forth-fourth report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.M L BHAGAT) I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 23rd November, 1987 "

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is --

"That this House do agree with the Forty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 23rd November, 1987 "

The motion was adopted

12.21 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to set up rubber based industries in Kanyakumari.

SHRI N DENNIS (Nagercoil) Kanyakumari District is a very suitable and appropriate place in the country for establishment of rubber based industries or rubber factory. Per unit production of rubber here is the highest in our country and qualitatively also it occupies the highest place. It occupies the second place in terms of the total quantity of production of rubber--next only to Kerala. Kanyakumari is classified as an industrially backward district and high hopes are aroused among the people by this classification. But now they are disappointed when they experience for long that this acknowledgment of backwardness is on paper only and is not translated into action by establishment of industries. It is regrettable that not even a single industry either in the public sector or in the private sector has been established there. The percentage of literacy here is high. The increasing high number of educated and uneducated unemployed both men and women have reached a point of grave concern. The encouragement and patronage extended to some other backward areas is not being extended to this distant south-

ern-most part of the country. To obviate the prevailing acute unemployment and economic deterioration of the region, it is just and proper to set up rubber based industries or tyre factory in Kanyakumari district. I request the Government to take earliest steps in this regard.

(ii) Need to reduce the air fare by Air India in Gulf Sector

SHRI V.S VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat)*: There are complaints that Air India is charging a higher fare from the Gulf passengers. It is said that this fare is much higher than that is being charged by other airlines in this sector. For instance, Air India is charging 980 rupees from Bombay to Doha, whereas from Doha to Bombay the fare is 1588 rupee. That means a difference of 608 rupee for the same distance. It may be noted in this connection that a Gulf based airline charges only 973 Qatar Rupee from Doha to Bombay. It is also said that Air India increases as well as reduces fare according to seasons.

The Gulf passengers have strong feelings against the high fare being charged by Air India. Most of these passengers are low paid workers.

Pakistan Airlines has reduced the fare on Pak Gulf sector many times in response to the representations from Pakistani passengers. But Air India has not so far taken a favourable stand on this issue.

I therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to reduce the fare in the Gulf sector.

(iii) Demand for providing assistance for desilting Chilka lake of Orissa and developing it as a tourist centre.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Chilka Lake in Orissa had outlets into Bay of Bengal. But these outlets have been silted up. As a result fishing potentiality of Chilka Lake has been affected and flood water is not discharged into sea quickly. This has caused flood havoc in that area. The place around Chilka Lake has been encroached and process of encroachment is increasing. This has affected natural beauty of Chilka Lake.

* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil

[Shri Brajamohan Mohanty]

Financial assistance may, therefore, be provided to desilt and develop this area as a tourist centre.

- (iv) **Need to fill up all the vacancies reserved for Ex-servicemen particularly in B.S.F. by amending rules suitably**

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): The Central and State Government have reserved vacancies for the resettlement of ex-servicemen in various sectors. However, Government departments are not implementing Government instructions in regard to utilisation of these reserved vacancies and a large number of the vacancies are permitted to lapse. As a result a large number out of the 60,000 defence personnel retiring every year are unable to find alternative employment.

For example, over 1500 vacancies in the Border Security Force lapsed last year because of a rule which requires an ex-serviceman to be inducted into the Border Security Force before two years of his retirement. The selection procedures of Border Security Force are long and often take over a year, thus making it impossible for retiring personnel to join the Border Security Force within two years of retirement.

It is of urgent public importance that vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen are properly utilised and the rules regarding re-employment in the Border Security Force in particular are suitably amended to so that vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen are utilised in time by them

- (v) **Demand for more Central assistance to Orissa in view of recent damage by cyclone and rains**

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK (Kalahandi): Sir while the State of Orissa, unlike many other parts of the country, is under the grip of severe drought, the recent untimely rain and cyclone has caused severe damage to the Rabi crops.

Taking the latest situation in view, the entire planning for 'anti-drought' measures

and Central assistance should be reviewed. The State of Orissa will need more funds to meet the situation.

- (vi) **Need to sanction special ad hoc grants for the development of Konkan region of Maharashtra**

SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI (Ratnagiri): Sir, Konkan is a neglected backward coastal region right from the days of what was known as the Bombay Presidency. When the new linguistic State of Maharashtra was formed in 1960, part of Madhya Pradesh known as Vidarbha region and part of former Hyderabad State known as Marathwada region were added to Maharashtra. At the time of reorganisation of the State of Maharashtra, Nagpur pact was signed, in which an undertaking was given by the Government to the people of those two newly added regions to the effect that they would be given economic backlog for their development so as to bring their development on par with the rest of the State.

Though Konkan was more backward and economically neglected region of the original Bombay Province, no reference was made about it in the Nagpur Pact. When the Konkan Vikas parishad held its first conference in Bombay to agitate the gross neglect of Konkan region, the then Chief Minister gave an ad hoc grant of Rs. one crore for the development of the region. This token grant was too inadequate to meet the huge requirement of the backward region.

Today, looking to huge backlog of disparity in development of this backward region and the other advanced areas, a minimum ad hoc grant of Rs. 1,500 crores is required for the development of this region in order to bring the development of Konkan region on par with the rest of Maharashtra.

As our Prime Minister has been personally taking keen interest in removal of economic disparities of various States and regions, the people of Konkan region have, in their development conference, unanimously demanded an ad hoc grant of