item in the list of business, before 5.30 p.m. when the half-an-hour discussion has to start, shall we resume the debate on the railway budget? Shall we take up the Railway Budget again, if we have any time left? I take it that that is the opinion of the House. Then, we shall resume discussion on he Railway Budget after these items are over.

श्री हुक्म चन्द कछ शय : ठीक है, मैं भी इसको सपोर्ट करता हूं।

16.36 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THIRTY-EIGHT REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

16.361 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT OF COARSE GRAINS

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED): After careful consideration of the coarse grains procurement and availability position, Government decided towards the end of January, 1974, to advise all the State Governments:—

- (a) that all restrictions on the movement of coarse grains within their respective States should be removed; and
- (b) the ban on inter-State movement of coarse grains should be modified to make it possible for sponsored agents of the State Governments to purchase and move coarse grains from other States.

A further review of the situation has been made and Government have now decided that free movement of coarse grains 3494 L9—10. throughout the country should be allowed without any restrictions whatsoever, with immediate effect.

16.37 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: EX-PORT DUTY ON HIDES AND SKINS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): I beg to move the following Resolution:—

"In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 4A of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (32 of 1934), this House approves the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue and Insurance) G.S.R. No. 6(E), dated the 1st January, 1974, increasing the export duty on hides, skins and leather, tanned and untanned all sorts, but not including snake skins and manufactures of leather, from 10 per cent ad valorem to 20 per cent ad valorem, from the date of the said notification."

Exports of raw hides and skins are banned. Finished leather is also totally exempt from export duty under a separate notification. The purpose of this notification, therefore, is to increase the export duty on semi-finished hides and skins. It has been Government's policy to change the pattern of leather export trade by discouraging the exports of semi-finished hides and skins and increasing the exports of finished leather and leather goods. This is desirable in the interest of increasing the export earnings and also for generating employment in leather industry in the country. In pursuance of this policy, a quota restriction has been imposed by the Ministry of Commerce on the exports of semi-finished hides and skins and in furtherance of the same objective the export duty on semi-finished hides and skins