

[Sh. Rangarajan Kumarmangalam]

Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee Presented to the House on the 7th April, 1992."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 7th April, 1992."

The motion was adopted

13.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need for Simultaneous Constitution of Board Gauge Link Between Salem Via Namakkal and Rasi Puram and Madurai - Maniachi.**

[English]

SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN (Tiruchendur): Sir, the approved scheme of conversion of metre gauge railway line into Board gauge between Madras and Dindigul Via Villupuram- Tiruchirapalli, a distance of more than 600 kms. is expected to take 7 to 10 years for completion. It is understood that the first two phases of construction of BG line between Karur -Dindigul -Tuticorin have been completed and the third and final phase between Madurai- Maniachi is to be taken up for construction. There is also a proposal for construction of BG line between Karur and Salem Via Namakkal and Rasipuram.

If proposed BG line construction between Karur- salem via Namakkal- Rasipuram is taken up simultaneously with the final phase of BG line construction between Madurai- Maniachi, the people of districts of Tamil Nadu, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari, Nellai Kottambomman and Ramoad will be able to reach Madras directly by BG after the BG line construction between Madras and Dindigul is completed. This will go a long way in fulfilling the aspirations of the people.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take up simultaneous construc-

tion of BG line between Karur and Salem via Namakkal- Rasipuram and the construction of BG line between Madurai- Maniachi.

- (ii) **Need to provide more facilities for Export of Bananas**

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): Sir, with modern technology and adoption of tissue culture and other agricultural practices the yield of banana is on the increase in the country. Therefore, there is urgent need to take steps for export of bananas. A long term policy is also required to be formed for banana export. The Government of Maharashtra has started giving Rs. 100/- crores every year as grant to the farmers for growing horticulture crop every year. Therefore, other fruit crops like grapes, mangoes etc. Will also be available in large quantity for export. Hence long term fruits exports planning is required. This will enable the farmers to get proper income for their produce. Government will also get good amount of foreign exchange. I request the Minister for Agriculture to keep substantial amount at the disposal of APEDA for boosting exports and also I request to use his good office for prevailing upon the Air India to reduce the cargo charged and bring them at par with other airlines. There is also need for a developing pre-cooling and storage facilities for bananas and other fruits before their final packing and despatch. For this also Central Government should give substantial facilities for developing infrastructure.

- (iii) **Need for repairing 'U' turn on hill Alopes near Sunki on National Highway 43.**

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Sir, the National Highway 43 runs from Raipur to Vishakhapatnam via Koraput district of Orissa where this road passes through Eastern Ghat mountains. Near Sunki on the hills, there is a dangerous 'U' turning on the hill slopes where the road is very narrow and steep and the turning is a sudden turn where the drivers face difficulty to adjust their steering of vehicles to cross the turning. About three years back this turning was widened to a comfortable size but the construction was so bad that it was washed away during rains.