

[Sh. M.R. Sakia]

With these few words I conclude my speech.

14.10 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fiftieth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AF-
FAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I beg

14.10 1/2 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET-1988-89-GENERAL DISCUSSION CONTD.

[English]

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK
(Jagatsinghpur) : (a) I rise to support the
General Budget for the year 1988-89. This is
a most popular Budget. This is a rural ori-
ented Budget.

I think the Union Finance Minister of
presenting the timely Budget to restructure
the anti-poverty plans to elevate the rural
farming people of the country. This Budget
indicates the Union Government's political
and economic policies for uplifting the rural
people. The Budget is for helping the starved
and drought wrecked villages with the com-
bination of subsidies and growth oriented
incentives. In this Budget there is a massive
increase in the plan outlay for Agriculture.
Subsidies on food and fertilizers were up by
20 per cent. The interest on crop loan has
been reduced. Goods required to Agricul-
ture like electric motors, machinery for horti-
culture, poultry and been keeping have been

made cheaper. Excise duty on pesticides
has been reduced from 105 per cent to 70
per cent. Government have also made a cut
in Excise Duty from 40 per cent to 15 per cent
on cold storage components. Reliefs to
Food processing and packaging industries
have also been ensured. The Government
have rightly given incentives for the manu-
factured products by the Registered co-
operative in villages areas.

I thank the Finance Minister for an-
nouncing the package programme specially
meant for rural people. So he has given more
weightage for the village people. Steps re-
garding exemption in excise duty for Khadi
and Village Boards for making Jam, Jelly
and Pickles need appreciation.

I would appreciate the Finance Minister
for introducing projects like Jaladhara
Schemes for spreading ownership of
pumpsets in drought affected areas. The
Kutir Jyoti Scheme has been introduced for
giving lights. He has also allocated a sepa-
rate fund for Rs. 100 crores for rural housing
programme.

The Government have also chosen
simultaneously to appease the middle class
people who are living in the urban areas, at
the same time keeping the bulk of his pres-
ents for the people who are living in the rural
areas or for a specified depressed popula-
tion such as Scheduled Castes and Sched-
uled Tribes.

There will be no increase in taxes, In-
centives for savings will go up. NREP,
RLEGP and IRDP programmes are ex-
pected to be more stronger because of in-
creased allocations in the Budget.

The Finance Minister had taken con-
scious steps for wooing the rural poor, al-
though he had raised the outlay on anti-
poverty programme. He has announced
only marginally a plan to sink 1 million wells