

12.31 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Fiftieth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fiftieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 16th March, 1988"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fiftieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 16th March, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

12.32 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

* [Translation]

- (i) **Need for FCI to open more purchase centres for wheat in different parts of the country**

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ (Moradabad): The wheat crop is ready in various States of the country and the FCI will shortly start procuring them. In view of the experience of the previous years, there is a need to open more purchase centres for wheat and timely payments should be ensured to the farmers. Besides, the farmers should be protected from the middlemen. It has been observed that the employees of FCI return the wheat to the farmers on the plea that it is substandard and then purchase it through middlemen

to whom the farmer is forced to sell his produce. As a result, the farmers have to suffer and incur huge loss. My demand is that the Central Government should direct the concerned officials to ensure that wheat is purchased only from the farmers. Payments should be made in time and more purchase centres should be opened.

- (ii) **Need to provide financial assistance to the proposed scheme for purchase of motor boats for inland water transport in Kerala**

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, Kerala is the land of rivers and back waters. Water transport is a very important part of the transport system here. In the Western parts of Kerala, water transport is the chief means of transport. Water transport is comparatively cheap, but due to inadequate attention being paid to it, this mode of transport remains undeveloped.

The Water Transport Department, the Kerala Inland Navigation Corporation, K.S.R.T.C., etc., which are the agencies of the State Government, are operating motor boats on the waterways in the State. The Government of Kerala, I understand, has formulated certain schemes for developing water transport. A scheme for capital grant and subsidy for the purchase of motor boats has been placed before the Central Government.

I request the Union Government to give sanction to this scheme and provide financial assistance at the earliest.

[English]

- (iii) **Need to bring vaccines and sera under the Drug Prices Control Order**

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Sir, the drug prices control order was enforced with a view to having a control on the exorbitant prices charged by

*Translation of the statement originally made in Malayalam.