

such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for a term of three years, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules."

The motion was adopted.

12.9½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Forty-ninth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : I beg to present the Forty-ninth Report of Business Advisory Committee.

12.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(I) Need to provide financial assistance to Orissa for organising cultural activities

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cut-tack): Every district in the state of Orissa has some speciality in the field of performing arts. The State Government is organising annual dance festival in each district headquarters, but the provision of adequate financial assistance to the relevant institutions and group of artistes has not become possible due to constraint of resources. The State has suffered a huge loss during 1987 due to an unprecedented drought and is not in a position to give assistance to such artistes. So it should be the main endeavour of the Central Government to provide adequate central assistance to promote art and culture of the State of Orissa.

As such, I demand that the Government of India should provide adequate financial assistance to the state of Orissa to orga-

nise Chhau Dance Festival and other cultural activities in the State.

[Translation]

(II) Demand for loans at subsidised rates to farmers of Rajasthan for installing tubewells

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to raise a matter under rule 377 in the House.

Due to shortage of water in Pong Dam, water in the branches of Indira Canal is available for 3 days only in 32 days. Only drinking water is being made available from these canals. The farmers of this area are very much distressed over this problem and they are experiencing difficulties in sowing green fodder. The Government should, therefore, make arrangements to run the canals at least throughout the week so that the farmers could sow fodder for their cattle.

The farmers are sinking thousands of tubewells in the first stage area of the Indira Canal and these tubewells are working well in the entire belt. I, therefore, demand from the Government to grant loans to the farmers at subsidised rates for installing tubewells so that small farmers also could sink tubewells in their land. Besides, People belonging to areas under Gang Canal, Bhakara Dam and Indira Canal may be provided electricity connections on priority basis.

(III) Need to transmit Malayalam programmes from all T.V. stations in Kerala

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): There is a long standing demand from Kerala that facilities for transmission of Malayalam programmes from Trivandrum T.V. centre should be provided from all T.V. stations in Kerala. But so far, no steps have been taken in this regard.

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam

This can be done through microwave link. At present, the low power transmitters in Kerala can transmit only programmes from Delhi. For this reason, the full potentiality of this important medium cannot be exploited and the people are not able to derive full benefits of television. Only by introducing the facility for transmission of Malayalam programmes can this situation be changed.

I, therefore, request the Government to immediately provide the facility to transmit Malayalam programmes from Trivandrum from all the T.V. Stations in Kerala.

[English]

- (iv) **Need to impress upon Haryana Government to get repaired T.V. sets installed under Haryana Community T.V. Viewing Scheme.**

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat) : In the State of Haryana, Community T.V. viewing Scheme is in a very bad shape. This scheme was introduced in the State of Haryana as a Centrally assisted scheme. As Field Staff responsible to maintain the T.V. sets has not been giving proper attention, more than 33 per cent TV sets have now become unserviceable.

The purpose for which the TV sets were installed under the scheme has completely failed due to the Government's failure to give proper attention, resulting in loss of crores of rupees. Also the people of Haryana have been deprived from viewing the programmes relayed by T.V.

I would request the Central Government to impress upon the Government of Haryana to get the TV sets repaired which were installed under Haryana Community TV Viewing Scheme' and if necessary, give technical assistance.

[Translation]

- (v) **Need to give financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh for helping the farmers affected by hailstorms**

SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI (Faizabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the damage caused by hailstorms in the Central and Eastern Uttar Pradesh in the recent past and urge the Government to help the farmer affected by this calamity. In my parliamentary constituency hundreds of villages in Ram Sanahi Ghat tehsil of district Barabanki and Bikapur tehsil of district Faizabad have been affected by hail-storms. About 75 to 100 per cent standing crops have been damaged. The farmers have suffered severe blow due to the present hailstorms and occurrence of drought earlier. Now they are facing serious problems of providing meals to their families, fodder to their cattle and taking care of their crops.

I request the Government to provide financial assistance to the State Government and issue suitable directions to them to (1) exempt the affected farmers from payment of revenue, provide irrigation facilities to the farmers, write off the electricity dues, co-operative loans and students fees of the people of the affected areas; (2) grant cash compensations to the affected farmers on the basis of their area of land; (3) provide employment in relief works to the people so that they could get hard cash and foodgrains; (4) ensure distribution of foodgrains, fertilisers and seeds; (5) make arrangements for fodder for their cattle; and (6) provide irrigation facilities for the ensuing crops.

It is hoped that the Central Government will make serious efforts to give financial assistance and extend consultancy services to the State Government for these works.