

*between tobacco exporters/mfrs.  
& tobacco growers*

[Sh. P.R. Das Munsii]

year to year, stabilize financially and otherwise, and then this can be looked into and we would extend all cooperation.

In regard to the area of production, it is going down as Shri Jena said. As I said it is not good for the country to expect cultivators to go on producing tobacco without taking other things into consideration. It is not helpful. Tobacco production must grow in anticipation of the domestic market and the export expectations and accordingly, we plan the whole strategy in the Tobacco Board and we follow that policy. It is not good to go on growing tobacco throughout the country without knowing the domestic consumption and export expectations. That will not be good. It is true that in Gujarat, some hooka paste is being made. Hooka paste has a market and this kind of variation or diversification in the tobacco products is welcome. If it can earn hard currency from the world market, we shall encourage it.

In regard to the allegation of non-payment of certain amount to the growers by the tobacco manufacturing companies before the auction, I have no idea about it. If specific representations are received, we will look into the same.

Sir, I have already stated what I have to say. I can only request the Members that let us not create panic at the moment, let us have hope for the future and to tide over the present crisis, STC will come into operation. They will get in touch with the Tobacco Board for regular monitoring of the whole thing. We will certainly examine and see what we can do with regard to the prices not going below a particular level.

In regard to the commitment of the traders and manufactures, it is not a kind of agreement. I tried to bring them round on a table to come to some consensus, so that

market price is stabilised. It appears to me that the traders are making a complaint: "Is it our task alone to buy, when the exporters are not doing?" I would like to inform the House that with the kind of support that will be extended to the exporters and the trade in terms of increasing the MEP and CCS, if they do behave properly in the market, the Government will think of suitable measures and take deterrent steps, if necessary, to meet the situation.

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13.00 hrs

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Seventieth Report**

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT): I get to move :

"That this House do agree with the Seventieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th April, 1989"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Seventieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th April, 1989."

*The motion was adopted*

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