

12.20 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Forth-fourth report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.M L BHAGAT) I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 23rd November, 1987 "

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is --

"That this House do agree with the Forty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 23rd November, 1987 "

The motion was adopted

12.21 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to set up rubber based industries in Kanyakumari.

SHRI N DENNIS (Nagercoil) Kanyakumari District is a very suitable and appropriate place in the country for establishment of rubber based industries or rubber factory. Per unit production of rubber here is the highest in our country and qualitatively also it occupies the highest place. It occupies the second place in terms of the total quantity of production of rubber--next only to Kerala. Kanyakumari is classified as an industrially backward district and high hopes are aroused among the people by this classification. But now they are disappointed when they experience for long that this acknowledgment of backwardness is on paper only and is not translated into action by establishment of industries. It is regrettable that not even a single industry either in the public sector or in the private sector has been established there. The percentage of literacy here is high. The increasing high number of educated and uneducated unemployed both men and women have reached a point of grave concern. The encouragement and patronage extended to some other backward areas is not being extended to this distant south-

ern-most part of the country. To obviate the prevailing acute unemployment and economic deterioration of the region, it is just and proper to set up rubber based industries or tyre factory in Kanyakumari district. I request the Government to take earliest steps in this regard.

(ii) Need to reduce the air fare by Air India in Gulf Sector

SHRI V.S VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat)*: There are complaints that Air India is charging a higher fare from the Gulf passengers. It is said that this fare is much higher than that is being charged by other airlines in this sector. For instance, Air India is charging 980 rupees from Bombay to Doha, whereas from Doha to Bombay the fare is 1588 rupee. That means a difference of 608 rupee for the same distance. It may be noted in this connection that a Gulf based airline charges only 973 Qatar Rupee from Doha to Bombay. It is also said that Air India increases as well as reduces fare according to seasons.

The Gulf passengers have strong feelings against the high fare being charged by Air India. Most of these passengers are low paid workers.

Pakistan Airlines has reduced the fare on Pak Gulf sector many times in response to the representations from Pakistani passengers. But Air India has not so far taken a favourable stand on this issue.

I therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to reduce the fare in the Gulf sector.

(iii) Demand for providing assistance for desilting Chilka lake of Orissa and developing it as a tourist centre.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Chilka Lake in Orissa had outlets into Bay of Bengal. But these outlets have been silted up. As a result fishing potentiality of Chilka Lake has been affected and flood water is not discharged into sea quickly. This has caused flood havoc in that area. The place around Chilka Lake has been encroached and process of encroachment is increasing. This has affected natural beauty of Chilka Lake.

* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil