

[Secretary-General]

presentation of the Report of the joint Committee of the Houses on the Shipping Agents (Licensing) Bill, 1987:-

'That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the houses on the Shipping Agents (Licensing) Bill, 1987, be extended upto the first day of the last week of the 150th session of the Rajya Sabha'.

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 17th August, 1988, agreed without any amendments to the Arms (Amendment) Bill, 1988, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th August, 1988."

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need to ensure that duty concessions announced on polyester filament yarn and fibre yarn in 1988-89 Budget are available to the consumers and weavers.**

MR SPEAKER: The House now shall take up matters under rule 377. Shri Zainul Basher.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER(Ghazipur): The Union budget 1988-89 announced a number of liberal concessions including duty concession on Polyester filament Yarn and Polyester Fibre Yarn. This was meant for giving relief to the consumers and the weav-

ing industry was supposed to get Polyester Yarn on cheaper rates. The Finance Minister had very clearly made this point during his Budget Speech. With the announcement of budget all the spinners of Polyester Yarn reduced their prices on 1st April, 1988 by about Rs.125/- per kg. as per the duty concession announced in the budget.

12.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

This concession was available to the weaving industry and to the consumers of cloth for hardly a month and from 1st May, 1988 onwards Polyester Yarn Spinners including Government own undertakings started increasing their rates by about Rs. 5/- to Rs. 10/- per kg. per week and now the increase is of more than Rs. 25/- per kg. over and above the price declared in April, 1988.

A large number of weavers, who have been producing Polyester cloth and sarees are facing tremendous problems due to hike in price. Production is coming down and looms are being closed one after another.

I request the Government to kindly intervene in the matter immediately and ensure that concessions given through the Budget are passed on to the weaving industry and the consumers.

- (ii) **Need to promote tourism in the country**

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad): The demand for tourism being treated as an export industry is justified by the rising level of tourist traffic in the world. If a small city State like Hong Kong could attract three million visitors, there is no reason why a large country like India cannot target for five million tourists a year. This could make tourism the highest foreign exchange earning industry and multiply employment opportunities all round. The study made by ASSOCHAM into this industry is revealing about its potential. The investment needed is hotels alone is stated to