

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Thirty-Seventh Report

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

"That this House do agree with
the Thirty-seventh Report of the
Business Advisory Committee
presented to the House on the
30th April, 1987."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with
the Thirty-seventh Report of the
Business Advisory Committee
presented to the House on the
30th April, 1987."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now
take up matters under Rule 377.

12.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) **Demand for setting up 'Bithoor Development Authority' for overall development of Bithoor town, district Kanpur, U.P.**

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhour):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bithoor (Brahmwart) in
Kanpur district of Uttar Pradesh is situated
on the bank of Ganga river and has great
religious and historical importance. It is
believed that Lord Brahma had created the
world while sitting at this place and his seat
is also located at this place. People from
different parts of the country come here for
worship. It is also believed to be the Cen-
tral point of the earth. The ashram of great
sage Valmiki is also located at this place

where he practised 'Tapassaya' and wrote
the great epic Ramayana. It was at this
ashram where Sita, the wife of Lord Rama
lived in exile and gave birth to Lav and
Kush. Lav and Kush fought a battle against
Rama at this place which is now known as
parihar area. Dhruva had also practised
'Tapassaya' here and the place is now
Known as Dhurva-Tila.

It has also been the centre of activities of
Nanarao Peshwa, Tantiyatope and Mena-
wati. Maharani Laxmibai also spent her
childhood at this place. The strategy of the
first war of independence of 1857 was also
planned here. The revolution throughout
the country also ushered from this place.
On full moon day in Kartika month every
year a big fair is organised at this place. But
it is in a very dilapidated condition due to
poor maintenance. It is most regrettable.

Therefore, I request the Central Govern-
ment that for all-round development of
Brahmwart Bithoor, renovation of dilapi-
dated Ghats at the banks of Ganga river
and proper maintenance of historical and
other religious places, a Bithoor Develop-
ment Authority should be set up with the
cooperation of the Government of Uttar
Pradesh and this place should be declared
as a tourism Centre.

[English]

- (ii) **Need to initiate talks with the Government of Nepal for construction of a multi purpose high dam on the river Kosi in Barahakshetra**

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur):
From time immemorial, the river Kosi
which originates in Nepal and flows into a
major portion of North Bihar, has
remained a symbol of pain, anxiety and dev-
astation in both the friendly countries.
Unfortunately, it is not yet realised that
with determined human efforts, this river of
sorrow can be converted into a source of
unimaginable prosperity. All that is needed is
the construction of a multipurpose hi

dam at the foothill in Nepal, i.e. at BARAHAKSHETRA.

A few years ago talks were held between the representatives of the Government of India and Nepal on the need to construct this dam. But for one reason or the other, the project remained shelved. As on date, our relations with Nepal are very cordial, and a time has come when this Project should be undertaken in right earnest. The dam, if completed, would generate hydro-electricity to the extent of 7000 mw. It is far cheaper as compared to thermal power. Power, if available to the people at such a cheap rate, would give a big push to the stagnant economy of Nepal and Bihar. Other Northern States of India may also be benefited. This will bring almost a revolutionary change both in agriculture and industry in both the countries. Additional employment opportunities might be generated for millions in these two countries. Besides, the dam would provide water to irrigate more than 40 lakh acres of land in the two countries. It would also check the menace of floods which is an annual feature. As such it is requested that the Government of India should initiate talks with the Government of Nepal at an early date and get this dam constructed.

(iii) Need to set up National Cultural Council as an apex body to co-ordinate the activities with State academies etc. to provide incentives to the writers of regional languages

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): The Government of India and the Sahitya Academy have instituted a number of awards, prizes and incentives for the writers in the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, as also in those languages which are recognised by the Sahitya Akademi but not included in the Eighth Schedule.

A number of regional and tribal languages spoken by over millions of people and aspiring for recognition by the

Government and the Central Sahitya Akademi, Sangeet Natak Akademi and National School of Drama are still not patronised and in spite of their having rich literary and theatre traditions and enough literary output at present, the writers working in them have still no recognition at the Central level. Some of them like Pahari in Himachal Pradesh are patronised by the State Akademies but they have limited resources.

It is, therefore, in the interest of Promotion of the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the nation that these languages and dialects which are rich in folklore and also vibrant with literary activity at the moment are encouraged and patronised and a well-coordinated plan in consultation with the State Akademies is drawn up by the Sahitya Academy, Sangit Natak Akademy and the National School of Drama, the Publications Division, the National Book Trust, the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, and the Department of Culture, in the Ministry of Education. The writers and scholars working in them should be given awards, incentives and prizes as also assistance for publication of their works and ensured of better circulation through translations so that the rich literary output in these languages continues to blossom.

I request the Ministers of Human Resource Development and Information and Broadcasting to coordinate their efforts by setting up National Cultural Council as an apex body to coordinate the activities with the Central and State Akademies, Government Department, voluntary Associations as also provide adequate incentive to the writers, scholars and performing artists.

(iv) Demand to connect Gopalpur-Bhubaneswar Vayudoot service and to extend it to Andhra Pradesh

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Berhampur (District Ganjam) is the second biggest city in Orissa with cultural herit-