

18.11 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Sixteenth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : I beg to present the Sixteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

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18.12 hrs.

MOTION *Re* PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND POLICY OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN RELATION THERETO—*Contd.*

[English]

SHRI M. S. GILL (Ludhiana) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I heard some voices from the Treasury Benches making over and over again the statements that they are proud of this country. I must say at the very outset that we are all proud of this country, not only the persons sitting on the Treasury Benches. So far as the participation of our leaders in the international arena is concerned, we have to support and we have to watch if they do not commit any mistake here and there. Therefore, we have to be very critical and analytical of all the things that are happening before us these days.

I have heard the Hon. Minister for External Affairs making three salient points while he was making the statement on the floor of the House : (1) that SAARC is a historic event, (2) that this international meet at Geneva has ushered in a new era, and (3) that the participation of our country through our worthy Prime Minister has gone a long way to establish peace in this world.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am unable to convince myself to agree with all these three points of the Statement. About the first point, the fifth clause of the first SAARC

has been blasted today in this very House by my colleague, Prof. Ranga. While he was making the speech, he openly stated, we just cannot believe Pakistan and it is due to this reason that we are not prepared to enter into no-war pact. The relevant clause of the SAARC says that all disputes shall be settled by the parties peacefully. Now, the signatures have been appended on the document by both the leaders, our worthy Prime Minister and the President, Zia, believing that they will settle all these disputes peacefully. Therefore, when Prof. Ranga said, "We are not going to enter into no-war pact", the first clause, the first leg, I should say, of this declaration is broken. It is mutilated and on the very first day we have seen that this Organisation or Association is limping. The other day, I have heard a statement from our worthy Hon. External Affairs Minister that we are aware that Pakistan is training certain terrorists and actually that act of Pakistan is an interference with our internal affairs. Now, there is a clause in this very document that no country will interfere in the internal affairs of the other country. These are the contradictions which, at the very outset, make us believe that the very foundation of the SAARC is not a steady one. I have heard the other day, the President of Sri Lanka making a statement that Tamils are being supported by you. The next day, he is signing the same document that there will be no interference in the internal affairs of other countries, their sovereignty and independence. Under these circumstances, these five clauses are only diplomatic gymnasium. In the future, we will be saddened because we have been hearing these declarations and these charters for the last 20 years. Every day, a new declaration comes for peace, for integrity, and for some of the things and then we see, arms race is going on slowly and steadily. On and off, there is piling up of nuclear weapons, 10 times more than what was there when the declaration started. As far as the other weapons are concerned, they are 30 times more than what were there when the declaration started. Under these circumstances, I am sorry to say that the External Affairs Minister has said that a new era has been ushered in by the meeting of the two superpower leaders. He was supported in this statement by Prof. Ranga, the grand-old-man of this House saying that, at least we have been able to make them meet in Geneva. Our worthy Prime Minister has been able