

SHRI S. M. BENERJEE: Let us pass a resolution.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Is only condemnation enough? Is the Government going to do something?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: The House is interested in knowing whether anything is being done by the Government for the relaxation of tension in that area and whether Government is taking any initiative in the matter.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Yesterday we were told that the Minister would be making a statement. We have given notice of a motion that the Minister's statement should be taken into consideration or that the House should take note of the statement on Vietnam. I would request through you the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs to accept this and give this House an opportunity to condemn the most inhuman and brutal action of American imperialism.

12.25 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ELEVENTH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Eleventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 9th May, 1972."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Eleventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 9th May, 1972."

The motion was adopted.

12.26 hrs.

DEMAND* FOR GRANTS 1972-73—

Contd.

MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT—

Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: The next item is discussion on the Demands for Grants under

the control of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport. Four hours were allotted to it. One hour and 25 minutes have already been taken. The balance left is 2 hours and 35 minutes. We have about 35 minutes till lunch time. But we are not having 'lunch' today. So, we hope to finish it by half past two or by 3 p.m. at the most.

Shri S. L. Peje was on his legs yesterday.

SHRI S.L. Peje (Ratnagiri): Yesterday I was referring to the coastal passenger service catered by M/s. Chougule Steam Co. When there was a demand from M/s. Chougule Steam Co. to increase the fare, the Government of Maharashtra appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Shri R.L. Rao. This Committee recommended a 15% increase in the then existing fare. But the Government allowed a 7% increase in the fare to M/s. Chougule Steam Co. In spite of this increase in the fares, the Company failed to maintain their regular schedule of timing on the coast. Later on they discontinued their service to many ports, causing serious inconvenience to the travelling public. For the information of this House I may state here that one-fifth of the total population of the Bombay city comes from the two districts, Ratnagiri and Kolaba, and they are forced to earn their livelihood in the city of Bombay. Coastal passenger traffic is sufficient for a coastal service. As M/s. Chougule Steam Co. is not in position to cater to the needs of the travelling public, Government should seriously consider taking over these coastal operations for the larger good of the community residing in this region. Government have nationalised almost all the means of transport; not only that, but Government is also bearing loss to the tune of 80 per cent of the total loss incurred in running services between the mainland and the islands such as Andaman, Nicobar, etc. Under these circumstances, Government should not hesitate to take over these coastal services. This should be done from the next season, i.e. in the coming September-October season. In the absence of railway communications in Ratnagiri and most of the part of Kolaba district, the travelling public has to depend

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.