

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to give permission for Coffee plantation under MGNREGA scheme in the state of Kerala.

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI (ANAKAPALLE): Thank you Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak in 'Zero Hour'.

Our State Government of Andhra Pradesh is promoting raising of new coffee plantations on the lands of tribal farmers under MGNREG Scheme from 2009 onwards, as an area specific work in the Fifth Schedule Areas of the Eastern Ghats in Visakhapatnam district. This special project has sustained the livelihoods of many tribal families and improved their living standards. Only the wage component is taken up under MGNREGS and the material component is being funded by the State Government.

The Ministry of Rural Development has recently delisted the works related to coffee plantations from permissible activities under the MGNREG Scheme. Since coffee plantations provide sustainable income resources to small and marginal farmers, and tribal households, through you, Speaker, Sir, I would request the Ministry of Rural Development to give permission for coffee plantation under MGNREG Scheme, as is given to the State of Kerala for rubber plantation. Thank you, Sir.