

DR. A.K. PATEL: They are not doing anything...

MR. SPEAKER: It is irrelevant. Shrimati D.K. Thara Devi Siddhartha.

Now the House will take up Matters under Rule 377.

12.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(I) Need to restructure the loan repayment system under the Refinance Scheme for the Coffee Growers

SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA (Chikmagalur): Under the Refinancement Scheme for Coffee Development, the repayment pattern commences in the fifth year itself. The interest for the first five years has to be completely paid in the fifth year. From sixth year onwards, repayment of principal with interest has to be made in instalments.

This repayment pattern does not take into account the pattern of Coffee Crop Yields.

In new coffee plantations, yield begins in the sixth year and reaches full level by eighth year for ARABICA variety and for the Robusta variety, yield begins in the tenth year and reaches full level in 12th year.

This makes it impossible for the growers to pay back the loans who are forced to go to money lenders. Many have been forced into insolvency.

More than 90% of coffee growers are small growers. Therefore, the restructuring of the loan repayment pattern must be realistic and realisable. The best method is to extend the time for repayment to coincide with the time of yields. Hence for ARABICA

variety, the repayment must begin only in the eighth year and for ROBUSTA variety in the tenth year.

NABARD is the Nodal Agency for channelising the Development Loan. I, therefore, request the Union Government to direct NABARD to review the existing scheme and restructure the loan repayment pattern so that it conforms to crop yield pattern of coffee.

(II) Need to pay suitable compensation for the land acquired by Central Railway for Diversion of railway line between Talwadia and Khirklya Stations in view of proposed construction of Indra Sagar Dam

SHRI KALICHARAN SAKARGAYEN (Khandwa): Sir, the Indra Sagar Dam is proposed to be constructed on the river Narmada in the District Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.

A large area of submergence envisaged in the project has necessitated the diversion of the rail lines of the Central Railways between Talwadia Railway Station and Khirklya. The Railway administration has duly surveyed the land to be acquired for this diversion of the rail line and establishment of new railway station on the diverted lines and the lands of hundreds of cultivators are being acquired in Land Acquisition Proceedings.

Unfortunately the compensation offered to the concerned cultivators is miserably low—Rs. 90/- per acre or Rs. 240/- per acre when one cannot purchase land in the area for less than Rs. 8,000/- per acre. The compensation for wells and trees offered is also very low. The State Government has declared that the compensation for the land acquired will be on the basis of the present value of the land in the Command Area but no action has been taken so far in defining the land classification or determining the valuation. Thus hundreds of cultivators stand in danger of being deprived of this