

[Sh. Srikanta Datta Narasimha Raja Wadiayar]

The Ministry of Commerce have not so far taken any concrete steps to consider the grievances of the coffee growers of the State despite their numerous representations in that regard.

Steps should be taken to check the malpractices in the coffee industry. Steps should also be taken to rationalise the sales and purchase tax in the three Southern States in the light of the current condition in the industry. I urge upon the Government to immediately tackle the problems of coffee growers.

715 (iv) **Need to carve out a separate State comprising of Hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh**

(MUR 377)

SHRI C.M. NEGI (Garhwal): For more than three decades the people of U.P. hill areas are demanding creating of a separate hill State comprising of eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh. The then Government of U.P. responded to this call and created a Hill Development Department for speedy development of this area. Unfortunately this experiment also proved a failure due to lack of proper project formulation and proper monitoring of the schemes. The above eight hill districts are also getting special central assistance under Hill Areas Development Programme. But the State's share has always been much less than the Central assistance while in the case of hill areas of Assam, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, the State's share is much higher than the Central assistance. The cumulative effect of all these facts has created a great resentment amongst U.P. hill people and day by day the demand of hill State is getting more and more popular support. I would urge upon the Government that in order to bring about speedy economic development of these hill areas, a legislation should be enacted for the formation of a separate State for the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh before it is too late.

716 (v) **Need for issuing directives to public sector undertakings for implementation of Minimum Wages Act in Orissa**

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir): Many public sector organisations (industries) particularly IDL Rourkela and Talcher Heavy Water Plants have refused to pay the minimum wages prescribed by Government of Orissa, i.e. Rs. 25 per day to their workers. The services of workers who are demanding implementation of Minimum Wages Act are being terminated by the respective organisations. So, I request the Government of India to instruct all the public sector undertakings to implement the Minimum Wages Act in Orissa.

716 (vi) **Need to take steps to check recurring floods in the country**

(Translation)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to submit that every year, crores of people are affected by the devastating floods and a lot of Government funds are wasted in rehabilitating them. But even then, the same problem arises every year. I would like to request the Government that dredging should be carried out on the rivers, which cause heavy floods and the soil which would be taken out after dredging, should be used in constructing dams on those rivers. This will save the financial expenditure of the Government, as well as, will provide relief to public from getting affected by floods. It is essential to do this work in order to save precious lives, as also, to reduce the expenditure and it will also provide employment to lakhs of people.

716 (vii) **Need to set up a Development Council for speedy development of Plateau regions of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRA (Jhansi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under