

खाने लायक नहीं है, पानी से सड़ा हुआ है और इसमें फफूंदी लगी हुई है।

श्री उपसभापति : जहाँ की शिकायत है कृपया उनको बना दीजिये।

श्री हुकमदेव नारायण यादव : मैं बता रहा हूँ।

गेहूँ में कंकड़-पत्थर मिले तो देख लिये अब चीनी में यह देखिये। यह चीनी जो है इसमें गन्ने के तमाम मिल के और मिल की मिट्टी है। एक-एक बोरे में पांच किलो से दस किलो तक एफ० सी० आई० के गोदामों में मिट्टी मिली हुई है। बतलाइये, गेहूँ को तो फटकाकर आदमी उसमें से कूड़ा-कंकड़ निकाल देगा और उसको खा भी लेगा। लेकिन इस चीनी को तो फटका भी नहीं जा सकता। इसमें जो यह मिलाकर दिया जा रहा है यह कितना जुल्म हो रहा है। एफ० सी० आई० के गोदाम दरभंगा में इस तरह का माल दिया जा रहा है। डोलर जब आबजक्शन करते हैं तो उनको कह दिया जाता है कि आपको लेना हो तो लो और अगर नहीं लेंगे तो तुम्हारा लाइसेंस कैसिल करवा दिया जायेगा, उन्हें सड़ा हुआ माल ले जाने के लिये मजबूर किया जा रहा है। अगर खाने के लिये इस तरह की चीनी आपके घर आ जाय तो कैसे खायेंगे?

श्री उपसभापति : आप तो खाइये, आप से बचेंगी तो खायेंगे।

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED LOSS OF HUGE QUANTITIES OF FOODGRAINS IN PUNJAB DUE TO MISMANAGEMENT, NEGLECT AND POOR STORAGE CAPACITY

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I am raising before you an issue to draw the attention of the Government to a matter which is not only one of great neglect and a

crying shame, but which is almost a criminal neglect for the country. Sir, we are spending almost Rs. 800 crores on import of foodgrains, and at the same time we are losing tens of crores worth of foodgrains because of sheer neglect or sheer mismanagement and corruption. I have here, Sir, with me a report published in the 'India Today', its latest issue of March 31, 1983, entitled "Rot in the Granary". It says that during the last three years, 1979 to 1982, as much as Rs. 100 crores worth of grain has been lost in the Punjab merely because of poor storage or due to just being left in the open. Sir, here there is a photograph also entitled: 'Heaps of Paddy decaying at Rajpura-Manumental neglect'. Sir, it makes such a sickening reading after what we had here in the morning, a demonstration of the shortage of foodgrains and the sufferings of the people because of drought. Sir, this year the Punjab unit of the Food Corporation of India has declared one lakh tonnes of paddy worth Rs. 15 crores, accumulating since 1979-80, as unfit for human consumption, and now it is to be sold to poultry and cattle feed producers. Sir, the Regional Manager of the Food Corporation of India, Mr. Ratra, says that timely milling would have saved the paddy. Sir, are we living in a world of plenty where there is no shortage of foodgrains, where we can afford the luxury of wasting and squandering the results of the hard labour of our farmers, while we have at the same time reports of starvation deaths? Of course, the Government contradicts them as usual. But the situation is hardly reassuring. Sir, I will like to read out before you this...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do not read it. It is a long-drawn story.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: No, Sir, it is not long. I quote:

"The Food Department procured 2 lakh tonnes of paddy in 1978-79.

According to its Director, Gurbinder Singh, the FCI had promised to lift it within 5 weeks. But instead of being collected, it lay rotting until nearly half of it became unfit for human consumption and was rejected by the FCI, resulting in a loss of over Rs. 2 crores."

Then, Sir, the FCI rejected 3.75 lakh tonnes of wheat procured by three State level agencies. There are State level agencies doing same and there is no co-ordination between the two. There is an instance here, Sir; in one case the FCI rejected two lakh tonnes of paddy worth Rs. 5.71 crores collected by the State, agencies for the FCI. As a retort, the State Government informally instructed the millers to delay milling the FCI paddy. In one mandi, this even led to violence between the FCI staff and the Food Department officials. Ultimately, the FCI was forced to take this paddy to Haryana for milling. This resulted in a loss of Rs. 60 lakhs. Sir, are we living in one country or in two enemy countries?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Now, my last point, Sir. There are reports of various types of scandals in the Food Corporation of India.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The whole Food Corporation of India cannot be discussed. In the Special Mention, you have to make a short point.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I am taking just one minute more. Sir, there were reports that Rs. 30 crores worth of grain was lost at complexes at Chera in District Purulia and Andela in District Burdwan in the State of West Bengal. Three hundred instances of pilferage were there. But, Sir, the reports of investigations and recommendations for taking action against the people responsible were

first brushed aside. No action was taken and the man who sat tight on all that bungling. Sir, continues as the Secretary of the Food Department. There is therefore, lot of dissatisfaction among the officers of the Food Corporation of India because of these losses and because of this corruption. So, let the Government wake up to the situation and take necessary steps.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED DELAY IN TAKING DECISION BY THE CENTRE TO NATIONALISE SIX COTTON TEXTILE MILLS OF THE SWADESHI GROUP

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for allowing me to make a Special Mention about the serious situation arising out of the delay of the decision of the Central Government, specially the Commerce Ministry, about the continuance of the take-over of the Swadeshi Group of Mills by name, Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur; Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini; Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Maunath Bhanjan; Raibareli Textile Mills, Rai Bareli; Udaipur Cotton Mills, Udaipur and Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Pondicherry. As you know, Sir, these mills were mismanaged by the previous employers. Even the wages were not given. Ultimately, there was firing on 6th December, 1977, when 13 workers died and there was a closure. And thereafter, on 14th April, 1978, an Ordinance was issued by the Central Government to take them over. And they are being managed by the National Textile Corporation. Sir, under the law, the period is five years, and the period is to expire on 13th April, 1983, when we shall not be in session. About 40,000 workers are involved in this matter, and the NTC is also not doing the modernisation because the Government decision is halting for only five years.