

MIXTURE OF *DHATURA* SEEDS IN IMPORTED
FOOD GRAINS

*47. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had requested the Government of Australia to hold an enquiry into the matter of food grains imported from Australia having been found mixed with poisonous *Dhatura* seeds; and

(b) if so, what has been the result of India's request?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA): (a) and (b). *Dhatura* seeds were found in Australian Sorghum which was purchased from private firms and the Australian Government were not a party to the transaction and, therefore, no request was made to that Government to hold an enquiry. But the question of action against the sellers and the inspection agents is under consideration.

SHRI B. M. GUPTE: From whom was this Australian Sorghum purchased?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: It was produced by three private firms.

SHRI B. M. GUPTE: Did you make any complaint to these private firms?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, we have sent the samples to our Embassy at Australia and told them that these companies will be held responsible for these *Dhatura* seeds and for the impurities and the expenditure that will have to be incurred to clean the stuff.

DR. P. C. MITRA: How many persons were affected by such kind of foodstuff?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: This has been replied to already. In Madras in a place called Elayangudi one boy fell ill and another boy died.

INDIAN LABOUR CONFERENCE AT MYSORE

*48. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state what decisions were taken by the Indian Labour Conference at Mysore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): The Conference adopted two Resolutions: one concerning the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; and the other about the Gorakhpur Labour Scheme. The texts of the Resolutions are placed on the Table of the House. The Conference also made several suggestions with regard to the other items on the agenda.

Resolution concerning the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, adopted by the 13th Session of the Indian Labour Conference (January 1954)

"The Conference considered the question of minimum wages with special reference to:—

- (1) The implementation of the Minimum Wages Act with regard to the various employments under the Act;
- (2) Want of principles for fixing the minimum wages under the Act;
- (3) Absence of uniformity in the actual fixation of wages under the Act;
- (4) The lacuna that exists in the various provisions of the Act;
- (5) The need for widening the scope of the Act to cover additional sweated employments and also to secure improvements in the existing provisions.

The Conference having considered various suggestions made by different interests in all aspects, recommends to the Government that the following steps be taken:

- (1) That the time for implementation of the minimum

wages in respect of Part I of the Schedule be extended till 31st December 1954.

- (2) That the Central Advisory Board should lay down principles and criteria for the fixation of minimum wages;
- (3) That the manner in which the Act is so far implemented should be immediately examined by the Central Advisory Board with a view to formulating a code of directions to be issued by the Central Government to State Governments;
- (4) That the Governments should issue notifications for covering additional employments on the advice of the Central Advisory Board."

Resolution concerning the Gorakhpur Labour Scheme, adopted by the 13th Session of the Indian Labour Conference (January 1954)

"This Conference recommends that a tripartite committee of 6 (2 Governments, 2 employers and 2 workers) be set up to recommend to Government the steps to be taken in relation to the scheme of recruitment of Gorakhpur labour with a view to considering all questions, including the removal of defects, if any, particularly those relating to freedom of movement, infringement of trade union rights, security of service and discriminatory treatment, and to make necessary recommendations."

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the Government have accepted these resolutions?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, Sir, we are implementing the requirements of these resolutions.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the Gorakhpur Labour Scheme has been implemented?

SHRI ABID ALI: A committee is to be appointed and we are at it.

RECOGNITION OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES' UNION

*49. **SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR:** Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Civil Aviation Department Employees' Union for the recognition of that Union;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken thereon;

(c) whether any other points have also been raised in the said representation; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what are those points and whether any action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) The Civil Aviation Department Employees' Union has been recognised as a Service Association without the right to strike. The Union, representing against this, requested that it should be recognised as a Trade Union.

(b) The Union has been informed that Government do not find it possible to accede to its request.

(c) and (d). I lay on the Table a statement giving the required information.

STATEMENT

Other points raised by the Union

(i) Facilities for transfer of the General Secretary, Assistant Secretary and the Treasurer to the Headquarters of the Union at Delhi;

(ii) Immunity from transfer and tours out of Delhi to the office bearers of the Union during the tenure of office.