

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