

[श्री मोतीभाई आर. चौधरी]

सिफारिश की है कि इस देसी बीड़ी तम्बाकू आदि को तम्बाकू बोर्ड एक्ट के अन्तर्गत लिया जाए। अतः मेरा वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि इस सिफारिश के मूलाविक तम्बाकू बोर्ड एक्ट में इस सत्र में संशोधन कर के ऐसा प्रावधान किया जाए कि तम्बाकू पकाने वाले किसानों को आने वाले सीजन में लाभ मिले। इस बारे में संसद् के पिछले सत्र में गुजरात के तम्बाकू पकाने वाले किसानों का प्रतिनिधि मंडल माननीय वाणिज्य और कृषि मंत्री जी को भी मिला था और उसी समय उन को यह आश्वासन भी दिया गया था कि उपरोक्त मामले में शीघ्र उन के हक में संशोधन किया जाएगा। इस सत्र में ही यह संशोधन हो जाए, यह मेरा अनुरोध है।

(viii) NEED FOR A PROBE INTO ROTTING OF WHEAT DUE TO NEGLIGENCE OF RAILWAY AUTHORITIES AND THE F.C.I.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE (New Delhi): Sir, while India is importing wheat from the USA, a huge quantity of wheat is being damaged due to criminal negligence of railway authorities and the bungling of FCI.

On July 1, 1981, a consignment of wheat worth over Rs. 1.5 million was despatched in 19 open wagons from Doraha station in Punjab to Chakradharpur. The goods train carrying wheat reached Chakra-dharpur only on July 26, 1981. In the meantime, more than 10,000 quintals of wheat were damaged as the train was detained at Chandrapur Railway Station for 25 days.

More than 300 quintals of wheat have been declared unfit for human consumption. Yet, it has been sold to 3 flour mills.

This is not the first time that huge quantity of foodgrains has been

destroyed in Chhotanagpur alone. In July 16,000 quintals of Punjab wheat was damaged at Ranchi and Tatisilway stations. Another big consignment of rotten wheat was received at Dhanbad station some time back and the issue was referred to on the floor of the House. If the figures for the whole country are collected and publicised, the quantity of foodgrains which is damaged either in transit or in government godowns might come to lakhs of tonnes.

I ask the Minister for Food to take immediate action against erring officials for sending wheat in open wagons. The Railway Minister must fix the responsibility for the break-down of the goods train necessitating detention at Chandrapur.

16.52 hrs.

COAL MINES LABOUR WELFARE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL

AMENDMENTS MADE BY RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE, IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill further to amend the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947, be taken into consideration:

"Enacting Formula

(1) That at page 1, line 1, for the word 'Thirty-first' the word 'Thirty-second' be substituted."

"Clause 1

(2) That at page 1, line 4, for the figure '1980' the figure '1981' be substituted."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved: