

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED PRESENCE OF DHATURA SEEDS
IN MILO IMPORTED FROM AMERICA**

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported presence of 'dhatura' seeds in the milo imported from America."

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED): The first consignment of Milo purchased from U.S.A. arrived at Bombay Port during the first week of February 1973. Immediately on arrival, the grain was subjected to inspection and it revealed the presence of 'dhatura' seeds. Immediate steps were taken to withhold the release of the stocks to the State Governments for issue through the fair price shops. Simultaneously, arrangements for cleaning the milo to make it free from the presence of 'dhatura' seeds were also undertaken, at the dock as well as in the FCI depots.

The milo, after cleaning, has been found to be generally free from the presence of 'dhatura' seeds. The Haffkines Institute, Bombay, after analysis, has certified that the flour produced from cleaned milo is free from toxic material and has recommended the distribution of milo flour produced from the cleaned seeds.

The Indian Supply Mission, Washington, has already taken up the matter with the authorities concerned in the U.S.A. It may, however, be mentioned that similar incidence of admixture of 'dhatura' seeds were noticed in the past also in a few consignments of wheat received from U.S.A., and such stocks were issued to the roller flour mills for proper cleaning and conversion into wheat products. 'Dhatura' seeds grow along

with agricultural crops as weed and as such some 'dhatura' seeds get mixed up at the time of mechanical harvesting. According to the U.S. Grain Standards, 'dhatura' seeds are not considered poisonous. They are considered as foreign material and/or dockage depending on the size of the seed. It is understood that the U.S. Government themselves even now are purchasing and supplying the same kind of milo and subject to the same certification to several countries including for human consumption under their own programme.

Necessary arrangements have already been made to clean the milo to make it free from presence of 'dhatura' seeds and Government will ensure that milo issued to the fair price shops is free from 'dhatura' seeds.

SHRI DHAMANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have read the hon. Minister's statement and I have heard him very carefully. But I am not satisfied with his statement. He says in the statement that before the milo was distributed, care was taken to inform the government that it contained dhatura seeds. Actually, the fact is that in Maharashtra, especially, the milo with dhatura was sent to the districts also and to the distribution centres in Bombay proper. The matter was raised on the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly and also the State Legislative Council, and the Maharashtra Government was unjustly and cruelly grilled in the Maharashtra Assembly saying that the Maharashtra Government was supplying poisonous food and playing with the lives of the common people.

Now, the hon. Minister was kind enough to state that America says that dhatura is not poisonous. Actually in India it is a poisonous substance. Even the Haffkine Institute has very clearly stated that even in small doses it creates intoxication as well as giddiness. In the circumstances, I feel that the Food Corporation should have been more careful. Before distributing this milo they should

[Shri Dhamankar]

have seen that dhatura seeds were isolated from the milo and then only it should have been distributed. Milo is a coarse grain required for poor people and in Maharashtra, as you know, there is acute drought and scarcity condition. Especially the millets and coarse grain like *nagali* and *vair* have completely gained and naturally this milo will go to the backward areas and be supplied to the labourers and adivasis. They are not in a position to know whether this dhatura is harmful or not, and it is very likely that they will consume this and thus human lives will be endangered. The Maharashtra Government took maximum care to clean it and has given orders to see that it is cleaned. The hon. Minister said that dhatura is not poisonous.

The Maharashtra Government has sent this milo to various flour mills; they have refused to take up the responsibility. They say that if some seeds are mixed up, they will not be responsible. Under the circumstances I feel that it is the duty of the Food Corporation of India to see that this milo is not distributed unless it is completely cleaned. It is not the responsibility of the Maharashtra Government. This milo has been sent to Maharashtra, Mysore, Rajasthan and Gujarat, it is likely there would be complaints from all the States. May I know whether steps would be taken to see that the milo is completely cleaned before distribution?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: I have listened with care to the suggestion given by the hon. Member and as soon as it was detected by our quality control people that milo contained some seeds of dhatura we issued immediate instructions that it should not be distributed to consumer unless and until all the milos were cleaned. About dhatura seeds, when I was in Bombay this matter was brought to my notice and I made enquiries and I learnt on enquiry that no milo with dhatura seed has been distributed to the consumer. It has been issued to the

depots in various places and they were told that unless the dhatura seeds were cleaned they should not be distributed to the consumer; there are certain seams through which dhatura seeds can be cleaned. It has been found that certain formulations made from milo after cleaning, they had been processed into atta and that atta has been found to be free from any poisonous material according to the report submitted by the Haffkine Institute. I may assure the hon. Member that I shall see that no milo with dhatura seed is issued to the consumer.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESHMUKH: I rise on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: We do not allow any point of order during the call attention; kindly sit down.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajpur): I am rather shocked and surprised at the casual manner in which the Minister for Agriculture has treated this call attention notice. I do not know whether this approach and the statement are part of the effort of the Government to improve our relations with the United States. This matter was raised in the House of the Maharashtra Assembly by the socialist M.L.A. Shrimati Mrinalni Goray. Probably the Minister while in Bombay has not taken care to go through the proceedings of the Maharashtra Assembly. The Minister for Supplies there has made a categorical statement, a disastrous statement and I do not know whether that statement reveals the thinking of the Central Government as well. Dangerous postulations have been made by the Minister in Maharashtra Assembly. He stated that the department had already sent a circular and instructions had been given that as far as the admixture of these poisonous seeds with milo is concerned, proper precautions should be taken to see that these do not harm the consumers. It was also stated that instructions had been given to the flour mills that

these seeds should be cleaned properly before it is milled. You are aware of the fact that two mills from Bombay had categorically informed the Government that they could not undertake the responsibility of crushing milo along with the seeds because there are bound to be disastrous consequences and they were not prepared to undertake that responsibility.

On the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly, the Civil Supplies Minister made a statement that when we are asking the flour mills to crush this milo, we are requesting them to see that they are sieved properly. But because of the fear in the minds of the mill-owners that disastrous consequences may follow, they have refused to do it. Now, it has been said on the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly that we will not insist that they must be able to produce the necessary result. I will quote a very important portion of what was said on the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly:

"However, no strict responsibility would be attributed to the rolling flour mills for any lapses in this regard."

That means, while giving instructions to the flour mills that they should try to sieve the milo before crushing it, if there is a lapse on the part of any mill, it seems the Maharashtra Government is going to tolerate the lapses.

The Minister here has made a casual statement that the milo after cleaning has been found to be generally free from the presence of dhatura seeds. On the contrary, we should be guided by the scientific advice of a scientific institute. The Haffkine's Institute has come out with certain statistics. They have said categorically that in 1 Kg. of milo even if there are 2 to 3 seeds of dhatura, the results would not be fatal but they would produce giddiness and create dryness of the throat, which means a health problem would be created. If giddiness

is created, probably for well-to-do people in the affluent section it does not matter at all, but in States like Maharashtra, M.P., Rajasthan, Gujarat, etc. lakhs of people are employed in a number of famine relief works. The statistical survey clearly indicates that their vitality and resistance capacity has gone down. Even if this type of food is taken by the citizens of U.S.A., they will have enough resistance power to see that this poisonous stuff does not affect their health. Moreover, I do not know whether in the U.S.A. such milo with poisonous seeds is swallowed by human beings or by animals. Probably even animals would refuse to take it because they are actually kept at a level which is not the level of the human beings here. Therefore, when this categorical statement has been made by the Haffkine's Institute that though there would be no fatal cases there would be giddiness and sore throat, are you going to tolerate this, especially at famine relief centres where the vitality of the labourers has gone down considerably and they will not be able to restrain the effect of these poisonous seeds?

In your statement you have said,

"According to the United States grain standards, dhatura, seeds are not considered poisonous. They are considered a foreign material depending on the size of the seed."

This is all right in the United States where they are taking the proper kind of food with good vitamin content which can neutralise the effect of the poisonous seeds. But can this be used at the famine relief centres where the workers will not be able to withstand it because of their low vitality?

There is one more point which is deplorable. We are not going to send this milo with poisonous seeds to the Ministers and to the affluent sections. To the shame of all of us, the Maharashtra Civil Supplies Minister has made a categorical statement that we

[Shri Madhu Dandavate]

want to send this particular stuff to the Adivasis in Maharashtra! What a shame that this type of foodstuff is to be reserved for the Adivasis! This is the manner, a casual manner, in which we are going to treat the down-trodden sections of our community in our country. This is another disastrous statement that has been made here.

There are two points to which I would like to make a reference. It has already been pointed out that as far as private traders are concerned, in their shops and depots, if you come across adulterated foodstuff, or other stuff, or adulterated drugs, you don't try to go into the root of the problem as to from which particular wholesale dealer they have been able to get delivery of that foodstuff but you tell them, "You are caught on the spot. Therefore, you are responsible for it." The traders are arrested and they are prosecuted. If the traders are arrested and prosecuted like that, because they are in possession of poisonous material, adulterated foodstuff, I want to ask the hon. Minister: Why should we not arrest even the Minister concerned and also arrest those officers of the Food Corporation of India who are responsible for this type of failure of responsibility" (*Interruptions*). You can also go to the United States and actually arrest the authorities concerned. We cannot afford to take a soft attitude here.

Lastly, I would like to make a specific question about the statement that has been made here. It has been stated that instructions have been given to see that this type of foodstuffs are not issued at all for consumption. But the statement made by the Union Minister on the floor of the House and the statement made by the Civil Supplies Minister in the Maharashtra Assembly are conflicting statements. Nowhere he has said that they are not going to issue this foodstuff. He has made a reference to Adivasis, a reference to consumers,

and all that he has said is that as far as the component of poison is concerned, it is such a low percentage that probably it may not do harm and that, even then, they will try to remove that.

I would conclude by asking a very specific question. Is he aware of the fact that not only the Members of the Opposition and the ruling party in the Maharashtra State remain unconvinced but even the Speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly remains unconvinced? He made a categorical statement that even the statement made by the Minister of Civil Supplies in the Maharashtra Assembly has not made a very satisfactory statement and that he has still not made it clear that if some of the flour mills which are entrusted with the responsibility of crushing milo and the responsibility of sieving it properly fail in their responsibility, what is the authority on behalf of the Centre that will be supervising all these operations? For that, no satisfactory reply has come either by the Civil Supplies Minister of the Maharashtra State or by the Union Minister. Both are equally guilty of side-tracking the basic problem here. If he is prepared to side-track this problem, I think, he has not understood the gravity of the situation. Therefore, I must say, he must try to give us categorical replies to specific questions that I have raised.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: Sir, two or three points have been raised in the course of the observations made by the hon. Members.

First of all, he raised the point that, according to the U.S. Grain Standards, this is not considered to be poisonous. We are not concerned with what is regarded in the United States or in any other part of the world. As I have already said before the House, so far as we are concerned, we consider 'dhatura' as poisonous material and, for that purpose, all steps are being taken to see that it is cleaned

properly before it is issued to the consumer.

Then, the hon. Member is confusing between the issue to depots and the issue to consumers. So far as the issues to depots are concerned, it is a fact that from the Food Corporation of India, the milo has been distributed to various depots in Maharashtra, in Gujarat and in Rajasthan. But we have not made deliveries from these depots to consumers. In the meanwhile, the instructions have been issued that unless and until the milo is completely cleaned of 'dhatura', no issue to the consumers be made. Therefore, there is no question of issuing supplies either to Adivasis or to other people. Those instructions have been followed. I learn on information that this has not been issued so far as the consumer is concerned.

At the same time, I would like to point out that we took the earliest opportunity to detect this poisonous material in milo. As soon as the first consignment arrived on the 7th February, 1973, our Quality Control unit examined it and found the presence of 'dhatura', 2-3 seeds of 'dhatura' in a kilo of milo. They immediately reported about this matter. We have taken up this matter with our Supply Mission in Washington. The matter is under negotiation between the Supply Mission of India and the United States authorities and, we hope, that we shall hear from them as to under what circumstances this kind of material was sent to us.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): Why did the Food Corporation of India distribute it?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: As soon as it was taken away from the ship, it had to be sent to some godown. It was sent only to the godown, not for distribution to various places. It was sent to the godown so that it may be distributed later on. As soon as we learnt that it contained poisonous material, we stopped it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Minister has said that we are not guided by the American Grain Standards. Then why is it that in his statement he has said, "According to the U.S. Grain Standards, 'dhatura' seeds are not considered poisonous".

SHRI F. A. AHMED: This is the information that I have given to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Dandavate, I do not follow the line of the Speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly by expressing my opinion. I would ask the Minister to send that wheat to my house. I will take it for a month and then I will express my opinion!

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): While making the statement, the hon. Minister said that when the first consignment of milo arrived at Bombay, the Quality Control section of the F.C.I. found out that it contained some grains of 'dhatura' in it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any machinery in our Supply Mission in Washington, a quality control section, to check the quality of the material before the shipments are made to India. That is the first thing I would like to know. Why was there a failure on the part of the India Supply Mission at Washington to inspect the shipments before being made to India to check the presence of 'dhatura' in milo? This is not the first time that we are importing food-grains from America. So many times previously we have imported food-grains from there. This factor should have been taken care of by the quality control section in our Supply Mission at Washington.

Then, the hon. Minister, in his statement, says:

"The milo, after cleaning, has been found to be generally free from the presence of 'dhatura' seeds."

Either it should free or not free. Why do you say 'generally free'? That is vague. From the observations made by Prof. Dandavate, the Haffkines

[Shri Sezhiyan]

Institute has found that if there is the presence of two grains of 'dhatura' per kilo of milo, then it is not fit for human consumption. Here, it is said that the present supply contained three to five grains of 'dhatura' per kilo of milo. If that had been consumed by the people, that would have proved to be injurious to their health. I want to know about this finding of the Haffkines Institute. How is it that this was not found earlier? I want to know whether any such standard has been laid down earlier or this is the first time that the Haffkines Institute has given their opinion.

Here, it is said:

"The Haffkines Institute, Bombay, after analysis, has certified that the flour produced from cleaned milo is free from toxic material...."

Am I to understand that the test was not made on the grains as such but was done on the flour mill output. In that case, whatever has been put there in the form of 'dhatura' seed might have been grounded and lost in the flour.

Lastly I would like to know whether any cases have been reported either to the Government of Maharashtra or on the floor of the Assembly of Maharashtra about the persons who have been affected by the consumption of milo with an admixture of 'dhatura'.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: So far as the last point is concerned, I may inform the hon Member that no such case has been reported. There can be no question of any case being reported because, so far as my information goes, no milo has been issued with 'dhatura' seeds to any consumer.

As I pointed out earlier also, some quantity of milo was processed by the flour mills after sieving the 'dhatura' seeds from the milo and after it was processed, we took care to have it examined by the Haffkines Institute and after it was examined by the

Haffkines Institute and declared to be free from the poisonous material, then only it was allowed to be sent to the distribution centres.

Another point raised by the hon. Member is that we should give a guarantee that no such milo is issued unless and until these 'dhatura' seeds are cleared. I can assure him that we are taking necessary precautions and we have issued instructions that unless and until the milo is free from 'dhatura' seeds, it should not be issued to the consumers and for that purpose, steps are being taken to clean it through sieves and it is understood that by using sieves, it is possible to clean it and then later on, it can be supplied to the flour mills for processing or to the consumer for wholesale consumption. These steps are being taken.

SHRI SEZHIYAN: What about my first question—pre-shipment quality control at the Supply Mission, Washington?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: So far as the Supply Mission is concerned, they have only sent us a reply that according to the specifications maintained in USA, 6 per cent foreign material is allowed in milo and according to that standard, the milo was supplied.

SHRI SEZHIYAN: We are not concerned about the standards that are being observed by the USA. We are concerned with our own experience here. Why not the Supply Mission conducts better quality control before the shipment of the milo was allowed.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: We have already written to the Supply Mission and we are waiting for their reply. On receipt of their reply, we will take further necessary action.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Is it not an American conspiracy to poison our whole nation? Is the Government prepared to return them all the imported milo?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur): At their cost.

AN HON MEMBER: It is a slow position.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): I must thank the hon. Minister for having made it absolutely clear that this milo will not be supplied to the people unless it is made free of this foreign material or whatever we may like to call it... (Interruptions). Poisonous, not according to the American Standards but, according to you it is poisonous.

But, there is a slight confusion and the confusion is this, that although you say in your statement:

"Immediately on arrival, the grain was subjected to inspection and it revealed the presence of 'dhatura' seeds. Immediate steps were taken to withhold the release of the stocks to the State Governments for issue through the fair-price shops. Simultaneously, arrangements for cleaning the milo to make it free from the presence of 'dhatura' seeds were also undertaken at the dock as well as in the FCI depots."

Then, how is it that it has been reported that out of the 45,000 tonnes of milo which were received last month, 19,000 tonnes were already delivered to the Maharashtra Government which they passed on to the Fair Price Shops? It was raised on the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly that a large number of people, particularly, in the drought-affected areas where there was a rush, have already purchased this milo. Then it was stated that instructions have been issued and they were put out in the newspapers. I am sure you will agree that in rural areas, people do not read news papers as the standard of literacy is not that high. So, it should have been broadcast over the radio that by mistake some stocks might have reached the people and that they should take care to see that it is sieved, but instead of that, to try to justify and say that after all, what are four seeds of 'dhatura' in one kg. of milo and it does not matter—I think this is not the right line.

There is another point. There is a difference between flour made out of this milo because it may be that in the whole process of making flour, the seeds can be weeded out and sieved. But milo itself which is very often brown and this seed which is black, when they get mixed up, it is very difficult to identify and our poor people may not be able to sort them out easily. It should in no case be given in the form of milo. It should be sieved at the flour mills and supplied in the form of atta of milo or flour of milo. Will the Government take this precaution and see that hereafter this milo is not distributed in the form of milo unless it is sieved through flour mills, not by human hand? (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Banerjee, I am not allowing you. There is no point of order now. Don't take notice of the galleries.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You are reported to have said, there was no need to withdraw stocks from market or stop further import of milo from USA. I think the Press which has reported has been unfair to you, in view of your statement here. There was no question of withdrawing. It was not issued at all. This is point number one. If some had been issued, it ought to have been withdrawn. Then, my second point is this. I would like you to clarify about this. American standard is different. In America milo is not meant for human consumption. Animals and pigs are given milo. Let us not go by American standards. We hear about so many things, LSD, marijuana, etc. Let us not go by American standards. So far as India is concerned, let us go by Indian standards.

एक कहावत है

घोर को मलीदा

घनी को घतूरा ।

तो वह जो हमारे गरीब लैण्डलेस लेबरर
हैं उनको मेहरबानी करके कि

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

हालत में घट्टा नहीं देंगे, इतनी केयर होनी चाहिए और इसका एग्जामेन्स इस प्लोर पर देना चाहिए। इतना प्राप कर देंगे तो मेहरबानी होगी।

SHRI F. A. AHMED: As I have pointed out already we do not accept the American standard. We examine from our own standards and the conditions in our own country whether it is poisonous or not poisonous. I have already stated about the mode of distribution through the depots in the States concerned. They have not been released to the consumers. So, the question of anyone being poisoned by eating milo does not arise. I have issued instructions that no milo should be distributed to the consumer whether it is in Maharashtra or in Rajasthan or Gujarat unless it is completely freed from dhatura.

And we shall see that necessary steps are taken in that behalf, and only pure and clean milo is issued to the consumer. We have also considered the question that perhaps it would be safer to release milo in the form of atta or flour, because through the process of flour milling and sieving, there is more chance of the datura being eliminated. Therefore, we are also taking necessary action to see that as far as possible, milo should be issued in the form of atta or flour to the consumer, and in that behalf, action has already been taken.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Tellicherry): With all respect to the hon. Minister, I would say that it is very difficult to believe what he has stated. It is not because I am speaking from the Opposition. But I would like to point out to you two statements. One was made in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly by Mr. Vartak, the Minister of Civil Supplies. He has advised the housewives in Maharashtra to be careful. The hon. Minister here says that it has not reached the housewives at all, but it is still in the depot.

Then, the hon. Minister himself who visited Maharashtra had made a statement in Bombay where he had said that it would be advisable for the consumers to do some hand-picking to avoid even a grain of datura from getting into the food prepared from imported milo. I do not understand why if it is to be distributed among the people who are suffering in the drought-stricken areas, the hon. Minister should appeal to the housewives to do a little bit of hand-picking, which would mean extra work. If it is in the store, he could have asked the mills to sieve it or he could have asked the Food Corporation of India to do the work.

So, it is impossible to believe, in spite of his repeated assurance that it has not been distributed. It has been distributed, according to his statement and according to the statement made by the Minister in the Maharashtra State Legislative Assembly.

Today, the hon. Minister says in his statement that according to the standards in the United States, datura is not considered to be poisonous. He has also said in reply to a question that 6 per cent of foreign material is allowed and is permissible when we import food or milo or anything else from the foreign countries. If it is not poisonous, why did he raise a hue and cry in his statement at Bombay? Can the hon. Minister do one thing? Can he take a little dhatura? I do not want him to say farewell to us so soon, and so, I do not advise him to take it. It is poisonous.

Secondly, the hon. Minister has said that 6 per cent is permissible; that is, 6 per cent of anything is permissible; 6 per cent of foreign matter in grains need not be some dope or some poisonous material. When he speaks of the American standards, I would like to point out that there is a culture developing there, believing in the psychedelic trends, and this material namely dhatura gives that giddiness according to the institute to which he has made a reference too.

Then, the hon. Minister is trying to defend somebody. It is not true that his representatives who are responsible for purchase of these things in the united States were irresponsible? Were they bribed? Were they influenced? Or else, I do not know what the reason for this is. Is the hon. Minister ready to order an inquiry about it? Who was responsible for it? Why had they made an irresponsible purchase like this? Why had they sent him the report that 8 per cent foreign material was permissible? He is unfortunately holding the brief of those who had allowed the import of datura to our country in the name of some foreign material.

Another thing. As soon as it reached Bombay, the Food Corporation of India immediately despatched it to people. You are denying it. I understand your eagerness now to deny it. But the fact remains, as I pointed out at the very beginning, that it has been sent to the consumers; otherwise, you would not have requested people to do a little bit of handpicking and the Maharashtra Minister of Civil Supplies would not have requested the housewives to be careful about it. In that case, why should the FCI have done like that?

Is it also not a fact that when the question was raised in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, there was a press report which contained what Food Minister said at his press conference. He is reported to have said that the Government of Maharashtra failed to inform him about the occurrence of this dhatura as soon as they found it out. So his statement is not very correct. His statement begins by saying that as soon as milo was imported, in the port itself you started sieving. I do not believe it.

Therefore, what are the steps Government are going to take, firstly to sack those who are responsible in the Mission in the US for buying it?; secondly, is he ready to make an inquiry about the whole episode and importing poison in the name of some

foreign material?; thirdly, this is not a light matter. He has taken it very lightly by saying that it is not poisonous according to this standard or that standard. Does he seriously believe that it is not poisonous? It is poisonous according to all available information. These are the things on which I would like answers.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: The hon. member is in a confusion with regard to the statement I made in Bombay. When I was asked whether I knew that milo with dhatura was supplied to the consumer, I said I have no such information. Then they said some statement to that effect had been made by the hon. Minister of the Maharashtra Government. I said I am not aware of that statement and I shall make enquiries. After reaching here, I made an enquiry. On enquiry, I found that no milo has been distributed to the consumer. I have stated it repeatedly; only it has been issued to various depots and those depots have been instructed that unless and until it is cleaned, it should not be distributed to the consumer. I stand by that statement (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: No.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: It has not been given to any consumer and no such case has been brought to notice that such milo was distributed to any one and it contained dhatura.

So far as the question of our Supply Mission in Washington is concerned we are looking into the matter. The whole thing will have to be examined. The milo was purchased according to specifications. That is a matter which has to be looked into, according to the specifications given by them and the contract entered into by us. This is a matter on which I cannot give an offhand reply. That matter will have to be gone into. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid on the Table.