

Statement

An amount of 1,444 tonnes of gift wheat were unloaded at Beypore in April 1984 dumped into the sea during the period from 5 March, 1985 to 5 April, 1985. The wheat was heavily infested at the time of initial discharge at Beypore and the Health Inspector had certified it as unfit for human consumption and recommended its destruction.

2. The wheat was donated by the United States for free distribution by Catholic Relief Services in India under the Indo-US Agreement.

3. The American Vessel which brought this wheat for unloading at Cochin Port reached Bombay Port on 26 December, 1983. The ship over-carried this wheat to Singapore on 4 January 1984. It was brought back by another vessel to Bombay on 6 April, 1984 when there was a general strike at many Ports in India. The vessel sailed to Beypore, a minor Port not designated for receipt of gift cargo under Indo-US Agreement and frustrated the cargo there on 19 April, 1984.

4. The Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the recipient of the cargo, had protested to the American President Lines against their arbitrary and unilateral decision.

12.01 hrs.

MEMBER SWORN

SHRIMATI MEERA KUMAR (Bijnor)

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : According to the news which has come today about the decision to wind up the judicial enquiry into the Bhopal gas disaster, it has been done at the instance of the Central Government. (*Interruptions*) We want a statement on this. There are only two days left. (*Interruptions*) An attempt is made to cover up the whole thing. (*Interruptions*) This

will not be permitted. Two thousand people have lost their lives. This is not a joke. There should be no attempt to cover up all these things, on some technical plea. (*Interruptions*) We want to know from the Government what the position is, and what they have advised the Madhya Pradesh Government. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Why not give a reply to the query made by Mr. Indrajit Gupta ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is the answer ?

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Hon. Member give it to me. I will find out.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is a serious matter.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is there a collusion with the Union Carbide ? Is not an active lobby working here ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have got it. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have demanded that the Jyotirmoy Committee's report should be laid on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : I was replying to you. I have got the full reply from the Minister yesterday. I will go through it, and tomorrow I will give my decision.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Tomorrow you will take a decision. Will you allow it to be laid on the Table ?

MR. SPEAKER : I will see. If according to all the things.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You are talking like a Minister, Sir. (*Interruptions*) You are in a better position than a Minister. Why do you reply like a Minister ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am not. I will have to look into all these things, because I have to be answerable to you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : A group of prominent Indians of