

and the said wheat was booked in open box wagons which arrived at Dhanbad old yard, Eastern Railway on 6-7-1981 at 3.30 p.m. and detained upto 12.7.1981. The wagons were not even covered with tarpaulin and so got badly rotten being drenched in rain water giving pungent smell. Ultimately these box wagons were sent to Tatisilwai, Ranchi, South Eastern Railway. This wheat was sold to the public on auction as the rotten wheat not fit for human consumption. This was purchased by the businessman for blending with the wheat for human consumption causing various diseases.

Again on 8.8.1981 at 2.30 hours another consignment of 33 open box wagons loaded with wheat i.e. 16080 quintals for FCI, Dhanbad arrived at Dhanbad Yard. Due to open box wagons this wheat also got rotten and started germinating in rain and till 15.8.1981 at the time of my leaving Dhanbad, the wheat could not be unloaded.

On contacting the Divisional Railway Manager, Dhanbad, who was not even first aware of the case, I was informed that the FCI requisitioned more wheat than it could unload in time resulting in this detention and on the point why it was not covered I was told that the system was to transport foodgrains in open wagons. This colossal waste of foodgrains due to the criminal unconcern both of the Railways and the FCI was brought to the notice of the District Administration demanding prosecution by several public organisations.

Such cases have also been reported from Bhagalpur sometimes back.

Spoiling valuable foodgrains in this way is a crime to the nation. I demand immediate probe and action and a statement to this effect both from the Ministers of Food and Agriculture and the Railway.

(x) NEED FOR LEGISLATION TO REGULATE THE SERVICE CONDITIONS OF DOMESTIC WORKERS IN THE COUNTRY.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): The Domestic Workers Union has been

propagating the cause of thousands of domestic servants throughout the country, praying for better working conditions for them.

In spite of the fact that there are thousands of domestic servants servicing almost 24 hours in a day, there is no legislation to regulate their service condition. It is strange that though the country has achieved independence over 34 years ago, Government has not given any consideration to this right cause. These people are at the mercy of their masters for everything i.e. wages, welfare etc. These masters know well that there is no statutory power to stop them from exploiting such workers.

Their condition is in no way better than that of the bonded labour for the release of whom there has been great hue and cry all over the country.

Under these circumstances, I will appeal to the Government to come forward with a legislation at an early date to regulate the service condition of the domestic workers of the country, so that they can realise that they are also honoured citizens of India, like any other citizens of this great country.

(xi) ALLEGED ATROCITIES ON TAMILS IN SRI LANKA.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: Large scale atrocities have been committed on 35 lakhs of Tamilians in Sri Lanka in about 8,000 sq. miles. The life and property of the Sri Lanka Tamilians are at stake. A day earlier one Indian pilgrim was reported to have been murdered. The properties of the Sri Lanka Tamilians are destroyed. The day to day life of the Sri Lanka Tamilians is quite unsafe. The Government of India should solve the problem, give protection to all Sri Lanka Tamilians and safeguard human life and property.