

radical changes in the system and structure of agricultural education so as to relate it to raising of productivity in agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) Yes. The establishment of Agricultural Universities, at least one in each State is aimed at because of the productivity-oriented system of research and education that is followed at these Universities.

The various recommendations on Agricultural Education made by Education Commission in their report (1964-66) are also under consideration of the Government with the main objective of relating Agricultural Education to raising of productivity in Agriculture.

(b) The distinguishing features of Agricultural Universities, eight of which have already come into existence are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-540/67]. The main recommendations of the Education Commission (1964-66) relating to Agriculture Education are given in the Statement attached as Annexure II.

Import of III Grade Wheat

1635. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri E. K. Amin:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat grade-III or powdered wheat which is fit for animal food has also been imported under PL-480;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated; and

(c) the nature of the action taken against the authority responsible for the same?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) It is a fact that some quantities of wheat of grade III have been imported under PL-480 after examination of the wheat for fitness or human consumption in the country. It is, however, not correct to say that Grade III wheat is powdered and fit only for animal food. In fact the Grade III wheat imported was found to have consumer preference in India.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Exorbitant Prices of Gram-Dal

1636. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri E. K. Amin:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 1966 gram-dal delivered by Punjab at prices ranging between Rs. 54 to Rs. 58 per quintal were sold at exorbitant prices in the deficit States such as Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madras, the rates being Rs. 80-, Rs. 100- and Rs. 128- respectively;

(b) if so, the action taken by Central Government to prevent such exploitation of consumers as well as of producers of gram-dal?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prices of Foodgrains

1637. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri E. K. Amin:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the price variations prevailing in different States in the country during the year 1966 and beginning of 1967 of important essential foodgrains; and