

atoes at the time when new crop is marketed; and

(b) the prices of potatoes during the last year and whether Government propose to fix minimum price for this crop?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing prices of potato in some centres of the country since January, 1965 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5708/66].

At present no proposal for fixing minimum prices of potato is under consideration. However, to meet the situation caused by fall in prices, a scheme for price support for potatoes (to be applicable to U.P.) is under consideration.

Closure of Flour Mills due to Rationing

1726. **Shri R. S. Pandey:**
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavalaya;
Shri Rameshwaranand:
Shri Bade:
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flour mills which have closed down throughout the country as a result of the introduction of rationing in foodgrains;

(b) the number of the workers rendered jobless due to the closure of those flour mills; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide alternate employment to the workers rendered jobless?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) No roller flour mills

have been closed down as a result of introduction of rationing in foodgrains. Chakkis in Delhi may have been affected to some extent.

(b) The number of workers, if any affected in Delhi, is not known.

(c) Issue of imported wheat from ration shops in Delhi was started from the middle of January. This has helped the small chakkis to some extent. From 2nd March, 1966, indigenous wheat is also being issued to from ration shops. This will further improve the position of small chakkis. Coarse grains which are not under ration are also available to chakkis for grinding.

Farm-cum-Agricultural enterprise in Assam

1727. **Shri R. Barua:**
Shri R. S. Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to establish a farm-cum-agricultural enterprise in Assam with the Danish collaboration;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Denmark have offered any assistance for this enterprise; and

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) There is no such proposal from the Danish Government.

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

Development of Horticulture in Orissa

1728. **Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and**