

ority in the share holdings passed on from the private sector units to Cooperative Marketing Organisations and Public Sector Units. The Department of Cooperation and National Cooperative Development Corporation were in favour of the Cooperative institutions taking a greater share in the capital of M/s Indian Potash Ltd. Under the present arrangements, Potash is imported by the Government of India and M/s Indian Potash Ltd are responsible for its distribution, marketing and promotion throughout the country as a price fixed by this Ministry. Out of 15 Directors on the Board of the Company, Cooperative and Public Sector Undertakings are represented by nine Directors and thus have majority control over it.

(c) Government do not hold shares in M/s Indian Potash Ltd. and have, therefore, no Director on the Board of the Directors of the Company. The Cooperative Marketing Organisations, which have been built by farmers and which represent farmers' interest, have their nominees on the Board of Directors of M/s Indian Potash Ltd.

ADULTERATION IN WHEAT SUPPLIED BY PUNJAB TO BIHAR STATE

552. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI
CHUNDAWAT :
SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN
ARIF .

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some iron particles were found in wheat which was supplied from Punjab to Bihar recently ;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into the matter ; and

(c) the wheat with iron particles still in stock with the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enquiry made through the Food Corporation of India revealed that 13,500 bags of wheat received from Punjab contained some fine iron particles. Immediately issue of this wheat to fair price shops was suspended and it was allotted to roller flour mills where magnetic separation is done before grinding.

(c) The information is awaited and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when received.

STATE FARMS

553. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up State farms in the country ; and

(b) if so, the details along with the proposed location thereof, Statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) The State Farms Corporation of India Ltd., was set up in May, 1969 under the Companies Act, 1956 for the administration of the then existing Central State Farms on commercial basis and to set up new Central State Farms. Initially the Corporation took over the administrative control of the following Central State Farms in the States shown against each:—

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| (1) Suratgarh | (Rajasthan) |
| (2) Jetsar | (Rajasthan) |
| (3) Jharsuguda | (Orissa) |
| (4) Hissar | (Haryana) |
| (5) Raichur | (Mysore) |

The Corporation was further directed to set up farms in Mizoram as a purely developmental activity on behalf of the Government of India. Two such farms have been set up, one at Lokichera and the other at Lusaichera.