

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The allotment of tractors will be made to different States including Tamil Nadu after the proposal is finalised.

A. I. R. BROADCASTS DURING GANDHI CENTENARY YEAR

1723. **SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what are the special programmes of broadcasts by A. I. R. to propagate National Integration, World Peace and Prohibition in the Gandhi Centenary year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN: THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) During the Gandhi Centenary Year the programmes already broadcast by All India Radio to propagate National Integration, World Peace and Prohibition have been re-oriented to have a direct relevance to the teachings of the Mahatma. In particular, a continuing series consisting of weekly recordings from the writings of Gandhiji, including extracts dealing with these subjects, have been going on from All India Radio Stations since 2nd October, 1968. Such programmes are many and are included not only in the general programmes of All India Radio but also in the special programmes addressed to specific audiences.

CENTRAL MUSIC UNIT OF A. I. R.

1724. **SHRI M. P. SHUKIA :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of staff employed in the Central Music Unit of All India Radio Delhi during the years 1966-1967, 1968, 1969 and the total expenditure incurred on this Unit during the period mentioned above ;

(b) the main function of the Unit and how far it has contributed to the improvement of the music programmes of All India Radio ;

(c) whether it is a fact that many employees of the Unit have not even one hour work a day and many a time it has been proposed by various study teams to disband this Unit ; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to appoint a study group to go into the working and utility of this Unit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The information is given below :—

| Year/ Period | Strength of Staff | Expenditure |
|--------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1966 . 20 | (Stenographic assistant shared with another Unit) | 1,62,215.19 |
| 1967 . | Do. | 1,76,366.75 |
| 1968 . 20 | | 1,77,359.80 |
| 1969 (upto 19 July 1969) | | 1,08,209.10 |

(b) The main functions of the Central Music Unit are :—

(i) Planning and organisational work connected with all important Hindustani/Karnataka Music Programmes of AIR, and giving advice on policy matters relating to Indian Music ;

(ii) Music auditions including screening and grading of artistes.

(iii) Scrutiny of music schedules of Stations and making suggestions for the improvement of Programmes and scouting of new talent.

(iv) Production of special programmes
A quantitative assessment of the improvement is not possible, but there is positive improvement.

(c) No, Madam. It is not a fact.

(d) The Study Team on Staff reorganisation has already gone into this question and made its recommendations.