

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Trivandrum Station of All India Radio has two transmitters—one of medium power and the other of low power.

(b) There is no proposal to increase the power of transmitters at Trivandrum as the high power transmitter being set up at Alleppy is primarily meant for the Trivandrum Station.

G. D. R. Tractors

4140. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the G. D. R. had gifted two tractors each to the Tractor Testing Station at Budni and Hissar ;

(b) if so, whether the D. G. T. D. had cleared the import for these tractors together with matching implements ; and

(c) whether copies of the reference made to D. G. T. D. and his reply thereto will be placed on the Table ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) It is not in the public interest to place these papers on the Table of the Sabha.

Study of Cooperative Development

4141. SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government at any time made out any study of the cooperative development in different States in the country ; and

(b) if so, the results of such study ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) Committees have been appointed, from time to time, by the

Government of India to go into the specific problems of cooperative developments. Enquiry into the working of individual cooperatives, however, is the statutory responsibility of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies under the respective State Acts. The Government of India last appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Ram Nivas Mirdha in 1964 to :

- (i) lay down standards and criteria by which the genuineness of cooperative societies of various types may be judged and to suggest measures for weeding out non-genuine societies and preventing their registration ;
 - (ii) review the existing cooperative laws, rules and practices with a view to locating the loopholes which enable vested interests to entrench themselves in cooperative institutions and recommend measures—legislative as well as administrative—for the elimination and preventing of such vested interests ; and
 - (iii) examine the factors inhibiting self-reliance and self-regulation in the cooperative movement and to suggest appropriate remedies.
- (b) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

The Mirdha Committee submitted its Report in 1965. It reported that while the cooperative movement as a whole was proceeding on right lines, there were shortcomings and defects which could be remedied successfully with vigilant administration and supervision at official as well as non-official levels. The Committee recommended open membership, exclusion of money-lenders, traders and other middlemen, adequate arrangements for audit and independent agency for audit, building up of common cadres of qualified and trained personnel, regular elections and meetings of general body and adequate arrangements of education and training of members and staff of cooperatives. These recommendations were referred to the State Governments and were generally endorsed by the Conference of State Ministers of Cooperation held in 1965. However, there was not much progress in their implementation. Quick study was also