

(c) whether Government have taken any action on the assurance given by him in the Lok Sabha last year that the question of appointing such staff on regular basis was being examined; if so, the number of them made regular and the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of times such staff staged agitations and went on strikes during the past one year and the reasons for such an occasion; and

(e) the policy in the matter after taking into consideration all the aspects of the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ; AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Except for staff artistes, no other category of staff is engaged in A. I. R. on contract basis. The total strength of staff artistes in A. I. R., (excluding artistes engaged on casual basis for participation in programmes) was 2,554 on 10.1.1970. Information relating to casual artistes engaged for short duration is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

(b) Staff artistes are generally given contracts upto the age of 55 years. They are not, therefor, permanent or temporary like other Government servants. There is no artiste who is working on casual basis continuously for the last ten years.

(c) The matter was considered and it was decided not to end the contract system in A. I. R. for the present.

(d) Some of the A. I. R. employees staged demonstrations and held meetings during the months of February-April, 1970. The agitation was withdrawn with effect from 1.5.1970. The reasons were to secure higher scales of pay, better prospects for promotion and improvements in other service conditions.

(e) Government always consider demands of its employees sympathetically and on merits.

Enquiry into Malpractice in Distribution of Fertiliser in Andhra Pradesh

*112. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken the aid of C.B.I. to investigate into the serious mismanagement and shady deals in the fertiliser distribution of Andhra Pradesh in view of the findings of the Public Accounts Committee of Andhra Pradesh Assembly;

(b) if so, when it was referred to C.B.I. and the progress made in the inquiry thereof; and

(c) when it will be concluded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The C.B.I. have been asked to make a thorough investigation into the claims for re-imbusement of transport charges preferred by the State Govt. consignment during the period 1965-1969.

(b) A complaint was formally filed with the C.B.I. on 23.6.70. The C.B.I. have reported that relevant records have been seized and investigation is in progress.

(c) It would not be possible to indicate, at present, the likely date of conclusion of the enquiry.

Youth Radio Station for Goa

*113. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Youth Radio Station in Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by what time it will be established ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS