

(2) Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation (Department of Agriculture) have agreed to consider unemployed commercial pilots for conversion training for crop spraying operations;

(3) Indian Airlines and Air India have been advised to utilize unemployed commercial pilots to the extent possible;

(4) State Governments have been requested to give consideration to CPL holders for employment under them wherever possible.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

1887. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has suggested any formula in the launching of International fund for agricultural development at a preparatory meeting of 18 countries held in June, 1976 in Rome; and

(b) final decision arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). India attended the Plenipotentiaries Conference held in Rome in June, 1976 and emphasized the need for the early establishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. It was decided by the conference that the Agreement establishing the Fund would be opened for signature as soon as the initial contributions amount to atleast the equivalent of 1000 million United States dollars.

Simplification of procedure for giving loans

1888. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the nationalised banks to simplify the procedure for giving loans particularly to the poor; and

(b) if so, whether Government have issued any directions in this regard and if so, the gist of the guidelines issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to commercial banks to simplify and rationalise their lending procedures, particularly in respect of financial assistance to priority sector and banks are implementing these instructions. Banks have already introduced simplified application forms in respect of advances to agriculture and small scale industries etc. in regional languages. Assistance is also provided to such borrowers for filling up application forms and submission of required data wherever necessary. Adequate powers have been delegated to the Branch Managers so that a major portion of the loans to borrowers is promptly sanctioned at branch level itself. Banks also review from time to time their internal procedures with a view to further simplifying the process of sanctioning loan.

Documents seized from the House of Income Tax Officials

1889. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has seized documents from the house of an income-tax officer pertaining to fixed deposits, bank locker and share in various firms worth several lakhs of rupees in New Delhi on 23rd June, 1976;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the official; and