

(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

(c) what further measures are being considered to deal with this situation?

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

(a) No house search of an Income-tax Officer was conducted at New Delhi on the 23rd June, 1976. However, a search by the Central Bureau of Investigation of the residential premises of an Income-tax Officer in Calcutta on the 19th June, 1976 led to recovery of cash and documents revealing the existence of bank accounts, fixed deposits, shares, and other assets, of substantial value. The existence of a bank locker was also revealed;

(b) The Central Bureau of Investigation is still conducting investigation of the case.

(c) Constant vigilance is maintained to detect such cases for appropriate action after due investigation.

#### **Steps to revive Economic Growth**

1890. **SHRI P. M. MEHTA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken some calculated risks by stepping up investment with the hope that economic growth rate will pick up;

(b) if so, the main points of the scheme;

(c) the extent to which Government have achieved success; and

(d) whether this has not resulted in decline in the prices of all commodities?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM):** (a) and (b). The rationale and the assumptions under which the Government has stepped-up investment outlay for

the year 1976-77 with a view to achieve a better rate of growth have been spelled out both in the Budget Speech for 1976-77 and in the Annual Plan document for that year. Broadly, the main factors taken into account in effecting a substantial increase in investment in priority sectors are, a highly satisfactory level of buffer stock of foodgrains, substantial accretions to foreign exchange reserves, better availability of agricultural and industrial inputs and the existence of unutilised capacity in certain private sector industries. In view of these favourable factors and the Government's policy to continue strict monetary and fiscal discipline, it was considered that a significant step-up in investment outlay would not impair price stability.

(c) and (d). As the investment outlay contemplated for 1976-77 is spread over the whole fiscal year it would be difficult to assess its economic impact as of now. However, its beneficial effects have been unfolding gradually in the form of increased industrial production and improved sentiment on stock exchanges, etc. Output increases generally have a sobering effect on prices and therefore, it is possible to expect this trend to manifest itself in due course.

#### **Districts chosen by IDBI for intensive Development**

1891. **SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:** Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has decided to adopt only four Districts in the whole country for intensive development;

(b) if so, the names of the States and whether any of the Districts in Bihar come under these Districts; and

(c) the criterion of selection of these Districts?