

Bank Loans Against Agricultural Produce

*465. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to advise the banks to aid the farmers in fetching better prices for their harvest by advancing loans to them against agricultural produce mortgaged till prevailing prices showed improvement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that the banks, in the normal course, grant loans to farmers against pledge of agricultural produce and also against receipts for such produce stored in an approved warehouse. In view of this, no further directive to banks on this issue appears necessary for the present.

Income Tax Pending Realisation

*467. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of individuals, Hindu Undivided Families, Companies and other bodies from whom Income Tax to the tune of Rs. 1 crore and above is outstanding as per latest information available with his Ministry; and

(b) the effective steps being taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The details of individu-

als, Hindu Undivided Families, Companies and others against whom the Income-tax demand exceeding rupees one crore remained outstanding as on 31.12.87, are as under:

<i>Status</i>	<i>No.</i>
Individuals	63
Hindu Undivided Families	3
Companies	181
Others	36
TOTAL	283

Total amount involved in these cases is Rs. 1183 crores.

Steps taken to recover this demand include levy of penalty, attachment of bank accounts etc. and issue of recovery certificates which enable the Tax Recovery Officers to effect recovery by attachment/sale of assets. In many cases where taxes are outstanding, it is not possible to resort to recovery processes because applications of the assessee are pending for waiver of interest or for settlement of tax liabilities before the Settlement Commission or the tax liability is being disputed in appeal before the Appellate authorities. Appellate authorities are requested to dispose of the appeals expeditiously. In deserving cases, assessee are allowed to pay taxes in instalments. Besides, these cases are reviewed by Commissioners, Chief Commissioners and Board every month to decide appropriate line of action in each case.

Countries Importing Indian Software

*468. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: