

(c) On examination of relevant records it is found that Air Chief Marshal P. C. Lal, former Chief of Air Staff, was appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Indian Airlines, with effect from 1st August, 1973 for a period of three years, but proceeded on leave with effect from 12th April, 1976 upto 30th June, 1976, and action was taken under Rule 13 of the Indian Airlines Corporation Employees' Service Regulations, with a view to enabling him to draw salary for a period of 30 days from the 1st of July, 1976.

Centralisation of Recruitment of Staff for Nationalised Banks

*303. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the centralisation of recruitment of staff of all categories for the nationalised banks;

(b) whether common yardsticks have been evolved for determining optimum strength of staff required in comparable units of the nationalised banks; and

(c) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Banking Service Commission was set up in February, 1977, under the Banking Service Commission Act, 1975, for the selection of personnel for appointment to services and posts in the cadres of junior officers and the clerical cadres in public sector banks. The Commission has not yet started recruitment of personnel for banks.

(b) and (c). While some banks have developed their own norms to relate their staff strength with the workload, no common yardsticks have been evolved for determining opti-

imum staff strength required in comparable units in public sector banks.

2-Year Farm Investment Programme

2327. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a million Indian farmers are expected to benefit from a two-year farm investment programme being launched by the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation supported by the International Development Association;

(b) the main features of the proposed plan;

(c) to what extent it is likely to be helpful for the country to achieve agricultural production; and

(d) by what time the benefits are to be derived from the proposed scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) International Development Association has approved a credit of \$ 200 million for a 2 year programme of support to Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation for its investment programme for following purposes:

Purpose	Amount (\$ Million)
1. Minor Irrigation and on farming land development	175
2. Loans for diversified lending	24
3. Training	1
Total	200

The main features of the proposed plan are:

1. The investment programme will cover a wide spectrum of purposes.