

Primary Co-operative Agriculture Land Development Banks

*262 . SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Primary Co-operative Agriculture Land Development Banks (PCALDBs) are providing loans for long terms to the farmers for purchasing tractor etc.;

(b) if so, the number of such banks and the amount of loan sanctioned by them during the last three years;

(c) whether the nationalized banks are also sanctioning the loan, similar to the loans sanctioned by these banks;

(d) if so, whether the existence of PCALDBs is in danger ; and

(e) the details of steps Government is taking to stop the closure of these banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The long term loans issued by the Long Term Cooperative Credit Structure (LTCCS) which includes loans issued by Primary Cooperative Agriculture Land Development Banks (PCALDBs) for agriculture purposes, including for purchase of tractors etc., were Rs. 1666.90 crore in 2007-08, Rs. 1860.53 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 2103.32 crore in 2009-10.

(c) The Nationalized banks also provide long term loans for the agriculture and allied activities which include loans for tractor.

(d) and (e) Availability of credit by various institutions improves the access of such credit to the farmers. NABARD offers refinance to the LTCCS to the extent of 90% of their agriculture long term loans.

Mini ATMs in villages

*263. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has recommended to set up 10 lakh Mini-ATMs in villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) how it will be connected with the social schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) A Task Force headed by Shri Nandan Nilekani in its report on Aadhaar Enabled Unified Payment Infrastructure has envisioned an interoperable network of 10 lakh business correspondent Agents Utilizing Micro-ATMs to cover the entire country for Financial Inclusion and Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT).