

9th March, 2005

FEDERAL MINISTER MR. AWAIS LEGHARI TO INAUGURATE SPECIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME ON AGRICULTURE CREDIT

The Federal Minister for Information Technology & Telecommunication, Mr. Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari will inaugurate a three-day special training programme on agriculture credit on 11th March, 2005 at 9.00 a.m. at Indus Hotel, D.G. Khan.

The programme, which is being organized by the State Bank of Pakistan as a part of its campaign to create awareness among the farming/rural community as well as to enhance the capacity building of banks in agriculture sector, will conclude on 13th March, 2005. The special training programme is aimed at ensuring availability and accessibility of adequate and timely bank credit at the door- steps of the farming community.

The training programme will be attended, among others, by the Mobile Credit Officers, Agriculture Credit Officers of five major commercial banks (NBP, HBL, UBL, MCB, ABL), Zarai Taraqiati Bank Ltd., Punjab Provincial Cooperative Bank Ltd. 14 private domestic commercial banks, The Bank of Punjab and The Bank of Khyber. The District Nazim, Naib Nazim, Councilors of D.G. Khan, Office Bearers of different farmers/growers/Abadgars Associations and Chamber of Agriculture are likely to attend the programme.

During the training programme, the senior officials of SBP, major commercial banks, ZTBL, PPCBL and private domestic commercial banks will make comprehensive presentations on their loan application appraisal systems, procedures, documentation, and new products. The programmes would be conducted by the Agricultural Credit Department of the State Bank of Pakistan in collaboration with the Regional Chief & other senior officials of HBL, Multan / D.G.Khan.

SBP officials alongwith local banks' representatives would also undertake a field visit on 13th March, 2005 in one of the villages located near D.G. Khan to meet and address the farmers/growers. This would provide an opportunity to the farmers and the banks to interact with each other and also to understand different agriculture credit schemes/products of the SBP as well as of banks, besides resolving the problems of the farmers on the spot.
