

News-item captioned "Skeletons in RBI Cupboard"

1346. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to a news which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 29th April, 1982 under the heading 'Skeletons in RBI cupboard;

(b) the persons responsible for the theft of Rs. 1.19 lakhs from the bins in an underground vault of the Reserve Bank of India;

(c) the action taken against the persons involved in theft;

(d) whether all the bins have since been checked and found intact; and

(e) what precautionary measures have been taken to avoid such thefts in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank of India has lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police and the police investigations are in progress. Reserve Bank has reported that one class IV employee of the bank is suspected to be responsible for the theft of Rs. 1,10,00/-. The action to be taken against the persons involved would depend upon the outcome of the police investigation.

(d) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the work of checking up all the bins is in progress and so far no other shortage or irregularity has been detected.

(e) In the light of the findings of this case, Reserve Bank of India have issued certain comprehensive instructions to all its offices to avoid thefts of such nature in future.

New regional rural banks for Madhya Pradesh

1347. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Reserve Bank of India has approved five

new regional rural banks for Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the new Regional Rural Bank is going to start its work in Vidisha district?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has recommended to the Government establishment of five new regional rural banks for covering the following districts in Madhya Pradesh:—

1. Bhind and Morena
2. Chhindwarah and Seoni
3. Mandsaur and Ratlam
4. Shahadol
5. Balaghat and Mandla

(c) There is no recommendation of the Reserve Bank of India at present for the establishment of a Regional Rural Bank in Vidisha district.

Bank robberies in Metropolitan Cities

1348. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many bank robberies were committed in the capital and other metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the last two years (year-wise) and what is the amount involved;

(b) what positive measures have been taken by Government to improve the security system in the banks to prevent bank robberies;

(c) have Governmental reviewed the working of the security arrangements with a view to bringing improvements; if so, details thereto; and

(d) in how many cases of bank robberies have been solved and what is the amount that has been recovered so far?